LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TELEPHONIC MEETING OF THE OPERATIONS & REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

OPEN SESSION

Wednesday, February 29, 2012 3:33 p.m.

Legal Services Corporation 3333 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20007

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Charles N.W. Keckler, Chairman (in LSC's offices)
Harry J.F. Korrell, III
Robert J. Grey Jr.
Laurie I. Mikva
John G. Levi, ex officio

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Father Pius Pietrzyk, O.P. Julie A. Reiskin

STAFF AND PUBLIC PRESENT IN THE CORPORATION'S OFFICES:

James J. Sandman, President

Richard L. Sloane, Special Assistant to the President

Rebecca Fertig, Special Assistant to the President Kathleen McNamara, Executive Assistant to the President

Victor M. Fortuno, Vice President for Legal Affairs, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary

Mattie Cohan, Senior Assistant General Counsel, Office of Legal Affairs

David L. Richardson, Comptroller and Treasurer, Office

of Financial and Administrative Services Jeffrey E. Schanz, Inspector General

Laurie Tarantowicz, Assistant Inspector General and Legal Counsel, Office of the Inspector General

David Maddox, Assistant Inspector General for Management and Evaluation, Office of the Inspector General

Janet LaBella, Director, Office of Program
Performance

John C. Meyer, Director, Office of Information Management

Jeffrey Morningstar, Director, Office of Information Technology

Chuck Greenfield, National Legal Aid and Defender Association (NLADA)

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1 PROCEEDINGS

- 2 (3:33 p.m.)
- 3 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: I note the presence of a
- 4 quorum. And with that, I will now call to order a
- 5 duly noticed meeting of the Operations & Regulations
- 6 Committee.
- 7 May I have a motion to approve the agenda?
- 8 MOTION
- 9 MR. GREY: Move it.
- MR. KORRELL: Second.
- 11 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: All in favor?
- 12 (A chorus of ayes.)
- 13 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: The agenda is approved.
- 14 We next move to the minutes of the live
- 15 meeting in January, the annual meeting. May I have
- 16 a motion to approve the minutes?
- 17 M O T I O N
- MR. GREY: So moved.
- MR. KORRELL: Second.
- 20 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: All in favor?
- 21 (A chorus of ayes.)
- 22 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: And the minutes are now

- 1 approved.
- 2 Our first item of substantive business we
- 3 somewhat managed to get a bit into at the regular
- 4 meeting regarding the self-evaluations, which people
- 5 kindly filled out. And the main substantive result
- 6 of that was that we tried to be a little bit more
- 7 systematic about circulation of the agenda prior to
- 8 our meetings.
- 9 Did everybody get this agenda in a timely
- 10 manner so that they could comment?
- MR. GREY: Yes.
- MR. KORRELL: Yes.
- 13 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Okay. In the future,
- 14 I'll probably -- I did it when I got the draft
- 15 agenda; I just circulated it about. And then I
- 16 probably will do that for about a week to the
- 17 members of the Committee, and then after a week will
- 18 just go forward without objection.
- 19 The next part of this -- this is sort of a
- 20 multi-part agenda item, which is the Committee's
- 21 goals for 2012. And I'm certainly happy to -- and
- 22 looking forward to your comments of members of the

- 1 Committee and other members of the Board about what
- 2 this Committee needs to do for 2012, or ideas for
- 3 it. But anybody, I feel, can jump in from
- 4 management, too, if they have things that they would
- 5 like the Committee to consider, or others on the
- 6 phone.
- 7 So with that, I'll just open up that topic.
- 8 If anyone has any particular ideas for our future
- 9 meetings?
- 10 (Pause)
- 11 MR. KORRELL: Charles, this is Harry. I
- 12 don't have an agenda of items that I think I would
- 13 need to see us take up. I've been pleased with the
- 14 issues that have been brought before the Committee
- 15 by management and ably described to us by Mattie
- 16 Cohan.
- 17 And I am comfortable with our mission being
- 18 to respond to the concerns that management brings
- 19 us, regulatory issues that they spot or that are
- 20 brought to them by the field that we need to
- 21 clarify. I think that's been working well.
- 22 Personally, I don't have a list of regulatory items

- 1 that I think we need to be taking on.
- 2 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: You know, one thing,
- 3 though, is that we've -- if people have any thoughts
- 4 about this -- this is the Regulations and Operations
- 5 Committee, and we do have an operational charter
- 6 which, if you have looked at the charter today,
- 7 involves our oversight of various processes and
- 8 policies here in the building.
- 9 And we've done a little bit of that over
- 10 the course of the Committee as it's constituted, but
- 11 not that much. And I was wondering if people have a
- 12 thought. To some extent, this is an area that tends
- 13 to overlap with some other Committees' inquiries.
- 14 But nevertheless, it is part of our jurisdiction and
- 15 mission to consider how processes can be -- how well
- 16 they're doing and if we can offer some ideas for
- 17 improvement, among other things.
- 18 MR. KORRELL: That area does overlap. This
- 19 is Harry. It overlaps with some of what the Audit
- 20 Committee does.
- 21 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Yes.
- MR. KORRELL: In our Committee meetings, we

- 1 elicit or at management's suggestion take briefings
- 2 on various aspects of operations, usually as they
- 3 affect financial matters, keeping track of the
- 4 coming and going of money and oversight, things like
- 5 that.
- 6 But there's some risk of double dipping.
- 7 Perhaps we could have joint presentations if we
- 8 wanted to have the Operations Committee following up
- 9 on those things as well. But that's a model we
- 10 might consider.
- 11 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Thank you. Yes. I
- 12 mean, we've been busy with a lot of regulatory work
- 13 and other related types of work as well, and as you
- 14 say, some of this has been covered by audits,
- 15 systematic inquiries into different aspects of the
- 16 Corporation.
- 17 Nevertheless, I think it's something to
- 18 consider, to take a look at that charter and look at
- 19 the duties -- and this goes to everybody, not just
- 20 Committee members -- and think about ways that we
- 21 can be helpful and non-duplicative.
- 22 MS. REISKIN: Charles, this is Julie

- 1 Reiskin.
- 2 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Yes.
- 3 MS. REISKIN: And I guess the only comment
- 4 I have on that is I never really understood why we
- 5 need this Committee, why we need a Governance
- 6 Committee and this, because I think this Committee -
- 7 the only two things -- the only thing I've seen
- 8 the Governance Committee do is just those two
- 9 evaluations.
- 10 So I don't know if maybe it makes sense to
- 11 recommend that as a kind of subcommittee of this, or
- 12 maybe it doesn't matter. But it seems like there's
- 13 a big overlap there since this Committee seems to be
- 14 doing a lot and the Governance Committee doesn't
- 15 seem to be doing much or hasn't had a lot of high
- 16 interest. That's just an observation.
- 17 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: My own opinion is that
- 18 there are distinct missions on that. But that's a
- 19 good point, to consider overlaps.
- 20 Anything further than that? We have --
- 21 yes, go ahead. Oh, yes. I should ask if anybody
- 22 else from the Board has joined. We're just keeping

