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Managers: Get More from Your Staff Meetings

A poorly planned, poorly run meeting squanders a terrific opportunity to foster teamwork and enhance a staff's success. Here are some tips to help you make your staff meetings the focused, productive and motivational events they should be.

Posted: March 7, 2010 8:01 PM | [Full Story](#)

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- [Establishing Expectations: Ten Suggestions for Supervisors and Managers](#)
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OPM to Release New Retirement Statements

John Berry, OPM director, said that the glitches in the system that affected retirement statement for as many as 12,000 retirees would be revised by sometime in mid-April.

Posted: March 8, 2010 7:22 AM | [Full Story](#) | [Discuss this Story](#)**Going to Work Can Be Dangerous**

"Americans love to hate the IRS. The federal agency charged with making sure Uncle Sam gets his cut breeds contempt and resentment from nearly every walk of life."

Posted: March 8, 2010 6:55 AM | [Full Story](#) | [Discuss this Story](#)**Always a Lesson Learned**

A former director of the VA Connecticut Healthcare System is returning to the West Haven campus as acting director. His second stint "is accompanied by reports that he misused funds and abused power the last time he worked here." "I don't like to travel in the past. In life, there is always a lesson learned," he said.

Posted: March 8, 2010 7:50 AM | [Full Story](#) | [Discuss this Story](#)**Anti-Government Writing Linked to Pentagon Shooter**

A California man killed in a shootout with Pentagon police arrived at the Pentagon armed with two semiautomatic weapons. Internet postings linked to the lone shooting suspect reflect long-held anti-government anger.

Posted: March 8, 2010 7:44 AM | [Full Story](#) | [Discuss this Story](#)**Public Condolences to Victims from Wife of Man Who Flew Plane into Office Bldg.**

The wife of Joseph Stack, the man officials say flew his small plane into an office building in Austin last month, is expressing sympathy to those who have suffered at the hands of her husband.

Posted: March 8, 2010 7:28 AM | [Full Story](#) | [Discuss this Story](#)**Federal Pay Gap Reversed**

"[T]he pay gap mythology has been spread by *Washington Post* reporters, one recently writing, 'The budget answers critics ... who say federal civilians earn much more than private-sector workers... [G]overnment figures indicate that

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Studies have shown that one of the top five things that can wreck your retirement is divorce or a legal separation just prior to retirement and that is especially true for the federal employee. Whether you are CSRS or FERS, your retirement is property subject to division and can be cut by more than half, your TSP decimated, and survivor elections for any subsequent spouse limited or extremely expensive if you and your divorce lawyer don't understand how federal benefits can be awarded in a divorce.

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federal employees are underpaid by 26 percent compared with their counterparts in similar position in the business world."

Posted: March 8, 2010 7:15 AM | [Full Story](#) | [Discuss this Story](#)

- [Why Federal Workers Deserve What They're Paid](#)

Calling for a Congressional Pay Cut



Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick (D-Ariz.) has introduced the "Taking Responsibility for Congressional Pay Act," which would cut senators' and representatives' salaries by 5 percent starting Jan. 1, 2011. It would enact the first pay cut for Congress since 1933.

Posted: March 8, 2010 7:11 AM | [Full Story](#) | [Discuss this Story](#)

Open Envy for Federal Jobs and Benefits

With a lingering recession, the possibility of a "double-dip recession," and the resulting economic uncertainty, articles about government salaries and benefits are flooding the media around the country. "You are paying more taxes and getting fewer services so that government workers - whose wallets already are fatter than yours - can continue to get theirs, and more. You'll be scraping by in retirement, assuming you can ever retire. They'll be retiring in their 50s, secure, with health care and pensions for life. And you paid for them."

Posted: March 8, 2010 7:09 AM | [Full Story](#) | [Discuss this Story](#)

Uncle Sam's Payroll Growing

Since the recession started, the United States Postal Service has eliminated 114,300 jobs, or 14.6 percent of its payroll. Overall, federal government employment has been growing.

Posted: March 8, 2010 7:19 AM | [Full Story](#) | [Discuss this Story](#)

Some DC Area Employees Warming to Huntsville, AL

Federal employees living in the Washington, DC area are sometimes hesitant to follow a job moving to Huntsville, Alabama but a local attorney working with the Tennessee Valley BRAC committee says that a substantial percentage are prepared to do that after learning more about the area.

Posted: March 8, 2010 7:03 AM | [Full Story](#) | [Discuss this Story](#)

Divorce, Retirement and the Federal Employee

Be careful! Studies have shown that one of the top five things that can wreck your retirement is divorce or a legal separation just prior to retirement and that is especially true for the federal employee. Whether you are CSRS or FERS, your retirement is property subject to division and can be cut by more than half, your TSP decimated, and survivor elections for any subsequent spouse limited or extremely expensive if you and your divorce lawyer don't understand how federal benefits can be awarded in a divorce.

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