

## Confidential Memo

Date: August 6, 2010

To: Gregory Allen, Executive Director

**Dan Shapiro, Senior Vice President** 

CC: Valerie Thomas, Director

Raymond Lopez, President

Paul Barber, VP Dennis Groh, VP

From: William F. Slater, III, PMP, VA NSOC NSSS Project Manager

Subject: Responses to Performance Review from August 3, 2010

Greg,

These are my responses to my ESN Performance Review dated August 3, 2010.

#### Statements that I am responding to:

Section – Ability to Learn / Job Performance

"However needs to pull and process trouble tickets to fully appreciate his subordinates' jobs and to demonstrate ability to pitch in and lead by example."

#### Response:

Pulling and processing tickets would not be the best use of my time, which is presently more than %120 occupied with management issues and management reports. Recently, a great deal of time has been expended on management issues, modifying and overhauling required PWS Task Reports, staff planning, staff recruiting, and writing SLAs and planning documents for the big transition from Year 1 to Year 2 on the NSSS Contract. In addition, as the contract transitions from Year 1 will require the following documents and deliverables.

Category	Transition Item	Timeline
Checklist Preparation	The NSSS Team Project Manager will work to prepare a checklist of the processes / functions and standard operating procedure documentation that is currently administered. This list will form the basis of the service expectations and serve as the roadmap for new contract year.	Days 1 - 15
PWS Task 1A	The NSSS Team Project Manager develop the following PWS Task 1A Reports based on	Day 16 - 30



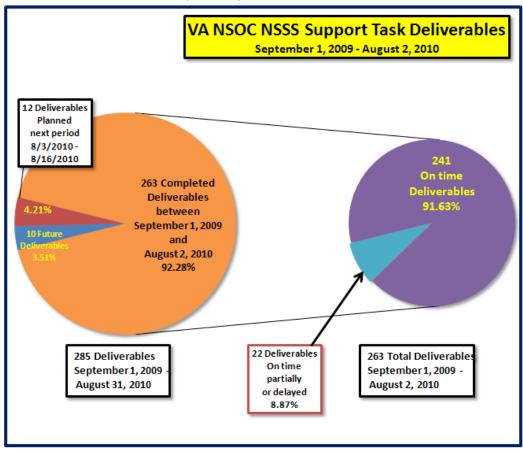
Reports	the process items contained in the checklist.	
	1A - Communication Management Plan	
	1A - Lessons Learned	
	1A - Process Improvement Plan	
	1A - Project Management (PMP) & Subsidiary Plans	
	1A - Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan	
	1A - Schedule Management Plan	
	1A - Staffing Management Plan	
Baseline Report Preparation	During this period, the NSSS Team Project Manager and Site Manager(s) will work with VA Network Security Operations Center and other VA IT infrastructure personnel to understand, document, and assess the current security architecture system to establish a baseline for Option Year 1. This baseline document will describe how the security is currently configured, what processes are running, their functionality, the state of the standard operation procedure documentation, and provide recommendations for improvement etc.).	Day 11 – 45
Baseline Report Preparation	The NSSS Team Project Manager and Site Manager(s) will engage with VA Managers and business process owners supporting the network platform to better understand their specific business requirements. These requirements will be documented and added to the baseline documentation.	Day 11 - 45
Staffing Model Ramp- up	ESN will work with the NSSS Project Manager and Site Managers to recruit, process in, and indoctrinate the necessary network security analysts to meet the agreed upon Staffing Model for the 2010-2011 contract year.	Day 1 – 60
Transition Sign-off	The new Tier III NSSS Project Manager and the VA Management will sign off on the transition document.	Day 60

NOTE: If I am busy resolving trouble tickets as suggested in this Performance Review, then my regular Job Duties as well as these Project Transition deliverable items listed above would not get done, not be done to sufficient quality, or could be significantly delayed. Any of these situations could result in getting the NSSS Contract back into another CURE Status situation with the VA and GSA. (Remember, the VA put ESN and the NSSS Contract into a CURE STATUS situation in the January – February 2010 over the situation of missing or excessively late deliverables.) So it really gets down to this: Does ESN really want to take the finite number of hours I have in a week and allocate those to resolving trouble tickets? Do we want to take the chance of us slipping required PWS Task deliverables because I was busy try to set some kind of example for the Team in terms of doing some number of tickets to keep up with the best trouble ticket takers on the Team? Or would it not be best to do the things that need to be done to keep the NSSS Contract out of CURE STATUS. Of course, this is my management's call.

Final note about this, see the diagrams below to understand the required deliverables. The 45 to 60-day Project Transition period will be VERY INTENSE because it will require that we produce



the new project deliverables and the baseline report listed in the table above, IN ADDITION to keeping up with the regular required deliverables. I think that at least 50 to 60 hours a week will be the norm during the Project Transition from Year 1 to Year 2, just to keep up. So the decision about taking trouble tickets and setting the example for the Team needs consider the additional deliverable demands created by the Project Transition demands.