- 1 track here.
- MS. MIKVA: Laurie Mikva.
- 3 FATHER PIUS: Father Pius.
- 4 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Oh, Father Pius?
- 5 Laurie? Welcome. Julie, welcome.
- 6 MS. MIKVA: Thank you.
- 7 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: There's a couple of
- 8 other points here. We're not making, at this point,
- 9 a specific list, a to-do list, over the course of
- 10 the year. But it's something that should be
- 11 ongoing, and as people have suggestions and
- 12 thoughts, please tell me or tell Mattie Cohan about
- 13 them, about suggestions for that.
- We are developing some agenda items, as you
- 15 probably know, for the next couple of meetings with
- 16 some rulemakings. And then beyond that, my own
- 17 sense is that the conclusion of our strategic
- 18 planning process may give us some insight into some
- 19 further goals for meetings in the fall and going
- 20 forward.
- 21 So I think we probably will be able to get
- 22 some ideas out of the strategic plan, and we do have

- 1 some things, some ideas, for the April meeting and
- 2 for the meeting in the summer. But we're always
- 3 open to further suggestions.
- 4 Let me now turn to this final part C of
- 5 this agenda item, which is the Committee's charter.
- 6 Within the charter itself, it asks us to
- 7 periodically consider it, at least read it, and
- 8 think about ways that it can be changed. And I
- 9 don't have a particular proposal at the moment, but
- 10 I just want to draw people on the phone's attention
- 11 to a couple of items within the charter. Let me
- 12 take a second to pull it up here.
- One of the items that we have
- 14 responsibility for is to look at what's called --
- 15 this is on Section 6, Duties and Responsibilities.
- 16 This is an operational area, which is, "Shall
- 17 monitor the Corporation's performance in achieving
- 18 the goals established in Strategic Directions." If
- 19 you recall, we did have a session on that at one
- 20 time, I think last year, in the prior year.
- One thing that people might consider --
- 22 might not do it today; don't need to do it today --

- 1 but consider is to talk a little bit about --
- 2 instead of saying Strategic Directions, to just
- 3 change that to a more generic formulation such as
- 4 the Strategic Plan of the Corporation or something
- 5 like that.
- 6 Another item to consider and think about is
- 7 to add a little bit of specificity about the manner
- 8 in which we might monitor that, namely, that we
- 9 should maybe perhaps do that on an annual basis. It
- 10 says we shall monitor it. It doesn't say how we'll
- 11 do it. But if we put in there "on an annual basis,
- 12 we need to assess the Corporation's performance
- 13 against its strategic plan, "that's a possible
- 14 change that you might want to make.
- 15 The other thing that struck my attention in
- 16 reviewing the charter is that when we look back at
- 17 what this Committee's been doing over the course of
- 18 the last year or so, it's included other things
- 19 which make sense, I think, for the Committee to be
- 20 doing such as legislation, guidance documents,
- 21 protocols, which we're going to look into probably
- 22 at the next meeting. But that's not really

- 1 specifically talked about within the charter. I
- 2 don't know if it needs to be; that's another
- 3 possible clarification.
- 4 Does anybody else have any thoughts about
- 5 that or other suggestions vis-à-vis the charter?
- 6 MS. MIKVA: Charles, this is Laurie Mikva.
- 7 I think both of your suggestions are good. I'm
- 8 still looking at No. 4 in there, and like Julie,
- 9 wondering how this is different than what the
- 10 Governance Committee does.
- 11 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Looking at -- I'm sorry,
- 12 Laurie. Which --
- MS. MIKVA: No. 4, "Shall review, with
- 14 management and the OIG, matters pertaining to the
- 15 manner in which management and the OIG are carrying
- 16 out their responsibilities."
- 17 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Right. That's a good
- 18 point. I think that it's not just necessarily
- 19 governance, but it's also the Audit Committee, and
- 20 also has that point. And I think that it's worth
- 21 looking at this charter in the context of the other
- 22 charters.

- 1 And I know that over time and past boards,
- 2 there has been thought given to try to have distinct
- 3 responsibilities for the different committees. But
- 4 I agree that it's worth looking to see if even
- 5 further clarification and distinction can be made on
- 6 that.
- 7 MR. GREY: This is Robert. Charles, I
- 8 think you made a comment before that some of this
- 9 (telephone cuts out briefly) and that may not be all
- 10 bad in the sense that it provides a sort of check
- 11 and balance on the work that's being done.
- 12 And the last thing that I think we ever
- 13 want to see happen is believing that one activity
- 14 entirely be the jurisdiction of a committee, and
- 15 somehow something gets missed, and we just
- 16 arbitrarily -- not arbitrarily, but we decided that
- 17 because somebody else has it, somebody else can't
- 18 have it.
- 19 It may be that in a situation where it is a
- 20 review, which is what we're having in this case,
- 21 that it's a backstop as much as it is anything else
- 22 that could alert or red flag issues that may be

- 1 referred to one of the other (telephone cuts out
- 2 briefly).
- 3 So I don't know that this is mutually
- 4 exclusive. I think this naturally overlapping to
- 5 some extent. And if we view it like that, then I
- 6 don't think we end up with some territorial feeling
- 7 that goes with this version (inaudible). It's both
- 8 of our jobs. So this is kind of built-in redundancy
- 9 that may not be all bad.
- 10 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Yes. I think that's
- 11 good point. And one thing that we can know, or
- 12 maybe we can take a look at, is that for some of
- 13 these responsibilities -- and I think that one is,
- 14 in particular -- I can imagine certain aspects of
- 15 the relationship between OIG and management that
- 16 perhaps could come to this Committee instead of
- 17 Audit. And if it's within our jurisdiction, then we
- 18 can be responsive when need be. So I think that's a
- 19 good point.
- Now, Mattie, did you want to comment on the
- 21 change that was made to the Audit Committee's
- 22 charter?

- 1 MS. COHAN: Sure. Sure. The Audit
- 2 Committee is currently reviewing their charter, and
- 3 one of the things that has been proposed in the
- 4 Audit Committee charter is to make it clear that the
- 5 Audit Committee is not an executive committee, a
- 6 committee of the Board as that term is used in the
- 7 Nonprofit Code to mean a committee that exercises
- 8 the executive power of the Board.
- 9 I had previously suggested to Charles my
- 10 thought that if that change ends up in the Audit
- 11 Committee charter, it probably would be a good
- 12 change to have in the other committee charters, not
- 13 only to make it clear that those committees are also
- 14 not intended to be executive committees on their own
- 15 right, but also so that we don't have a situation
- 16 where the lack of that clause in a particular
- 17 committee charter ends up implying that that
- 18 committee is intended to exercise the functions of
- 19 the Board.
- 20 MR. LEVI: Isn't that part of your --
- 21 that's in the new Not-for-Profits Act?
- MS. COHAN: Uh-huh.

