MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, UNITED STATES SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND (ATTN: ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE)  
COMMANDER, UNITED STATES TRANSPORTATION COMMAND (ATTN: ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE)  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (PROCUREMENT)  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (ACQUISITION AND LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT)  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (CONTRACTING)  
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES  
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Call for Volunteers to Serve as Contingency Contracting Officers: Civilian Expeditionary Workforce (CEW)

On December 28, 2010, the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) issued a memorandum calling for civilian volunteers from the acquisition workforce. Volunteers have long been an integral part of life in the United States of America. Our experiences in Iraq and Afghanistan continue to reinforce the value of civilian employee volunteers in contingency operations.

I urge you to support the Department’s need for volunteer acquisition professionals to serve as contingency contracting officers supporting our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. These individuals are guaranteed the right to return to their permanent positions following their deployment, as a matter of Department of Defense policy. Individuals who deploy earn post differential, danger pay, and overtime—all in addition to salary. As the employee’s home organization, you continue to pay your employee’s regular salary, but deployment-related earnings beyond salary are all reimbursed to your organization.

I recognize that temporarily being without your contracting professional requires sacrifice. Having had the honor of my own employees serving as civilian volunteers in Iraq, I assure you that the rewards are plentiful for both employer and employee.

Interested personnel can learn more about the Department of Defense Civilian Expeditionary Workforce (CEW) and apply for positions posted on the CEW website at http://www.cpms.osd.mil/expeditionary/.

Shay D. Assad  
Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy