pay system other than a wage system, or

(G) Grant restoration rights, and release employees with administrative reemployment rights;

(H) Change working hours for groups of 50 or more employees in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area;

(I) Authorize any mass dismissals of employees in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area;

(J) Approve "normal line of promotion" cases in the excepted service where not in accordance with time-in-grade criteria;

(K) Make final decisions on adverse action and performance rating appeals in all cases where the Deciding Official:

Was involved directly in the adverse action, or performance rating appeal; or

2) Made the informal decision; or

(3) Determines that the Examiner's findings or Committee's recommendations are unacceptable.

(L) Make the final decision on all classification appeals from agency

appellate decisions;

- (M) Authorize all employment actions (except nondisciplinary separations and LWOP) and classification actions for senior level and equivalent positions including Senior Executive Service positions and special authority professional and scientific positions responsible for carrying out research and development functions;
- (N) Authorize all employment actions (except LWOP) for the following positions:

(1) Schedule C; and

- (2) Administrative law judge.
- (O) Authorize employment actions (accessions or extensions) for the following:
- (1) Employees whose records are flagged; and

 $(\widetilde{2})$ Contract services.

- (P) Authorize employment actions (accessions or extensions and transfers) for the following:
- (1) Persons with criminal or immoral records:
- (2) Persons separated for misconduct, delinquency, or resignation, to avoid such action; and
- (3) Veterans with dishonorable or other than dishonorable discharge.
- (Q) Authorize adverse actions for positions in GS-14-15 and equivalent;

(R) Approve assignments of White

House details:

- (S) Authorize adverse actions based in whole or in part on an allegation of violation of 5 U.S.C. chapter 73, subchapter III, for employees in the excepted service;
- (T) Authorize long-term training in programs which require Departmentwide competition;

- (U) Issue all Coordinated Federal Wage System (CFWS) Department-wide Wage Schedules, and Lithographic Wage Schedules in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area; and
- (V) Initiate and take adverse action in cases involving a violation of the merit system.

(ix) [Reserved]

- (x) As used herein, the term personnel
 - (A) Position management;
 - (B) Position classification;

(C) Employment;

- (D) Pay administration;
- (E) Automation of personnel data and systems design:

(F) Hours of duty;

- (G) Performance evaluation and standards:
 - (H) Promotions:
 - (I) Employee development:
 - (J) Incentive Programs;
 - (K) Leave:
 - (L) Retirement;
 - (M) Program evaluation;
 - (N) Social security;
 - (O) Life insurance;
 - (P) Health benefits:
 - (Q) Unemployment compensation;
 - (R) Labor management relations;
 - (S) Intramanagement consultation;
 - (T) Security;
 - (U) Discipline; and

(V) Appeals.

- (xi) The provisions of paragraphs (a)(5)(x)(N)-(R) of this section shall not apply for positions in, or applicants for positions in, the Office of Inspector General.
- (xii) Maintain, review and update departmental delegations of authority.

(xiii) Authorize organizational changes which occur in:

- (A) Departmental organizations:
- (1) Service or office;
- (2) Division (or comparable component); and
- (3) Branch (or comparable component in departmental centers, only).

(B) Field organizations:

- (1) First organizational level; and
- (2) Next lower organizational level required only for those types of field installations where the establishment, change in location, or abolition of same, requires approval in accordance with Departmental Regulation 1010–1.
- (xiv) Formulate and promulgate departmental organizational objectives and policies.
- (xv) Approve coverage of individual law enforcement and firefighter positions under the special retirement provisions of the Civil Service Retirement System and the Federal Employees Retirement System.

(xvi) Establish Departmentwide safety and health policy and provide

leadership in the development, coordination, and implementation of related standards, techniques, and procedures, and represent the Department in complying with laws, Executive orders and other policy and procedural issuances related to occupational safety and health within the Department.

(xvii) Represent the Department in all rulemaking, advisory or legislative capacities on any groups, committees, or Governmentwide activities that affect the USDA Occupational Safety and Health Management Program.

(xviii) Determine and/or provide Departmentwide technical services and regional staff support for the Safety and

Health Programs.

(xix) Administer the computerized management information systems for the collection, processing and dissemination of data related to the Department's Occupational Safety and Health Programs.

(xx) Administer the administrative appeals process related to the inclusion of positions in the Testing Designated Position listing in the USDA Drug-Free Workplace Program and designate the final appeal officer for that Program.

(xxi) Administer the Department's Occupational Health and Preventive Medical Program, as well as design and operate employee assistance and workers' compensation activities.

(xxii) Provide education and training on a Departmentwide basis for safety and health related issues and develop resource and operational manuals.

(xxiii) Approve hazard pay differentials under the conditions specified in 5 CFR part 550.

- (6) Related to information resources management. (i) Designated as the senior official to carry out the responsibilities of the Department under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520). This designation includes the following responsibilities:
- (A) Ensuring that the information policies, principles, standards, guidelines, rules and regulations prescribed by the Office of Management and Budget are appropriately implemented within the Department;

(B) Developing Department information policies and procedures and overseeing, auditing and otherwise periodically reviewing the Department's information resources management activities:

(C) Reviewing proposed Department reporting and recordkeeping requirements including those contained in rules and regulations, to ensure that they impose the minimum burden upon the public and have practical utility for the Department;