- 1 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Yes. That's right.
- MS. COHAN: Yes.
- 3 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Yes. I think that's
- 4 another thing that I don't certainly have an
- 5 objection to. It's clarifying, and to some extent I
- 6 don't think it's -- would you call it not a
- 7 necessary aspect of compliance, but --
- 8 MS. COHAN: Right. It's not necessary
- 9 because the committees have not been set up and have
- 10 not been granted the exercise of the powers of the
- 11 Board. But having it clear in the Committee charter
- 12 certainly doesn't hurt.
- 13 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: All right.
- MR. LEVI: I think, if you look at No. 6 of
- 15 -- it's page 3 -- that's where you might put
- 16 something. But I would think you ought to recommend
- 17 to fix all of the charters. And I'm assuming that
- 18 changes to a committee's charter have to go to the
- 19 full Board in any event.
- MR. FORTUNO: Yes.
- 21 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Yes. Right. Again, the
- 22 point would be to take up suggestions today, and

- 1 then some draft redline changes would be prepared
- 2 for a future Committee meeting, where we could
- 3 debate them further and amend and edit.
- 4 If there are no further suggestions --
- 5 again, you can add these after the meeting or at any
- 6 time to me or to Mattie -- then we'll then turn back
- 7 to the next substantive item.
- 8 You received some information on this at
- 9 the last meeting, which is the different kinds of
- 10 documents generated by the Corporation -- and in a
- 11 way, this overlaps both Regulations and Operations,
- 12 I would say -- and the extent to which the types of
- 13 them, the types that are demand to require
- 14 publication and for notice and comment, or just
- 15 simply publication, and also our role as a Committee
- in those different types of documents.
- 17 So with that basic introduction, I will
- 18 turn it over to you, Mattie, where you can talk a
- 19 little bit more about your memo and what our
- 20 potential options for action are here.
- MS. COHAN: Right. Essentially, as noted
- 22 in the memo, there has not been a specific Board

- 1 policy relating to what does and doesn't come before
- 2 the Board for notice or for approval. It's rather
- 3 been kind of ad hoc, and a certain amount of it has
- 4 just been historical artifact about what -- you
- 5 know, something has come before the Board, so it's
- 6 continued to come before the Board.
- 7 I made a suggestion in the memo that if the
- 8 Board was interested in actually developing a
- 9 specific policy or protocol about what should come
- 10 before it, one way to organize it might be to track
- 11 the publication for comment and publication for
- 12 notice requirements of the LSC Act.
- The LSC Act, Section 108(e), requires that
- 14 rules, regulations, and guidelines be published for
- 15 comment before they're adopted, and that rules,
- 16 regulations, guidelines, and instructions are
- 17 published for notice, with 30 days' notice,
- 18 generally, before they become effective.
- 19 Basically, this leaves a situation where
- 20 you have stuff that has to be put out for comment,
- 21 stuff that just has to be noticed to the public, and
- 22 then things that aren't covered by 108(e) at all.

- 1 And so one way of organizing it for a Board policy
- 2 might be that anything that needs to come before the
- 3 Board -- anything that needs to go out to the public
- 4 for notice and comment might be something that has
- 5 to come before the Board for the Board's specific
- 6 approval.
- 7 Currently, under the rulemaking protocol,
- 8 since regulations and guidelines are something that
- 9 not only have to go out for notice and comment, that
- 10 particular protocol requires those things to come
- 11 before the Board. So that's an example that could
- 12 be turned into a generalized policy.
- 13 Then items that have to be put out for
- 14 notice but not necessarily for comment, procedural
- 15 rules, which might include things like the CSR
- 16 handbook, for example, and the notice of funding
- 17 availability in the grant RFP, could be things that
- 18 prior notice is given to the Board on, but it does
- 19 not come before the Board for specific approval.
- 20 And then other documents that fall outside of the
- 21 ambit of 108(e) altogether would be things that
- 22 wouldn't necessarily have to come before the Board

- 1 for prior notice.
- The one caveat with that is that,
- 3 generally, purely internal documents to the
- 4 Corporation don't have to be -- aren't subject to
- 5 Section 108(e). But that could include things like
- 6 the admin manual, the employee handbook, other
- 7 internal manuals.
- 8 And so there may not be a natural connect
- 9 there, or disconnect, between what has to be
- 10 published for comment under 108 for prior notice and
- 11 something that the Board should be involved in
- 12 because the Board has a different role in the
- 13 Corporation's operations than the general public
- 14 does, obviously.
- So that was a suggestion to the Board and
- 16 to the Committee about where they might want to go,
- 17 and then ask --
- MS. REISKIN: Excuse me. Is anyone else
- 19 having a problem hearing?
- MS. MIKVA: Yes.
- 21 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Let me try to get it a
- 22 little bit closer over here to Mattie.

- 1 MS. COHAN: Sorry.
- MR. FORTUNO: No one's ever had trouble
- 3 hearing Mattie.
- 4 MS. COHAN: Hearing me. I know. I'm
- 5 astonished.
- 6 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Well, thank you, Mattie.
- 7 If you look at the materials, on the one hand,
- 8 there's things that have to go out for notice and
- 9 comment. Now, these usually come before the
- 10 Committee, I think, almost -- is it almost always or
- 11 is it always, that something that would go out for
- 12 notice and comment would come before this Committee.
- MS. COHAN: Well, under the rulemaking
- 14 protocol, anything that is being adopted as a
- 15 regulation in our Title 16 of the Code of Federal
- 16 Regulations has to come before the Committee and the
- 17 Board for approval.
- 18 Things that have not been adopted that way
- 19 -- for example, the property acquisition and
- 20 management manual happens to be not in the Code of
- 21 Federal Regulations; it was issued as a manual --
- 22 but it went through this same public comment process

- 1 and did come before the Board. I think it would be
- 2 --
- 3 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: So from what you've
- 4 talked about, do we consider that to be a guideline,
- 5 the accounting manual and the audit guideline?
- 6 MS. COHAN: I think those fall into the
- 7 category of substantive rules.
- 8 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: They're substantive.
- 9 MS. COHAN: Those are items that I think
- 10 are substantive rules that are things that are
- 11 required to be subject to notice and comment.
- 12 Whether or not they are incorporated in our title in
- 13 the CFR is a separate issue. But I think those are
- 14 the sort of things that are substantive rules
- 15 because they are general applicability that set
- 16 policies for the regulated bodies generally.
- 17 Instructions are things that don't
- 18 necessarily rise to the level of substantive rules,
- 19 but they're like the next rule down. They tend to
- 20 be procedural matters rather than substantive
- 21 matters. And those are the sorts of things that
- 22 generally don't need to be put out for comment, just

- 1 need to be put out for prior notice before they
- 2 become effective.
- 3 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Right. Well, again, my
- 4 own view of this is that something that's going to
- 5 go out for notice and comment, even though Board and
- 6 Committee consideration of it isn't necessarily part
- 7 of the notice and comment process as such, it still
- 8 seems to me to be a valuable adjunct to it, both our
- 9 own discussion and thoughts about it and awareness
- 10 of it and public comment on it within the committee
- 11 process.
- 12 So I feel as though some of these items
- 13 should go to a committee and be considered by Board
- 14 members, things like the audit guide and the
- 15 accounting manual; they don't necessarily, in my
- 16 view, need to come to this Committee, although they
- 17 could. But they could go to a committee with
- 18 substantive expertise, such as the Audit Committee,
- 19 or so on. I'm neutral about that.
- 20 But it seems to me that something that goes
- 21 out for notice and comment should be the subject of
- 22 discussion among us, and be available for live

