

City of New York
THE SPECIAL COMMISSIONER OF INVESTIGATION
FOR THE NEW YORK CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
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SPECIAL COMMISSIONER OF INVESTIGATION
FOR THE NEW YORK CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT (SCI)
DIVERSITY AND EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY PLAN
FISCAL YEAR 2022

I. Introductory, Commitment and Accountability Statement by the Agency Head

SCI is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive workforce and is an equal opportunity employer. In accordance with the Citywide Equal Employment Opportunity (“EEO”) Policy, discriminatory treatment of, and employment actions against, City employees, contractors, interns, and applicants for employment based on actual or perceived categories is prohibited. Those categories are race/ethnicity, color, national origin, alienage, citizenship status, religion or creed, gender (including “gender identity” -- which refers to a person’s actual or perceived sex, and includes self-image, appearance, behavior or expression, whether or not different from that traditionally associated with the legal sex assigned to the person at birth), disability, age (18 and over), military status, prior record of arrest or conviction (in accordance with state and local law), marital status, partnership status, caregiver status, familial status, genetic information or predisposing genetic characteristic, sexual orientation, status as a victim or witness of domestic violence, sex offenses or stalking, unemployment status, consumer credit history, and sexual or reproductive health decisions.

I affirm the principles of diversity, equity and inclusion, and equal employment opportunity and would like everyone to be mindful and conduct themselves with these same principles. I share with you the below additional statement so that you are aware of my commitment and accountability to inclusion with the hope that every employee of SCI will be mindful that your words and actions impact others, which we want to be positive.

SCI employees have a responsibility to be respectful of all our co-workers and members of the public and I will hold all SCI employees accountable to that standard. Recognizing that the people of our agency are one of our greatest assets, we are committed to the recruitment, development, and retention of a diverse and inclusive workforce reflective of our City’s population. We expect all staff to promote a work environment that values equity, inclusion, and respect for all. I will hold all SCI staff accountable for ensuring that the agency does not discriminate against employees or applicants for employment and support diversity and inclusion initiatives by observing EEO regulations and actively working towards attaining those goals. I will drive accountability by integrating the EEO Officer in critical human resources decisions regarding workforce changes that might negatively impact any protected EEO group, including recruitment strategies, vacancy projections, succession planning, selections for training/career development opportunities, and strategic planning. Our

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leadership team will implement the objectives and actions of this plan, as well as work to create a diversity and inclusion strategy based upon guidance provided by the DCAS Office of Citywide Equity and Inclusion. We will conduct discussions throughout the year and will take steps to review the goals we achieved at the end of the year.

During FY 2022, I disseminated this commitment statement, including a list of EEO professionals in the agency: EEO Officer, Ann Ryan, and EEO Counselors, the Disability Rights Coordinator, Disability Services Coordinator and the Career Counselor and a copy of the EEO Policy including the 2019 addendum. These documents and other resources are also available on the agency's computer network.

Our EEO staff is available to provide input on personnel matters in addressing EEO, equity and inclusion, and diversity issues, and to investigate EEO complaints. Our EEO staff works closely with DCAS's Office of Citywide Equity and Inclusion.

This statement is the same as last year.

II. Recognition and Accomplishments

Describe below key initiatives and accomplishments that your agency undertook last fiscal year (2021) to advance Equal Employment Opportunity, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion; for example, completing training goals, introducing new equity programs, or launching employee resource groups. Use the Additional Comments section to list more than five items.

In the past year, our agency accomplished the following as part of our commitment to Equal Employment Opportunity, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:

1. All SCI staff completed Sexual Harassment Prevention training – Cycle 3.
2. All SCI staff completed lgbTq: The Power of Inclusion training.
3. All SCI staff completed EEO Awareness training.
4. Twelve individuals involved (or anticipated to be involved) in the interview process took the DCAS provided Structured Interviewing and Unconscious Bias course and 14 took the Structured Interviewing: Utilizing Follow Up and Probing Questions course. An additional six supervisors took an Unconscious Bias course.
5. All new hires attended an EEO and Diversity Orientation as part of the on-boarding process.

The agency recognizes employees, supervisors, managers, and agency units demonstrating superior accomplishment in diversity, equity, and equal employment opportunity through the following:

- Diversity & EEO Awards*
- Diversity and EEO Appreciation Events*
- Public Notices
- Positive Comments in Performance Appraisals
- Other: _____

** Please specify under "Additional Comments"*

- The agency will continue to recognize employees, supervisors, managers, and agency units demonstrating superior accomplishment in diversity and equal employment opportunity in FY 2022.

Additional Comments:

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III. Workforce Review and Analysis

Please provide the total agency headcount as of 6/30/2021

Total Headcount: 60

Please provide the number of employees whose Race/Eth and/or Gender is 'Unknown'

Race/Ethnicity: 2 Gender: 0 Both R/E and Gender: 0

(These figures are available on the total line for your agency in the EBEPR210 CEEDS report)

The employees of SCI are paid through the Department of Education (“DOE”) and therefore, according to DCAS, SCI’s information cannot be run separately in CEEDS. As such, we do not receive the above-mentioned report. DCAS was able to develop a substitute ad hoc report identifying our demographics; the above information is from the report dated June 8, 2021.

