



March 26, 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR: Thomas L. Mesenbourg Jr.
Acting Director
U.S. Census Bureau

Judith J. Gordon

FROM: Judith J. Gordon
Principal Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation

SUBJECT: FISMA Evaluation of the Census Bureau's Field Data
Collection Automation System (CEN22)

As part of our work under the Federal Information Security Management Act, we plan to evaluate the bureau's certification and accreditation (C&A) of CEN22.

Our objectives are to determine whether (1) implemented controls adequately protect the system and its information, (2) continuous monitoring is keeping the authorizing official sufficiently informed about the operational status and effectiveness of security controls, and (3) the C&A process produced sufficient information about remaining system vulnerabilities to enable the authorizing official to make a credible, risk-based accreditation decision.

As a first step in our evaluation, we will be contacting your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference. In the meantime, if you have any questions about this review, please contact me at (202) 482-2754, or Allen Crawley, assistant inspector general for systems acquisition and IT security, at (202) 482-1855.

cc: Arnold A. Jackson, associate director for decennial census, U.S. Census Bureau
Thomas J. Meerholz, acting associate director for information technology
and chief information officer, U.S. Census Bureau
Adam Miller, Census audit liaison