- 1 public input and public comment at a noticed Board
- 2 meeting or Committee meeting.
- 3 MR. FORTUNO: If I may -- this is Vic
- 4 Fortuno, for the record -- just for informational
- 5 purposes, the property acquisition management manual
- 6 did follow that process and went through the Finance
- 7 Committee, and the accounting manual --
- 8 MR. KORRELL: Can't hear you, Vic.
- 9 MR. FORTUNO: -- and the accounting manual
- 10 actually went through that process with the Audit
- 11 Committee, if I remember correctly.
- MS. COHAN: The PAM went through the Ops &
- 13 Regs Committee.
- MR. FORTUNO: I'm sorry. Yes, Ops & Regs.
- 15 And the --
- MS. COHAN: The accounting manual, I
- 17 thought, came through -- did it come up through the
- 18 Audit -- yes, the Audit Committee. Right.
- 19 MR. FORTUNO: But there are other things --
- 20 for example, we publish for comment the issue of
- 21 appropriation requests, ask for comments on what the
- 22 appropriation request should be. We most recently

- 1 asked for comment --
- MR. LEVI: It's getting hard to hear.
- 3 MR. FORTUNO: I'm sorry. Most recently, we
- 4 published a request for comments on the report of
- 5 the Fiscal Oversight Task Force. We've also
- 6 published for comment the issue of appropriation --
- 7 that is, distribution of funds on a per capita
- 8 basis, or how to handle that issue. So there are
- 9 other matters which are published for comment, and I
- 10 don't know that we have a strict protocol --
- MS. COHAN: No, because part of that is
- 12 that those items don't strictly legally need, under
- 13 Section 108 of the Act, to be published for comment.
- 14 Those items were all published for comment as a
- 15 discretionary matter because the Corporation thought
- 16 it was a good idea to get public comment on them.
- 17 But the distinction that I was making from
- 18 the memo was things that have to be published for
- 19 comment might be things that the Board would have to
- 20 approve, and things that are not legally required to
- 21 be published for comment, that could be taken up on
- 22 either more --

- 1 MR. FORTUNO: I agree. It was just a
- 2 follow-up to Chairman Keckler's point about even if
- 3 not strictly required, that there should be a
- 4 process for some Board consideration and input.
- 5 PRESIDENT SANDMAN: This is Jim Sandman.
- 6 I'd just like to throw out another scenario.
- We're considering a matter currently that
- 8 we would ordinarily address by a program letter. A
- 9 program letter I would regard as interpretive
- 10 guidance issued to programs about things that we
- 11 have previously promulgated.
- In this particular instance, I determined
- 13 that, as a management matter, I would be interested
- 14 in having comments before we put the program letter
- 15 out to see if there might be any unintended
- 16 consequences of the interpretation that we're
- 17 considering.
- I regard that as completely discretionary,
- 19 not required, but that's something that would be
- 20 useful to me as a manager before making any final
- 21 decision on the program letter. If the Committee or
- 22 the Board were to adopt a procedure that were to

- 1 require that in all instances that had to go to the
- 2 Board, we'd just want to flag the issue that for
- 3 future management, that could be a disincentive to
- 4 do something like that. It would be a simpler and
- 5 quicker procedure not to put matters out for comment
- 6 under those circumstances.
- 7 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Right. And I think
- 8 that's a very good point because on the one hand, we
- 9 want to, I think, balance some different
- 10 considerations, which include Board awareness of
- 11 what's going on and the capacity for Board input,
- 12 but also management flexibility to do exactly the
- 13 kinds of things that you're talking about.
- One thing that you talk about in the memo
- 15 and mentioned there is this other category of
- 16 things. There's regulations, and then there's
- 17 things that come before the Board for Board
- 18 consideration, that the Board weighs in on before
- 19 they go live in one fashion or another.
- 20 But then there's this other category of
- 21 documents -- maybe they correspond roughly to
- 22 documents that get published in the Federal

- 1 Register, but not for notice and comment; maybe they
- 2 don't -- in which the Board gets information about
- 3 them that says, hey, this is something we just did.
- 4 This is something we're doing. And we're not asking
- 5 you to put it in an agenda item; we're not asking
- 6 you to vote on it. But for your awareness, this is
- 7 something we're doing.
- 8 Is there some way to describe that category
- 9 of documents?
- MS. COHAN: Well, that could be the
- 11 category of the procedural rules, those things that
- 12 are put out for notice that aren't put out for
- 13 comment. I mean, that's one category. I think the
- 14 disconnect tends to be things that have to do with
- 15 the Corporation's operations rather than things that
- 16 are fact.
- 17 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Right, because --
- 18 MS. COHAN: And that I'm not sure how
- 19 exactly you nuance that.
- 20 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Well, and I don't have a
- 21 great answer, and I'll let others weigh in. As I
- 22 was reading this, I was thinking about it and I

- 1 thought, well, yes, that's right. I'm not sure
- 2 that's exactly the right distinction to make, is the
- 3 instructions that go out. That's for the external
- 4 audience.
- 5 These other things, I was just reading --
- 6 one of the things you talk about here is the
- 7 rulemaking protocol. Well, if you were to change
- 8 the rulemaking protocol, you should probably at
- 9 least tell us here on the Committee before you do
- 10 it.
- 11 (Laughter.)
- 12 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: And other things -- I
- 13 mean, the only distinction that I can make is that
- 14 obviously I, as a Board member, don't want to see
- 15 everything that you're generating. But I would like
- 16 to know important things that are of general
- 17 applicability -- not specific cases; but important
- 18 changes of general applicability policy-wise that
- 19 occur, I'd like to have some awareness of that.
- 20 But how you decide what's important, what's
- 21 significant in that context, I'm not sure if there's
- 22 an easy way for us to -- I can't think of an easy

- 1 way to articulate exactly what I'm talking about
- 2 besides just having synonyms for significance and
- 3 importance and crucial and things that we should
- 4 know about.
- 5 MS. COHAN: Right. I think that you can
- 6 easily articulate me coming to the Board with things
- 7 that involve the activity of the Board, like the
- 8 rulemaking protocol. Since it's something that
- 9 involves the Board, it makes sense that it would
- 10 come before the Board.
- I think it gets a little harder to
- 12 articulate which of those purely internal LSC
- 13 documents because there's a place between keeping
- 14 the Board informed, yet management needing the
- 15 discretion to do day-to-day operations of the
- 16 Corporation.
- 17 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: All right. Do others
- 18 have any insight into what they would like to see
- 19 before if --
- 20 MS. REISKIN: This is Julie. I think that
- 21 if a regulation is being interpreted in a different
- 22 manner than it has been in the past, whether it's