1. Describe steps taken to encourage all employees at your agency to update self-ID information regarding race/ethnicity, gender, and veteran status through either NYCAPS Employee Self Service (ESS) or other means.

In FY 2022, the agency will remind and encourage its employees to update self-ID information regarding race/ethnicity, gender, and veteran status through any of the following means:

- NYCAPS Employee Self Service (by email; strongly recommended every year)
- Agency’s intranet site
- Newsletters and internal Agency Publications
- On-boarding of new employees
- Employees unable to complete the self-identification form using ESS will be provided an opportunity to submit paper form to the EEO Office.
- In FY 2022, the agency will inform and remind employees of the option to add preferred name in ESS.

Additional Comments:

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2. Describe the review process of the quarterly CEEDS reports on workforce composition, utilization, and new hires and promotions data presented in your quarterly agency workforce dashboard and/or internal workforce reporting. Describe how your agency's EEO Officer, Personnel Officer and Agency Head work together to review demographic trends. These reports must be reviewed regularly with the Agency Head.

NOTE: If necessary, the agency can reach out to DCAS OCEI for guidance on interpreting their underutilization reports. However, it is the agency's responsibility to use that data to inform the formulation of its recruitment plans and efforts to reduce/eliminate underutilization.

- The agency conducts regular reviews of the CEEDS workforce reports and the summary dashboard sent to the EEO Officer by DCAS' Office of Citywide Equity and Inclusion (OCEI) to provide demographic data and trends. The review includes an analysis of workforce composition by job title, job group, race/ethnicity and gender for all employees; new hires, promotions and separation data; and utilization analysis.

Reviewed with	Frequency
Agency Head	<input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Semi-Annually <input type="checkbox"/> Annually <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
Human Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Semi-Annually <input type="checkbox"/> Annually <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
General Counsel	<input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-Annually <input type="checkbox"/> Annually <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
Other (___specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-Annually <input type="checkbox"/> Annually <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

- The agency review entails a discussion concerning perceived workplace barriers for job groups that may surface in underutilization reports and for factors that may be creating these barriers (e.g., hiring patterns in specific job titles).
- The agency reaches out to DCAS to serve as a resource in identifying strategies and best practices to address barriers to entry as well as to receive guidance concerning the interpretation of underutilization reports.

Additional Comments:

The employees of SCI are paid through the DOE and therefore, according to DCAS, SCI's information cannot be run separately in CEEDS. As such, we do not receive any CEEDS Dashboard. DCAS was able to develop a substitute ad hoc report identifying our demographics and provided the then most recent DOE utilization report for all but one of the identified job groups. DCAS provided another utilization report for the remaining group, lawyers, not included in the DOE report and that group is not a large enough group to be statistically significant. SCI is a small agency, and DCAS advised that we might not be able to draw any statistically significant conclusions and the ad hoc report should be used as one factor. Pursuant to SCI's requests, DCAS provides the ad hoc demographic report at least semi-annually and the information is reviewed and discussed at SCI.

IV. EEO, Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity Initiatives for FY 2022

1. Proactive Strategies to Enhance Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and EEO in areas of Workforce, Workplace, and Community.

State below the central goals of your strategy for FY 2022 focused on promoting equity, increasing diversity, assuring equal employment opportunity, and enhancing the value of inclusion at your agency. Categorize your goals according to the strategic area targeted. Workforce goals are directed at the composition of your workforce, recruitment, retention, promotion, and professional development. Workplace goals have to do with inclusion, workplace culture, and employee activities. Community goals are directed at the external environment of your agency: the public and entities served by the agency. Describe special initiatives to enhance equity and focus on race relations in item 4.

1. Workforce:

Align diversity recruitment, internal employee development and selection practices with current agency employment needs. The EEO Officer, Director of Administration, and the Agency Head will continue to meet semi-annually to review and discuss workforce composition data to assess demographic trends.

2. Workplace:

Foster an environment of inclusion and provide ongoing training to SCI employees.

3. Community:

Create opportunities for community outreach in line with SCI's mission to investigate allegations of corruption, fraud, misconduct and conflicts of interest within the public school system.

4. Equity and Race Relations Initiatives:

Last year, 12 individuals involved (or anticipated to be involved) in the interview process took the DCAS provided Structured Interviewing and Unconscious Bias course and 14 took the Structured Interviewing: Utilizing Follow Up and Probing Questions course. An additional six supervisors took an Unconscious Bias course. All staff completed DCAS's EEO Awareness computer based training course.

This year, all staff will complete DCAS's EEO Diversity and Inclusion course.

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2. Describe the ongoing and new programs, actions, and initiatives planned for FY 2022, which are aimed toward enhancement and expansion of the three foundations of Diversity and EEO strategy: **WORKFORCE**, **WORKPLACE**, and **COMMUNITY**.