- 1 through management or a change due to new
- 2 information, I don't know that we -- I know that our
- 3 state administrative procedure, that has to come out
- 4 of the regulation and (inaudible), but I may be
- 5 wrong.
- 6 But those are the kinds of things I think
- 7 we should know about because people might ask us,
- 8 and that should go out as publicly as possible and
- 9 still be able to comply with whatever it is you're
- 10 doing.
- 11 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Right. One of the
- 12 distinctions that I don't think exactly maps onto
- 13 what we need but might be useful is that in the
- 14 past, with guidance documents in the federal
- 15 government, people have talked about significant
- 16 guidance. And that's not exactly, I think, what we
- 17 want. At first, when I got into this, I thought,
- 18 yes, that's what we need to do. But I think it's
- 19 not perfectly analogous.
- 20 But some of the things that are in there
- 21 about significant guidance, what makes a significant
- 22 guidance document, are things like it's going to

- 1 have an effect on the grantees. It's going to be
- 2 controversial. Okay? There's a series of
- 3 considerations in there that I think are relevant to
- 4 that.
- 5 And I think it's ultimately going to be a
- 6 management call, but I do think that there does
- 7 exist that category, that category of documents,
- 8 that we don't need to vote on but we should be aware
- 9 of as they come out in between meetings, perhaps, or
- 10 in some fashion we should get notice of.
- I think that category does exist, and I'm
- 12 not sure exactly the criteria by which you identify
- 13 it. But I think that's something that I would like
- 14 to occasionally see as an intermediate.
- MR. FORTUNO: And is that as that's issued
- 16 or prior to it being issued?
- 17 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Well, that's another
- 18 interesting point. I think --
- 19 MR. FORTUNO: I mean, in some ways it's
- 20 akin to the reprogramming provision in the
- 21 Appropriations Act, where Congress wants to know 14
- 22 days in advance what action we or the relevant

- 1 agency is going to take. So is it something like
- 2 that, or is simply, as it's promulgated or as it's
- 3 issued, to go ahead and CC the Board, in effect?
- 4 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Well, I think that if
- 5 it's something where --
- 6 MR. FORTUNO: It depends on whether it's
- 7 significant.
- 8 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Yes. Right. I mean, if
- 9 it's something that we might want to choose to
- 10 attempt to weigh in on, then yes, obviously prior
- 11 notice is better. It just becomes frustrating to
- 12 just get it that day. But at the same time, if it's
- 13 really a management call that's just really about
- 14 our awareness, then a CC is appropriate. I'm not
- 15 sure.
- PRESIDENT SANDMAN: As a management matter,
- 17 if the Board were to have a reaction to anything
- 18 that management chooses to publish in the Federal
- 19 Register, I'd rather get that reaction before rather
- 20 than after it's published.
- 21 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: That makes sense. Yes.
- 22 So I think that that's what we're talking about.

- 1 We're talking about prior notice, prior notice
- 2 items. Anyway, I'll let others weigh in if they
- 3 have further thoughts on that.
- 4 (No response.)
- 5 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: If not, I think it's a
- 6 project that we can continue with. But I think, in
- 7 a way, the notice and comment, I haven't seen a huge
- 8 problem with that. It doesn't all go through this
- 9 Committee; some of it goes to Audit. But that's
- 10 fine with me. And some things go out for notice and
- 11 comment on a discretionary basis, and again, that
- 12 seems fine.
- But maybe those are examples of the kinds
- 14 of things which we should have notice about, that
- 15 the Corporation is engaged -- is putting something
- 16 out there in the field seeking input because they
- 17 want input for the field while that might be an item
- 18 where the Board might -- just a thought; just a
- 19 suggestion -- the Board might also receive that,
- 20 just as people out there in the field do, in case
- 21 they have comments as well -- in case they do; they
- 22 might not.

- But again let's, as we go forward, keep
- 2 this topic in mind, both at the Board and management
- 3 level, that there might be and probably are
- 4 circumstances, which hopefully we can define a
- 5 little better than we did today, where the Board can
- 6 get prior notice of things without the expectation
- 7 that we will have a vote or you'd need approval or
- 8 anything like that, but we have awareness.
- 9 MR. GREENFIELD: Charles?
- 10 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Yes?
- MR. GREENFIELD: Yes, this is Chuck
- 12 Greenfield with NLADA. Can I make a comment now?
- 13 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Yes, please. Go ahead.
- MR. GREENFIELD: Okay. I haven't seen the
- 15 memo that Mattie did so I'm at a little bit of --
- 16 I'm not benefited by her analysis.
- 17 But when I look at Section 108(e) and the
- 18 requirement that rules, regulations, and guidelines
- 19 be noticed and opportunity for comment, and then
- 20 just instructions being listed as separate, what
- 21 comes to mind -- and Jim pointed this out, too, I
- 22 think -- is that the Corporation has for some time

- 1 often used the program letter approach as, in a
- 2 sense, a way of regulating the field and to slow
- 3 down a bit.
- 4 But if you look at the active program
- 5 letters, you'll remember they talk about very
- 6 substantive issues that are changes from past
- 7 approaches, or at least more specific instructions
- 8 or guidelines for programs.
- 9 And then I was thinking about the different
- 10 -- Vic talked about this briefly, but just some of
- 11 the other instructions or guidelines or guides that
- 12 the Corporation has -- the accounting guide, for
- 13 example, that went through. By the way, it was a
- 14 joint committee of the Ops & Regs and Audit
- 15 Committee.
- 16 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: That's right. Yes.
- 17 MR. GREENFIELD: And I know that the
- 18 property acquisition and management manual went
- 19 through notice because it's in the Federal Register.
- 20 And there are some -- I don't know whether the CSR
- 21 manual went through; somebody may know that. And
- 22 then I don't know whether the audit guide and the

- 1 compliance supplement and the audit bulletins that
- 2 the IG's office does -- if Laurie's there, maybe she
- 3 can opine on this -- but I assume the IG is required
- 4 to do the same notice and publication requirements
- 5 as this (inaudible) is.
- 6 So it seems to me that over the years, when
- 7 I look at it, the Corporation has acted a little bit
- 8 differently, depending on what the issue is and
- 9 depending on the time, about whether something was
- 10 noticed for public comment or not.
- 11 And so I don't think it's been entirely
- 12 consistent. I don't think it's been intentionally
- 13 inconsistent. I just think over the time, depending
- 14 on what the Board is and what the issue is, it's
- 15 either come out -- or the other category, too, is
- 16 the external opinions of the Office of Legal
- 17 Affairs, too.
- 18 They have on occasion announced certain
- 19 interpretations that are different than had
- 20 previously been issued by the Corporation. So they
- 21 become a type of regulation in one sense, they
- 22 become a type of guideline, of rule.