A. WORKFORCE:

In addition to the strategic goals above, please indicate here specific actions and initiatives planned with respect to Workforce.

NOTE: Please address the specific recruitment, selection and promotion strategies, sources and procedures in Sections V and VI, below.

The actions listed below require internal agency collaboration and are not limited to the EEO Office.

The agency will address underutilization in FY 2022 by:

- Expanding internal and external applicant pools to address the underutilization through outreach strategies for broader recruitment.
- Launching outreach efforts to inform and encourage applications for the upcoming civil service examinations.
- Using the quarterly workforce report and dashboard to identify specific job groups where underutilization exists and guide recruitment efforts.
- The agency will implement the following strategies to address the impending retirement of employees and possible loss or gap in talent:
 - Integrate succession planning in the agency activities to develop a pipeline, facilitate a seamless transition and continuity of service, especially for critical managerial positions.
 - Encourage agency employees to take promotional civil service examinations.

The agency will implement the following initiatives to develop and retain employees:

- Identification of Ready Now & High Potential Talent.
- Institute coaching, mentoring and cross training programs.
- Implement initiatives to improve the personal and professional development of employees.
- Conduct assessment to ensure pay and promotions are equitable.

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Describe specific actions designed to enhance equity:

There is only one job group which contains enough employees to be statistically significant. We will use the ad hoc substitute dashboard to identify underutilization in that group to guide recruitment efforts. As to all job groups, diversity will be a factor to be considered. The Director of Administration periodically sends office wide emails reminding staff to check the agency website for current job postings and forwards the DCAS recruitment newsletter.

Additional Initiatives, Programs, or Comments:

B. WORKPLACE:

In addition to the strategic goals above, please indicate here specific actions and initiatives planned with respect to Workplace.

The agency will take initiatives to create an inclusive work environment that values differences, and to maintain focus on retaining talent across all levels.

Promote employee involvement by supporting Employee Resource Groups (ERGs).

List below the names of existing ERGs:

Agency will create a Diversity Council to leverage equity and inclusion programs.

Agency Diversity Council is in existence and active.

Agency will sponsor focus groups, Town Halls and learning events on race, equity, and inclusion.

Agency will actively inform employees of their rights and protections under the New York City EEO Policy.

Agency will keep employees informed of the EEO complaint and reasonable accommodation processes, and circulates *DCAS EEO Complaint Procedural Guidelines and Reasonable Accommodations Procedural Guidelines*.

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- Agency will ensure that its workplaces post anti-hate or anti-discrimination posters.
- In FY 2021, the agency conducted the following survey(s) to improve the recruitment, hiring, inclusion, retention and advancement of people in underrepresented groups:
 - Engagement /Job Satisfaction/ Employee Morale Survey(s)
 - Workplace Insight Survey for Exiting (WISE) Managers
 - Exit interview or surveys developed by the agency
 - Other (specify): _____
- The agency will adopt in FY 2022 the following initiatives based on the analysis of the results of these survey(s):
 - 1.
 - 2.

Describe specific actions designed to enhance equity and initiatives to address race relations in the agency:

We are a small agency which instituted exit surveys during 2019. The few surveys which have been completed thus far have not provided sufficient information to support any new initiatives.

Pre-COVID, we offered various in person agency wide trainings and hope to do so again in the future. At this time, we have been offering agency wide trainings using an Internet-based meeting platform.

Additional Initiatives, Programs, or Comments:

C. COMMUNITY:

In addition to the strategic goals above, please indicate here specific actions and initiatives planned with respect to Community.

In FY 2022, the agency will:

- Continue or plan to promote diversity and EEO community outreach in providing government services.
- Promote participation with minority and women owned business enterprises (MWBES).

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- Conduct a customer satisfaction survey.
- Identify best practices for establishing a brand of inclusive customer service.
- Undertake initiatives to improve community relations, community awareness, and to engage communities being served in recruitment efforts, service development and delivery.
- Expand language services for the public.

Describe specific actions designed to enhance equity:

The community that SCI serves includes the students in the New York City public school system, their parents and caregivers, DOE employees, and others who interact with the DOE.

We are in the process of developing the content for an online training course about SCI for DOE staff.

Additional Initiatives, Programs or Comments:

V. Recruitment

A. Recruitment Efforts

1. Summary of Recruitment Efforts – Include steps that will be taken to give notice to all employees of discretionary job postings within the agency as well as proactive efforts/strategies planned to market positions externally.

The agency will implement the following recruitment strategies and initiatives in FY 2022:

- Review policies, procedures, and practices related to targeted outreach and recruitment.
- Utilize Inclusive Recruitment Guide Issued by the Office of Citywide Equity and Inclusion to develop strategic recruitment plans.
- Review underutilization in job groups to inform recruitment efforts.
- Identify resources to bolster efforts aimed at increasing the effectiveness of diversity recruitment.
- Put in place an operating, up-to-date, accessible website, mobile application and social media presence related to EEO protection and rights.