- 1 And so the Board may want to consider how -
- 2 and I know the Committee may not be prepared to do
- 3 this. But the Board may want to consider some sort
- 4 of guidelines -- maybe this is what Mattie suggested
- 5 -- that would give a little guidance to the
- 6 Corporation as to how to proceed on these issues in
- 7 the future.
- 8 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Thank you. That's a
- 9 good point. And I think that from some of the
- 10 discussions that we've had, setting up a criteria --
- 11 I just suggested there at the end a criteria for
- 12 really, in a way, just Board use and for the Board's
- 13 role and awareness of different documents.
- But I think it's a valid idea to give some
- 15 thought to developing more systemic criteria for
- 16 what program letters or opinions do rise to that
- 17 level and which don't, and have those criteria be
- 18 known.
- 19 So we were talking earlier about future
- 20 agenda items for this committee; I think that
- 21 thinking some more about criteria that perhaps would
- 22 revive the category of instructions -- I'm not sure

- 1 -- or, who knows, would make it a little clearer
- 2 which things fall on what side of the line, although
- 3 perhaps we'll never have complete clarity on that.
- 4 But thank you for the comment.
- 5 The next agenda item, last substantive
- 6 item, is the staff report on the LSC Continuity of
- 7 Operations Plan. I got a chance to look at the
- 8 Continuity of Operations Plan late last year, I
- 9 think it was. I think it's one of these things that
- 10 falls into the general jurisdiction of the
- 11 Committee, and I think it's worth, if for nothing
- 12 else, having Board members and Committee members
- 13 take a look at the Continuity of Operations Plan and
- 14 be aware of it.
- But one item, before others tell the
- 16 different components about it and make themselves
- 17 available for questions, one item in there struck me
- 18 and I just want to flag it for everybody, which is,
- 19 the role of the Board is very lightly discussed in
- 20 the LSC Continuity of Operations Plan.
- It's developed by management and talks
- 22 about management's role. And so to the extent that

- 1 as you read it and think about how we the Board can
- 2 be useful to the continuity of operations of the
- 3 Corporation and how we would respond, that's my
- 4 main, immediate interest, in a way that we could
- 5 potentially add value to that.
- 6 But with that, I will let the staff report
- 7 on the COOP begin.
- 8 MR. SLOANE: Thank you. For the record,
- 9 this is Richard Sloane, one of the Special
- 10 Assistants to the President. I also had a chance to
- 11 review the Corporation's Continuity of Operations
- 12 Plan.
- I'd like to do two things. One is to just
- 14 offer some global observations about the state of
- 15 the plans and raise potential options or
- 16 recommendations for this Committee to consider and
- 17 the Corporation to consider in terms of potential
- 18 revisions to the plan.
- 19 And then the second thing I'd like to do
- 20 is, given the heavy emphasis on the technological
- 21 component of any continuity of operations plan, I
- 22 asked Jeff Morningstar, the Director of the Office

- 1 of Information Technology, to prepare more detailed
- 2 remarks on the plan. Likewise, I'll note that
- 3 directors of the specific offices, the specific
- 4 departments of the Corporation, are available to
- 5 answer any questions from the Committee.
- 6 So just a quick overview. The
- 7 Corporation's Continuity of Operations Plan most
- 8 recently was revised in August of 2011, principally
- 9 for the purpose of ensuring that LSC staff personnel
- 10 contact information was updated and complete. And
- 11 I'll also note that the Corporation's Continuity of
- 12 Operations Plan is actually a compilation of
- 13 separate plans of the Corporation's nine separate
- 14 offices.
- 15 So looking for potential options for the
- 16 Committee to consider with regard to COOP plan, one
- 17 would be an executive overview, which would lay out
- 18 from a 50,000-foot view the overall approach for
- 19 continuity of operations from the Corporation, and
- 20 then have it reference specific details for
- 21 individual LSC departments.
- 22 And Charles, I'm glad you mentioned that in

- 1 the current version of the Corporation's plan, that
- 2 the role of the Board is lightly mentioned. I think
- 3 that's a very valid observation.
- 4 And I would just raise as an option that
- 5 this Committee or the Board in full might consider
- 6 drafting its own document that would become a
- 7 component of the Corporation's continuity of
- 8 operations plan for purposes of coordinating
- 9 communications and making sure that there is active
- 10 communication between the Board and the Corporation
- 11 in the event of, God forbid, some disaster or some
- 12 interruption of operations of the Corporation.
- 13 The Continuity of Operations Plan has been
- 14 distributed to all Corporation employees, and it's
- 15 placed on our intranet site. I'll also note that
- 16 there are formalized training programs available
- 17 specifically on the issue of COOP plans to recognize
- 18 best practices identified by the government, by
- 19 other nonprofits, with regard to development and
- 20 implementation of COOP plans.
- One that comes to mind is that the
- 22 individual COOP plans by department have identified,

- 1 for example, telephone trees and email distribution
- 2 lists for purposes of ensuring that there's adequate
- 3 communication between and among staff members, the
- 4 Board, and programs in the event of a disturbance or
- 5 a disruption of operations.
- 6 One other option that we might consider
- 7 would be implementation of text messaging
- 8 distribution in the event that telephone access is -
- 9 either land line or cell phone telephone access is
- 10 disturbed and/or internet access is interrupted.
- 11 So those are just a few global
- 12 observations. I'll turn things over to Jeff
- 13 Morningstar to dig a bit more deeply into the
- 14 specific technology components of the COOP plan.
- MR. MORNINGSTAR: Hi. This is, for the
- 16 record, Jeff Morningstar.
- 17 The LSC COOP plan is dependent upon the
- 18 disaster recovery technology that the Office of
- 19 Information Technology has in place for an effective
- 20 response to a disaster or emergency situation in
- 21 which the LSC building is destroyed or becomes
- 22 uninhabitable for a period of more than a few days.

- 1 This COOP plan assumes that the LSC staff
- 2 will be working from home during this emergency
- 3 situation. During this period, all technical
- 4 functionality of the LSC office will be redirected
- 5 to our disaster recovery site in Middletown,
- 6 Virginia to allow the continued functionality of the
- 7 LSC office.
- What I'm going to do is describe the
- 9 disaster recovery technology that the Office of
- 10 Information Technology has in place. After that,
- 11 I'll give you an update of where we are with DR
- 12 technology.
- 13 There are seven major components of the OIT
- 14 disaster recovery plan. The first one is voice
- 15 communications. Our current plan is OIT will
- 16 contact our voice communication provider and have
- 17 our phone lines redirected to the DR site in
- 18 Middletown, Virginia.
- 19 Out there, Experius, which is the company
- 20 we deal with, has a PBX system which will take our
- 21 phone lines, at which point the phones will be
- 22 available. The voicemail will be available. We'll

- 1 be able to forward to employees' home numbers or
- 2 cell phone numbers.
- 3 We have a future plan down the road for
- 4 this, and that is to move our voice over IP, our
- 5 phone system, to a voice over IP service provider
- 6 within the cloud, basically, a service provider.
- 7 This right here will eliminate the aspect of the
- 8 phone system going down due to the building being
- 9 destroyed or the fact that we won't be able to enter
- 10 it.
- 11 Also, the move will be transparent to the
- 12 end users. They'd be able to use their same Cisco
- 13 desktop phones and have the same functionality.
- 14 This will also reduce cost in-house for voice over
- 15 IP hardware and software. And also, during the
- 16 aspect of the disaster, LSC staff will be able to
- 17 communicate using their LSC cell phones. Currently,
- 18 65 staff members have cell phones.
- 19 Number 2, data communication: This
- 20 consists of three major components, firewall,
- 21 internet services, and physical network. We
- 22 currently have a new Sonic firewall at the DR site