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- Currently in operation.
- Assess agency job postings to ensure new diversity, inclusion, and equal opportunity employer messaging is included.
- Share job vacancy notices with the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities at nycatwork@mopd.nyc.gov, (212) 788-2830 and ACCES VR by sending the job vacancy notices to Maureen Anderson at Maureen.Anderson@nysed.gov (212) 630-2329 so they can share it with their clients.
- Reach out to the DCAS Office of Citywide Recruitment (OCR) as a resource at citywiderecruitment@dcas.nyc.gov
- If your agency is an eHire agency, post ALL vacancies on NYC Careers.
- Ensure that agency personnel involved in both the discretionary and the civil service hiring process have received:
 - Structured Interviewing training
 - Unconscious Bias training
 - Everybody Matters EEO and Diversity and Inclusion Training
- Assess recruitment efforts to determine whether such efforts adversely impact any particular group.

Additional Strategies, Initiatives and Comments:

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B. Recruitment Sources

Diverse Recruitment Source(s)	What sort of return do you expect to see from the effort? Indicate if this source yielded diverse applicant pools.
1. Monster Inc., which includes separate postings on the Monster Diversity Network	1. We are hopeful that our efforts will allow us to reach a larger diverse population and thereby result in an increasingly diverse workforce. We are also working on ways to track our efforts more closely. <input type="checkbox"/> Previous hires from this source
2. Send, by email, job vacancy notices for the investigative titles to the NYC APOs with a request that they post the notices	2. Same as above. <input type="checkbox"/> Previous hires from this source
3. For the investigative titles, post the job with various professional and/or affinity groups, such as Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (“ACFE”); Association of Inspectors General; National Association of Women in Law Enforcement, and the National Association of Black Law Enforcement Officers and request that the jobs be posted on other affinity group job boards such as National Organization of Black Women in Law Enforcement Inc.; Detective Endowment Association, Inc.; Haitian American Law Enforcement; Asian Jade Society; and Policewomen’s Endowment Association	3. Same as above. <input type="checkbox"/> Previous hires from this source
4. SCI was added as an agency to the NYC Jobs website and can be searched by agency name or agency name filtered by the categories of “Education” or “Public Safety and Law Enforcement.” If SCI is clicked on, the searcher is taken to the employment page of SCI’s website.	4. Same as above. <input type="checkbox"/> Previous hires from this source
5. The Chief-Leader	5. Same as above. <input type="checkbox"/> Previous hires from this source

C. Internships/Fellowships

Indicate the type of internship/fellowship opportunities available at your agency. Please provide the number of student interns/fellows employed in FY 2021 and their demographic profiles, based on self-ID data. Indicate your plans to provide internship/fellowship opportunities in FY 2022.

The agency provided the following internship opportunities in FY 2021:

Type of Internship\Fellowship	Total	Race/Ethnicity *[#s] * Use self-ID data	Gender * [#s] * Use self-ID data
1. Urban Fellows	0		M __ F__ Non-Binary __ Other __ Unknown __
2. Public Service Corps	0		M __ F__ Non-Binary __ Other __ Unknown __
3. Summer College Interns	0		M __ F__ Non-Binary __ Other __ Unknown __
4. Summer Graduate Interns	0		M __ F__ Non-Binary __ Other __ Unknown __
5. Other (specify):	0		M __ F__ Non-Binary __ Other __ Unknown __

* Self-ID data is obtained by EEO Office from NYCAPS.

- The agency will utilize the internship/fellowship programs to improve a pipeline of candidates from underutilized groups for entry-level positions, including in mission-critical occupations.
- The agency has hired former interns/fellows.
- The agency plans to provide internship/fellowship opportunities in FY 2022.

Additional Comments:

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D. 55-a Program

Section 55-a of the New York State Civil Service Law allows a qualified person with a certified mental or physical disability to be hired into a competitive civil service position without having to take a civil service examination. The City encourages agencies to use the 55-a program as a tool to build a diverse workforce and create greater access to City employment for qualified candidates with disabilities.

- 1. Please discuss plans to utilize the 55-a Program to hire and retain qualified individuals with disabilities.

- Agency uses mostly non-competitive titles which are not eligible for the 55-a Program.
- Agency does not use the 55-a Program and has no participating employees.

- 2. Indicate the goals of your 55-a Program Coordinator for FY 2022. Also include your agency plans to do the following: participate in career and job fairs; use internship, work-study, co-op, and other programs to attract a pool of diverse 55-a program applicants; and promote and encourage 55-a program participants to take civil service examinations.

The agency uses the 55-a Program to hire and retain qualified individuals with disabilities and plans to utilize the 55-a Program to hire and retain qualified individuals with disabilities in FY 2022.

Currently, there are 0 [number] 55-a participants.

There are 0 [number] participants who have been in the program less than 2 years.

Last year, a total of 0 [number] new applications for the program were received and 0 participants left the program due to [state reasons] _____.

If there have been no new participants in the program for less than two years, please indicate initiatives taken to hire new 55-a employees.

During FY 2021, SCI posted a job vacancy notice for a competitive position which included the following language:

Note: This position is open to qualified persons with a disability for the 55-a Program. Please indicate in your cover letter that you would like to be considered for the position under the 55-a Program.

No applicant indicated that they wished to be considered under the program.

The agency will actively educate hiring managers about the 55-a program and the benefits of hiring individuals with disabilities.

Based on the June 7, 2016, 55-a memorandum, issued by DCAS, the agency will carefully evaluate each request by longtime provisional employees for designation under §55-a to serve non-competitively in a competitive title position to ensure that the request is not made solely to avoid the consequences of Civil Service Law §65(3). In addition, the agency will reiterate to provisional staff that 55-a certification should not be used as a substitute for passing a civil service exam. The agency will encourage 55-a participants to take civil service examinations.

The agency plans to participate in career and job fairs and use internship, work-study, co-op, and other programs to attract a pool of diverse 55-a program applicants.

The goals of the 55-a Coordinator for FY 2021 are:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

These goals are the same as last year.

Additional Goals, Initiatives, and Comments:

The vast majority of SCI's positions are non-competitive or exempt. If we received any applications for an open competitive civil service position that ask to be considered as part of the 55-a program, we will evaluate them based upon DCAS's criteria.

VI. Selection (Hiring and Promotion)

NOTE: This section must be prepared in consultation with the Agency Personnel Officer.

A. Career Counselors

For FY 2022, if your agency is fiscally able to hire new employees and/or backfill open positions, please discuss the planned duties of the agency Career Counselor(s) with regard to advising employees of opportunities for promotion as well as overall career development.

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In FY 2022, the agency's Career Counselor will perform the following tasks:

- Review policies, procedures, and practices related to hiring (including vacancy announcements, use of certification lists, and the selection process for mission critical occupations).
- Promote employee awareness of opportunities for promotion and transfer within the agency.
- Arrange for agency wide notification of promotional and transfer opportunities.
- Encourage the use of training and development programs to improve skills, performance and career opportunities.
 - Provide information to staff on both internal and external Professional Development training sources.
 - Explain the civil service process to staff and what it means to become a permanent civil servant.
 - Provide technical assistance in applying for upcoming civil service exams.
- Provide agency staff with citywide vacancy announcements, civil service exams notices and other career development information.
- Assist employees and Job Training Program participants in assessing and planning to develop career paths.
- Provide resources and support for:
 - Targeted job searches
 - Development job search strategies
 - Resume preparation
 - Review of effective interview techniques
 - Review of techniques to promote career growth and deal with change
 - Internship exploration

Additional Initiatives and Comments:

B. New Hires and Promotions

Monitoring, review, and assessment of the current new hire and promotional procedures for selection, especially for mid- and high-level discretionary positions.

In FY 2022, the agency will do the following:

- Review, revise and/or develop a protocol for in-title promotions and salary increases.
 - Promotion and salary increases protocol in existence.
 - Assess the criteria for selecting/promoting persons for mid-level to high level positions.
- Publicly post announcements for all positions, including senior level positions.
- Actively reach out to networks of underrepresented groups as part of its outreach.
- Reach out to the Mayor’s Office of Appointments for help to identify diverse pools of talent and additional networks for finding qualified candidates.
- Compare the demographics of current employees to the placements.
- Ensure promotion justification is included in all promotion requests.
- Review and analyze the demographics race\ethnicity and gender for those who received the promotion\salary raises to ensure such practices are equitable.
- Review on a regular basis the demographics of those who received promotion and share the information with the Commissioner and Human Resources (by EEO Officer).
- Monitor the results of action plans for any changes in the agency workforce including increases or decreases in applications of qualified applicants and selection rates.

Additional Comments:

SCI is a relatively small agency of approximately 60 employees who work in operational units – the majority of which are investigative units. All the operational units consisting of more than one individual, have some diversity, whether by race, gender, ethnicity, age, or a combination thereof. Additionally, we try to create a diverse panel to conduct an interview.

C. Selection Process

Identify the steps that are taken to ensure that selection process is objective and job related.

During FY 2022, the agency will do the following:

- Ensure that hiring managers are trained in structured interviewing techniques to avoid unintentional biases in the hiring process.
- Assess the manner in which candidates are selected for employment, to determine whether there is any adverse impact upon any particular racial, ethnic, disability, or gender group.
- If adverse impact is discovered, determine whether the criteria being utilized are job-related. If the criteria are not job-related, the agency will discontinue using that method.
- Engage in a collaborative effort between EEO, HR and managers where necessary, develop action plans to eliminate identified barriers.
- In conducting job interviews, ensure nondiscriminatory treatment by conducting a structured interview, where the same questions are asked of all applicants for a particular job or category of job and inquiring about matters directly related to the position in question.
- Use a diverse panel of interviewers to conduct the interview.
- EEO Officer is asked to review the interview questions.