- 1 to protect us from external security threats. OIT
- 2 will redirect incoming web and email traffic to the
- 3 DR site during a disaster. Some redirections will
- 4 be done with human intervention; some will be done
- 5 automatically using a disaster recovery software
- 6 called Neverfail and VM.
- 7 We actually have a physical network out at
- 8 the DR site that replicates what we have here at our
- 9 main office with server rack, power, cooling, and
- 10 switches, and everything we need to replicate what
- 11 we have here at the main office.
- We have a future plan for the email, and
- 13 that is to also move the email system out to the
- 14 cloud. Our email system is based on Microsoft
- 15 Exchange, and we plan to move that to an Exchange
- 16 service provider in the cloud. This will eliminate
- 17 the possibility of the email going down if the
- 18 building is destroyed. It's also transparent to the
- 19 end users; they would continue to use Outlook as
- 20 they do now. And this would also reduce cost for
- 21 in-house hardware, servers, software, and spam
- 22 filtering.

- 1 Number 3, the disaster recovery site
- 2 itself: We go through a disaster company called
- 3 Experius Data Centers. And this disaster recovery
- 4 site in particular is approximately 90 miles west of
- 5 Washington, D.C., which is out of the 75-mile blast
- 6 zone that Homeland Security recommends you be out
- 7 of.
- 8 The building is bulletproof, bombproof,
- 9 security fence, 24-hour-a-day surveillance, located
- 10 between the mountains in Blue Ridge Mountains.
- 11 Intersects two national power grids. Has its own
- 12 water supply. Has four Caterpillar 500-horsepower
- 13 diesel generators with 5,000 gallons of diesel fuel
- 14 to produce electricity. And at this site, we do
- 15 have our server rack, internet access, servers,
- 16 equipment, and everything to provide service in the
- 17 event of a disaster.
- Number 4, remote access: We have two
- 19 methods of remote access. The first one is Citrix.
- 20 Citrix will work the same as it does now at the
- 21 office. A lot of people use Citrix to access
- 22 remotely when they're on travel or working from

- 1 home. It's the same address that -- it's an
- 2 internet address that they plug in. We redirect
- 3 this address so it would be transparent to the end
- 4 users.
- 5 We also have Outlook web access, which is
- 6 remote email access. And the same here: We would
- 7 redirect the same address to the DR site. So that
- 8 would be transparent to the end users, too.
- 9 Number 5 is the availability of OIT staff
- 10 to provide support. OIT staff would be responsible
- 11 for migrating the services to the DR site and making
- 12 them available. The OIT director and two engineers
- 13 would be at the DR site and responsible for bringing
- 14 up the servers and the systems online, while two
- 15 administrators would be responsible for providing
- 16 support staff, including home visits.
- Number 6, HRvantage, Sun Systems, and
- 18 ezLabor: HRvantage is our human resource management
- 19 system, and Sun Systems is our accounting systems.
- 20 Both of these systems are replicated at the DR site
- 21 and will be accessible through Citrix. The Sun
- 22 Systems will also allow remote check printing using

- 1 ChequeScribe software, with printers at the
- 2 comptroller's home and the accounting manager's
- 3 home. They actually have special ink for these
- 4 printers that allows them to print checks. The
- 5 ezLabor timekeeping system is an ADP product which
- 6 is web-based and exists in the cloud, which can be
- 7 accessed from any computer on the web with an
- 8 updated browser.
- 9 Number 7, LSC Grants, Worksite, and our LSC
- 10 websites: The LSC grant is also replicated at the
- 11 DR site and will be available through the same
- 12 normal address, which will relocate to the DR site.
- 13 Worksite is our document management system; this is
- 14 also replicated at the DR site and will be available
- 15 through Citrix. Worksite also has a functionality
- 16 to download document and work on it offline using
- 17 Worksite offline functionality.
- 18 And then, of course, all our websites are
- 19 replicated at the DR site -- the LSC.gov, the TIG,
- 20 the LRI, AIN, RIN, eWEBS, GREPS. They're all
- 21 replicated and they'll be accessible through the
- 22 same addresses that they're accessible now. Those

- 1 will be redirected, too.
- 2 The current status of our DR site is all
- 3 the hardware is up and running at the DR site. We
- 4 have the connectivity to the DR site which allows us
- 5 to get in and use Citrix out there. We have two
- 6 data stores. A data store basically has all of the
- 7 information that we have here at LSC, and we have
- 8 two of them. They replicate each other.
- 9 We've got one here at the home office and
- 10 we've got one at the DR site. And whatever happens
- 11 here is mirrored out there, so if there is a
- 12 disaster here, we'll be able to -- right now we're
- in a position of completely coming up with no data
- 14 or integrity loss in the system at all.
- What we're working on is bringing up a
- 16 piece of software called Neverfail. And Neverfail
- 17 is a very similar product that works off a
- 18 technology called a Heartbeat. Basically, for our
- 19 Worksite, our LSC Grants, and our Sun Systems, if
- 20 Neverfail notices that any one of these systems is
- 21 down here at the main office, it automatically
- 22 redirects to the DR site and will continue running.

- 1 So in the event that there's not a disaster but one
- 2 of our servers crashes, for the end user it will be
- 3 completely transparent, allowing us to rebuild that
- 4 server.
- 5 The Neverfail, right now we're about three
- 6 and a half weeks off from getting that implemented
- 7 and tested. The reason being is Neverfail engineers
- 8 are about five to six weeks backlogged, and I
- 9 believe we've got a date for them to come on out,
- 10 implement, and set up some testing for us towards
- 11 the end of March.
- Okay. I think I've covered everything.
- 13 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Great. Let me, then,
- 14 pause there and open it up on the phone for
- 15 questions for Jeff or for Richard about the plan or
- 16 thoughts.
- MS. REISKIN: Yes. I have a question.
- 18 This is Julie, and I had a real hard time hearing,
- 19 so you might have covered this and I just didn't get
- 20 it. But I think you talked about your recovery
- 21 facilities in Virginia. Is this a national company?
- 22 Do they have a plan if there were a disaster that

- 1 were to hit the entire East Coast?
- 2 MR. MORNINGSTAR: Can you say that again?
- 3 I didn't hear the first part of it.
- 4 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Julie was mentioning,
- 5 just so you don't have go through this, the phone
- 6 connection, about the capacity for if a disaster
- 7 were to hit the entire East Coast. Julie, were you
- 8 concerned about grantees, or what was your chief
- 9 concern?
- MS. REISKIN: He said that the disaster
- 11 recovery facility, I guess, for like our phones and
- 12 all our IT, gets rerouted to it in Virginia.
- 13 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Oh, I see. So further
- 14 away. I see.
- MS. REISKIN: Yes. Is there something like
- 16 on the West Coast or in the middle of the country in
- 17 case of a regional disaster?
- 18 MR. MORNINGSTAR: Okay. Well, yes. If the
- 19 blast goes all the way to Middletown, Virginia, 90
- 20 miles away, I think that's going to cause problems
- 21 for the entire United States. But to reassure you
- 22 that the DR site, experienced DR site in Middletown,