Additional Comments:

SCI has a current head count of approximately 60 individuals. Thirteen current staff involved (or anticipated to be involved) in the interview process have taken the DCAS provided Structured Interviewing Courses. Additionally, we try to create a diverse panel to conduct an interview.

D. Review of Hiring, Promotion and selection Practices

For FY 2022, what steps will your agency take to review the positions filled during the year?

- A. Discuss your current practice in utilizing the NYCAPS Applicant Interview Log reports to identify applicants by gender and race/ethnicity.
- The agency will use the NYCAPS Applicant Interview Log Report to track applicant sources and identify the best sources of applicants.
 - The agency does not use the NYCAPS Applicant Interview Log Report.
 - The agency will schedule orientation with NYCAPS Central.
- B. Discuss all planned steps taken to identify barriers to entry for positions and actions under consideration to address such barriers.
- Identify at least two or three people from diverse gender and racial\ethnic backgrounds to review received applications.
 - Ensure hiring panels are composed of staff from diverse backgrounds (e.g., diversity based on experience, gender, age, race and ethnicity).
- C. When identifying groups of subject matter experts to assist the DCAS test development team in creating civil service exams, please describe efforts that will be taken to select a diverse and inclusive group of individuals in the test development process:
- The agency will identify a diverse group of subject matter experts (e.g. race, gender, age, assignments location, etc.) when requested by DCAS.
 - The agency will use objective job-related criteria to identify the subject matter experts who will participate in test development.
 - The agency will make an effort to ensure different staff members are given the opportunity to participate in test development.

Additional Comments:

E. EEO Role in Hiring and Selection Process

Briefly detail which stages of selection involve your EEO Officer (pre- and post-selection).

In FY 2022, the agency EEO Officer will do the following:

PRE-SELECTION:

- Collaborate with the Director of Human Resources to ensure that an updated listing of sources for diverse applicants, including schools and professional organizations, is maintained.
- EEO reviews vacancy postings to ensure elimination of language that has the potential for gender stereotyping and other unlawful discrimination. (It is recommended to use gender-neutral terms and pronouns).
- Actively monitor agency job postings.
- Ensure all job postings include updated EEO Employer statement released in 2021.
- EEO is consulted regarding creation/review of objective criteria for evaluating candidates for hire or promotion and applying those criteria consistently to all candidates.
- In collaboration with the Director of Human Resources, review interview questions to ensure that they are EEO-compliant, job-related, and required by business necessity.
- Advise Human Resources in the development of a comprehensive guide for hiring managers.
- Assist the hiring manager if a reasonable accommodation is requested during the interview.
- Observe interviews, when necessary, especially for underutilized job titles and/or mid- and high-level discretionary positions.
- Advise Human Resources to use candidate evaluation form for uniform assessment and equity.
- Other: EEO Officer may participate in interview panels if requested.

POST-SELECTION:

- Periodically review candidate evaluation forms and conduct a job applicant analysis via the NYCAPS eHire Applicant Interview Log reports to advise Human Resources of any demographic trends and/or EEO concerns based on available self-ID data.

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- Perform advisory role to Human Resources in the selection process and conduct post-audit review.
- Review hiring package to evaluate that the selection process was conducted in accordance with EEO best practices.
- Other: _____

Additional Comments:

F. Layoffs

During periods of layoffs, terminations, and demotions due to legitimate business/operational reasons, what is your protocol for analyzing the impact of such actions based upon gender, race and age? *It is most useful to conduct this analysis prior to finalizing the list of titles that will be impacted. Ensure that the Agency General Counsel and the Law Department are involved in the review.*

- The agency will use the DCAS Layoff Procedure as guidance, should there be any layoffs, terminations and demotions due to legitimate business/operational reasons in FY 2021.
- The agency will analyze the impact of layoffs or terminations on racial, gender, age groups, and people with disabilities.
- Where layoffs or terminations would have a disproportionate impact on any of these groups, the agency will document that the targeted titles or programs were selected based on objective criteria and justified by business necessity.
- The Agency Personnel Officer, EEO Officer and General Counsel will be involved in making layoff or termination decisions. It should be noted that layoffs must be conducted by seniority in compliance with civil service law (for competitive titles) and union contract (for non-competitive and labor class titles).

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VII. Training

Please refer to **Section IX** to ensure the agency complies with training requirements under local laws and Executive Orders.

Training Topic	Type of Audience (e.g. All Staff, Front-line Employees, Managers, Supervisors, etc.)	Target Number of Participants	Targeted Dates
1. Everybody Matters – EEO and Diversity & Inclusion (e-learning)	All employees	58	6/30/2022
2. Everybody Matters – EEO and Diversity and Inclusion (classroom/live webinar)			
3. Sexual Harassment Prevention (e-learning)	All employees	58	6/30/2022
4. Sexual Harassment Prevention (classroom/live webinar)	All employees		
5. lgbTq – Power of Inclusion (e-learning)	Managers, Supervisors, and Front-line employees All other employees	All SCI staff; As needed for new hires staff	3/31/2023
6. lgbTq – Power of Inclusion (classroom/live webinar)	Managers, Supervisors, and Front-line employees All other employees		
7. Disability Etiquette			
8. Structured Interviewing and Unconscious Bias (classroom/live webinar)		As needed	
9. Other (specify)			
10. Other (specify)			

VIII. Reasonable Accommodation

Please indicate the actions your agency will take to ensure that the process of reviewing reasonable accommodation requests is compliant with the EEO Policy as well as the applicable federal, state, and local laws. Additionally, please detail any best practices currently implemented in this area. Lastly, please describe your current appeal protocol.

- Managers, supervisors, human resources personnel and discipline personnel are **required** to report to the EEO Office any reasonable accommodation requests and needs that are received, observed, learned about or suspected, so that the EEO Office may facilitate discussions, research appropriate accommodations, and assist with the resolution of the matter.
- The agency provides reasonable accommodation for disability, religion, victims of domestic violence, sex offense and stalking, pregnancy, childbirth or a related medical condition.
- The agency follows the City's Reasonable Accommodation Procedure.
- The agency grants or denies request 30 days after submission or as soon as possible.
- The Agency Head or designee must review and grant or deny the appeal fifteen (15) days after submission of appeal.
- If the review and decision on appeal is not done by the Agency Head.
Provide the name and title of the designee¹ : First Deputy Commissioner Daniel Schlachet
- The designee reports directly to the Agency Head.
- The agency will input the Reasonable Accommodation activity on the DCAS Citywide Complaint and Reasonable Accommodation (CAD) Database and update the information as needed.
- The agency analyzes the reasonable accommodation data and trends.
- The agency has posted/will circulate the *Reasonable Accommodations at a Glance* sheet for the workforce.

¹ EEO Officer and General Counsel should **NOT** be appointed as agency head designee for review of appeals to reasonable accommodation decisions. Refer to the revised guidelines below. Note the conflict of interest; in the event of an external challenge to the denial of a reasonable accommodation, the agency's General Counsel would be tasked with defending the agency against a decision in which that office was a decision maker on appeal.

<http://extranet.dcas.nycnet/eo/diversityeoo/media/19647/reasonable-accommodation-procedural-guidelines-lc-12116.pdf> (p17).

Briefly describe procedures and speed of resolution, including the protocol for deciding appeals of Reasonable Accommodation decisions. Does the agency analyze statistics with regard to volume, trends, and speed of disposition of EEO complaints and reasonable accommodation requests and appeals?

SCI is not on the DCAS tracking system. We internally track the requests. The EEO Officer communicates with the requestor and (where appropriate) the requestor's supervisor to assess the reasonable accommodation request to make a determination about the essential functions of the position, whether the accommodation is needed, and if needed, whether the accommodation would be effective, and if effective, whether providing the reasonable accommodation would impose an undue hardship on the agency. Depending on the nature of the requested accommodation, the EEO Officer might also have conversations with the budget office and/or the Human Resource personnel. After the possible accommodations are considered, the requestor is notified of the decision.

If a request is denied, the requestor is notified in writing of the denial. Included in that notification is a notice that the requestor may file an appeal with the Special Commissioner. Within 10 business days of receipt, the Special Commissioner, or her designee, **First Deputy Commissioner Daniel Schlachet**, will review and evaluate the reasonableness of the request, consult with the requestor, the EEO Officer and anyone else the Special Commissioner considers necessary (including the Law Department and/or DCAS). Within 15 business days of receipt of the appeal, the Special Commissioner will issue a written determination of the request and, if granted, the EEO Officer monitors the implementation of the accommodation.

The agency tracks and analyzes the requests and outcomes.

IX. Compliance and Implementation of Requirements Under Executive Orders and Local Laws

Executive Order 16: Training on Transgender Diversity and Inclusion Under Executive Order No. 16 of 2016, the agency must provide supervisory and front-line staff training approved by DCAS on transgender diversity and inclusion. Pursuant to Executive Order No. 16, this training must be provided to all newly hired supervisory and managerial employees and line staff whose work tasks involve contact with the public.

- The agency plans to train all new employees within 30 days of start date.
- All the managers, supervisors, and front-line employees were re-trained within the last two years.
- All managers, supervisors, and front-line employees will be re-trained every two years, no later than the third quarter of the Fiscal Year, as indicated in Section VII Training above.
- In addition, all other employees will be trained or re-trained every two years, as indicated in Section VII Training above.

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- The agency will ensure that the Transgender Restroom Access notice/poster is posted where required, e.g., on bulletin boards, near restrooms and, in digital form, where other EEO notices and announcements can be found.

Additional Comments:

All SCI staff as of June 30, 2021 were retrained during FY 2021. Any staff hired during FY 2022 will be required to complete the training.