- 1 Virginia is an adequate facility, it's the same DR
- 2 site that the Marine Corps uses. And AT&T is out
- 3 there, too.
- 4 And I'm not sure if they also have a
- 5 redundant DR site. They might, and I'm sure they
- 6 probably do because they are the military. But
- 7 we're planning for a disaster that's not going to
- 8 eliminate the population of the country.
- 9 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Well, the point,
- 10 obviously, besides everything else, is a very sober
- 11 and serious one. But, as a practical matter, one of
- 12 the things -- and this gets back to your point,
- 13 Richard, about executive oversight over it here --
- 14 is to think about what disaster and how robustly --
- 15 the range of disasters for which we're preparing.
- On the one hand, it's very difficult for us
- 17 as an entity, small entity, to prepare for the
- 18 complete collapse of the country. At the same time,
- 19 as you read the Continuity of Operations Plan, it
- 20 looks like, well, it could be like a fire in the
- 21 building, or it could be, like you're saying when
- 22 you're moving things out to Middletown, we're

- 1 talking about the disabling of Washington, D.C.
- 2 Okay?
- 3 Those are still significantly different
- 4 disaster concepts that we might want to think about.
- 5 One thought that I had was, what are we planning
- 6 for? How robustly are we doing this? We're getting
- 7 ready for -- yes, we've got to get ready if there's
- 8 a fire in the building or something happens or a
- 9 flood; that seems more likely to me.
- 10 But at the same time, if there's some kind
- 11 of major threat, we are Washington, D.C. We are
- 12 subject to a series of potential critical threats
- 13 which would be metropolitan in scope. And it seems
- 14 prudent, as you've done, to prepare according to
- 15 Homeland Security guidelines for an event of that
- 16 nature.
- 17 MR. MORNINGSTAR: Let me add one more
- 18 thing. About two years ago, I went to Homeland
- 19 Security training for their COOP. And their COOP,
- 20 basically they said if there is like a dirty bomb or
- 21 a major catastrophe in Washington, D.C., that
- 22 Homeland Security officials will be putting up

- 1 roadblocks at all major arteries leaving Washington,
- 2 D.C., and you'll need a Homeland Security ID with a
- 3 smart chip in it to get past that, and the rest of
- 4 us will not be able to get on these public roads
- 5 because they don't want them congested. They want
- 6 to plan to get the government officials out that
- 7 they need to get out.
- 8 Now, also, cell phones will be cut for
- 9 everybody except for people that have a special code
- 10 from Homeland Security, the government, to use their
- 11 cell phones. So those two aspects will be not
- 12 available.
- 13 Looking at that picture, it's hard to
- 14 recoup if you can't get your engineers out to
- 15 Middletown, Virginia to fire up some of that stuff.
- 16 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Right. Well, that's --
- 17 well, one point with regard to that, and I don't
- 18 know if you thought about this, is a question that I
- 19 had, which is about assembly points and
- 20 reconstituting the Corporation physically in a
- 21 location, not necessarily the place where the data
- 22 is.

- But in the Continuity of Operations Plan,
- 2 it says we're going to somehow get together
- 3 somewhere and somebody's going to have facilities to
- 4 maybe rent a place or get temporary lodging. But
- 5 it's not that clarified, and to the extent that a
- 6 place is mentioned, I think it's the ABA is
- 7 mentioned in the Continuity of Operations Plan,
- 8 which is in downtown D.C.
- 9 Now, again, that is an example of where
- 10 we're planning a building-specific problem: Well,
- 11 fine, go down to the ABA and so on. If it's a more
- 12 metropolitan thing, going further into Washington,
- 13 D.C. is not going to be feasible for us. And so,
- 14 again, those are a couple of the things that I
- 15 noticed.
- What thoughts do others have?
- 17 MR. SCHANZ: Well, I'd like to add that the
- 18 ABA building is being sold.
- MS. MIKVA: Can't hear it.
- 20 MR. SCHANZ: The ABA building on 15th
- 21 Street in downtown D.C. is being sold.
- 22 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: The Inspector General

- 1 just mentioned that the ABA building is being sold.
- 2 So whoever's resident there, if a disaster strikes,
- 3 if we all show up, I don't know what they'll say.
- 4 (Laughter.)
- 5 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: One other thought
- 6 regarding the Board's role. The D.C. Nonprofit Act,
- 7 the new act, one provision you may recall about our
- 8 optional goals for the bylaws, for bylaws changes,
- 9 involves emergency provisions and powers which the
- 10 new D.C. Nonprofit Corporation Act gives to the
- 11 Board.
- Now, those would have to be incorporated
- 13 into bylaws. But they do give us some potential
- 14 flexibility, and if people are interested in what
- 15 might be thought of as a Board protocol or a Board
- 16 policy, an emergency Board policy, if that is
- 17 prepared and we toss that around and think about
- 18 what we want the Board to do, then it might turn out
- 19 that we would need to make some bylaws changes in
- 20 order to do what we want the Board to do.
- 21 But I'm thinking of this functionally at
- 22 first in terms of looking at the operations plan,

- 1 seeing what the Board's role could be in it, and
- 2 then making it happen vis-à-vis changes in the
- 3 bylaws, if necessary.
- Anyway, that's my working concept of how to
- 5 proceed. Do others have thoughts?
- 6 (No response.)
- 7 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: All right. So with
- 8 that, I will just turn it back over to management
- 9 with, on my own account, asking for people, when you
- 10 have the opportunity, to develop a Board role when
- 11 you're doing the Continuity of Operations Plan, and
- 12 look for a role for us to do.
- 13 And then we'll talk about that and bring it
- 14 back before this Committee and before the Board, and
- 15 we'll all talk about it over the course of the year
- 16 as part of our ongoing consideration of this issue.
- 17 And I'll just leave it at that at this point. But
- 18 thank you very much for your presentations.
- 19 I'm going to now move to -- what do we have
- 20 next on the schedule -- public comment. Or other
- 21 business, rather?
- (No response.)

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1 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Public comment? If
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- 2 there's any further public comment, on continuity of
- 3 operations or other topics we've considered today?
- 4 (No response.)
- 5 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Hearing none, is there
- 6 any other business to bring before the committee
- 7 today?
- 8 (No response.)
- 9 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: Well, hearing none on
- 10 that, I want to thank everybody for attending and
- 11 spending their Leap Day with us. And I will now
- 12 consider a motion to adjourn.
- 13 M O T I O N
- MR. KORRELL: So moved.
- MS. MIKVA: Second.
- 16 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: All in favor?
- 17 (A chorus of ayes.)
- 18 CHAIRMAN KECKLER: The Committee is now
- 19 adjourned. Thank you very much for your
- 20 participation.
- 21 (Whereupon, at 4:48 p.m., the Committee was
- 22 adjourned.)