A. Executive Order 59: Chief Diversity Officer/Chief MWBE Officer

Under Executive Order No. 59 of 2020, all agencies shall appoint a Chief Diversity Officer/Chief MWBE Officer, with the appropriate experience and knowledge to oversee the agency's MWBE program, to report directly to the agency head. Agency heads shall ensure internal candidates are considered for the Chief Diversity Officer/Chief MWBE Officer.

- The agency appointed a Chief Diversity Officer/ Chief MWBE Officer by August 30, 2021.

Provide the name and title of the Chief MWBE Officer : Special Counsel Valerie Batista

Additional Comments:

SCI is a small agency with a low volume of procurements.

B. Local Law 92 (2018): Annual Sexual Harassment Prevention training

- The agency plans to train all new employees on Sexual Harassment Prevention within 30 days of start date.
- The agency will train all current employees on Sexual Harassment Prevention (Cycle 4 – September 1, 2021 – August 31, 2022) as indicated in the Section VII Training above.

Additional Comments:

C. Local Law 97 (2018): Annual Sexual Harassment and Complaint Reporting

- The agency will input sexual harassment complaint data on the DCAS Citywide Complaint and Reasonable Accommodation (CAD) Database, contemporaneously update the information, and affirm the data in a timely manner when requested by DCAS.
- The agency will input **all types of complaint** data on the DCAS Citywide Complaint and Reasonable Accommodation (CAD) Database, contemporaneously update the information, and affirm the data in a timely manner when requested by DCAS.
- The agency will ensure that sexual harassment complaints are closed within 90 days.
- The agency will ensure that all other complaints are closed within 90 days.

Additional Comments:

SCI is not on the Citywide Complaint Tracking system. We will maintain a spreadsheet and provide sexual harassment complaint data on a DCAS provided template as required.

D. Local Law 101 (2018): Climate Survey

The agency, in collaboration with DCAS, conducted a climate survey in FY 2021 and will proceed to do the following in FY 2022:

- Continue to implement initiatives identified in the 2018 Climate Survey Action Plan which was submitted to DCAS and reported to City Council Speaker in 2020.
- Analyze FY 2021 survey data once provided by DCAS.
- Develop an Action Plan to address concerns raised in the FY 2021 Climate Survey and submit it to DCAS by July 31, 2022. [*Further guidance will be provided to agency by DCAS in 2022.*]

Additional Comments:

SCI was not included in the 2018 Climate Survey.

X. Audits and Corrective Measures:

Please check the statement(s) that apply to your agency.

- The agency is NOT involved in an audit conducted by NYC EEPC or another governmental agency specific to our EEO practices.
- The agency is currently being audited or preparing responses to an audit conducted by the EEPC or _____ [another governmental agency – please specify] specific to our EEO practices. Upon forwarding our responses to the recommendations issued by the EEPC, the agency will submit to OCEI an amendment letter, which shall amend the agency plan for FY 2022 to include and implement EEPC recommendations that will be implemented during the fiscal year.
- The agency is subject to any other oversight or review by a federal, state or city civil rights agency [please specify _____].
Please attach a copy of the document setting out the oversight parameters and the agency's most recent report to the oversight agency.
- Within the last two years the agency was involved in an audit conducted by the EEPC or _____ [another governmental agency – please specify] specific to our EEO practices.
- The agency will continue/be required to implement measures during the year that this plan is in effect (please attach a copy of the audit findings.)
- The agency received a Certificate of Compliance from the auditing agency.
Please attach a copy of the Certificate of Compliance from the auditing agency.

XI. Agency Head Signature

NOTE: Agency Head's signature and date should be provided for final submission only after the agency receives approval of the plan by DCAS.

Anastasia Coleman

Print Name of Agency Head

Anastasia Coleman

Signature of Agency Head

December²¹, 2021

Date

APPENDIX

Contact Information for Agency EEO Personnel

Please provide contact information (name, title, e-mail, telephone number and full office address) for the following EEO roles at your agency. If several roles are performed by the same individual enter only the name in further entries. Insert table rows as needed.

We are all located at SCI, 80 Maiden Lane – 20th Floor, New York, NY 10038.

	Title/Function	Name	Email	Telephone
1.	Agency EEO Officer	Ann Ryan	annryan@nycsci.org	212-510-1493
2.	Chief Diversity Officer/Chief MWBE Officer per E.O. 59	Valerie Batista	vbatista@nycsci.org	212-510-1417
3.	ADA Coordinator	Michele Morelli	mmorelli@nycsci.org	212-510-1420
4.	Disability Rights Coordinator	Michele Morelli		
5.	Disability Services Facilitator	Michele Morelli		
6.	55-a Coordinator	Michele Morelli		
7.	Career Counselor(s)	Michele Morelli		
8.	Training Liaison(s)	Valerie Batista		
9.	Training Liaison(s)	Ann Ryan		
10.	EEO Counselor(s)	Richard Marin	rmarin@nycsci.org	212-510-1436
11.	EEO Counselor(s)	Jessica Villanueva	jvillanueva@nycsci.org	212-510-1424