/ersion: 61	ole Report Schedule				
ast Updated: Augus PVS Reference	Description	Frequency	File Name(s)	Most Recent Delivery	Nezt Ezpected
1A	Draft Program Management Plan	Once and as Requested	NSSS_Task_1a_QASP_YYYYMMDD.pdf	Jan. 15, 2010	Not yet requested
			NSSS_Task_1a_Process Improvement_YYYYMMDD.pdf	Sep. 8, 2009	Not yet requested
			NSSS_Task_1a_Lessons Learned_YYYYMMDD.pdf	Sep. 15, 2003	Not yet requested
			NSSS_Task_1a_QASP_20100714.pdf	July 14, 2010	Not yet requested
1B	Bi-weekly Activity Report	Bi-Weekly	NSSS_Task_1b_Bi-Weekly_Activity_Report_YYYYMMDD.pdf	Aug. 3, 2010	Aug. 10, 2010
1C	Cost Management Report	Monthly	NSSS_Task_1c_Cost_Management_Report_YYYYMMDD.pdf	July 29, 2010	Aug. 29, 2010
1D	Travel Management Report	Monthly	NSSS_Task_1d_Travel_Management_Report_YYYYMMDD_v1.pdf	Jul. 29, 2010	Aug. 29, 2010
1E	Kickoff Briefing Presentation	Once	NSSS_Task_1e_Kickoff_Briefing_YYYYMMDD.pdf	Sep. 2009	None projected.
1F	Quarterly /Close-Out Reports	Quarterly	NSSS_Task_1f_Quarterly_Closeout_Q2_YYYYMMDD.pdf	Jun. 18, 2010	Sept. 18, 2010
2.4	Device Monitoring/Analysis Reports	Weekly	NSSS_Task_2a_Device_Monitoring_and_Analysis_Report_YYYYMMDD.pdf	Aug. 4, 2010	Aug. 11, 2010
2B	Statistical Analysis Report	Bi-Weekly	NSSS_Task_2b_Bi-Weekly_Statistical_Analysis_Report_YYYYMMDD.pdf	July 27, 2010	Aug. 10, 2010
2C	Operational Policies, Procedures and Guidelines	Monthly	NSSS_Task_2c_NSOC_Operational_Doc_Report_forYYYYMMDD.pdf	July 22, 2010	Aug. 24, 2010
2D	Incident Reports (IR)	Monthly	NSSS_Task_2d_Incident_Report_YYYYMMDD.pdf	Aug. 4, 2010	Aug. 11, 2010
2E	Performance Support Report	Weekly	NSSS_Task 2e_Performance_Support_YYYY_MMDD.pdf	Aug. 2, 2010	Aug. 9, 2010
2F	Knowledgebase Report	Bi-Weekly	NSSS_Task_2f_Knowledgebase_Report_YYYYMMDD.pdf	July 27, 2010	Aug. 10, 2010
2G	Training Plan	On Request	NSSS_Task_2g_Training_Plan_YYYYMMDD.pdf	Not yet requested.	Not yet requested
2H	Test and Exercise Plans Results	On Request	NSSS_Task_2h_Test_and_Exercise_YYYYMMDD.pdf	Not yet requested.	Not yet requested
21	Security Alerts and Implementation Report	Bi-Weekly	NSSS_Task_2i_Security_Alerts_and_Implementation_Report_YYYYMMDD.pdf	Aug. 6, 2010	Aug. 20, 2010
2J	SLA Review Report	Monthly	NSSS_Task_2i_SLA_Review_Report_YYYYMMDD.pdf	Oct. 31, 2009	"" Delayed ""



NSSS Deliverable List - Submitted Reports Last Updated: August 6, 2010 William F. Slater, III, PMP, NSSS Team Project Manager

Count	Deliverable	PWS Task	Date Submitted	Date Due	File Name
	Daily ePO Reports		Daily	Daily	
	Weekly ePO Report		Weekly	Weekly	
	Daily HIPs Reports		Ad Hoc	Ad Hoc	
	Daily NIPs Reports		Daily	Daily	
	Daily CIPS Briefing		Mon - Fri	Mon - Fri	
183	Bi-Weekly Security Alerts and Implementation Report	2B	8/6/2010	8/6/2010	NSSS_Task_2i_Security_Alerts_and_Implementation_Report_20100806.pdf
182	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A	8/4/2010	8/4/2010	NSSS_Task_2a_Device_Monitoring_and_Analysis_Report_20100804.pdf
181	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D	8/4/2010	8/4/2010	NSSS_Task_2d_Incident_Report_20100804.pdf
180	Bi-Weekly Activity Report	1B	8/3/2010	8/3/2010	NSSS_Task 1b_Bi-Weekly_Activity_Report_20100803.pdf
179	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	8/2/2010	8/2/2010	NSSS_Task_2e_Performance_Support_20100802.pdf
178	Project Transition Document	1A	7/30/2010	7/30/2010	NSSS_Transition_Document_[DRAFT]_2010_0730_v1.doc
177	Monthly Travel Management Report	1D	7/29/2010	7/29/2010	NSSS_Task_1d_Travel_Management_Report_20100729.pdf
176	Monthly Cost Management Report	1C	7/29/2010	7/29/2010	NSSS_Task_1c_Cost_Management_Report_20100729.pdf
175	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A	7/28/2010	7/28/2010	NSSS_Task_2a_Device_Monitoring_and_Analysis_Report_20100728.pdf
174	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D	7/28/2010	7/28/2010	NSSS_Task_2d_Incident_Report_20100728.pdf
173	Bi-Weekly Knowledgebase Report	2F	7/27/2010	7/27/2010	NSSS_Task_2f_Knowledgebase_Report_20100727.pdf
172	Bi-Weekly Statistical Analysis Report	2B	7/27/2010	7/27/2010	NSSS_Task_2b_Bi-Weekly_Statistical_Analysis_Report_2010727.pdf
171	Operational Documentation	2C	7/22/2010	7/24/2010	NSSS_Task_2c_NSOC_Operational_Creating_ a_CND_Ticket_Doc_20100429.v3.7.doc
170	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	7/26/2010	7/26/2010	NSSS_Task_2e_Performance_Support_20100726.pdf
169	Bi-Weekly Security Alerts and Implementation Report	21	7/23/2010	7/23/2010	NSSS_Task_2i_Security_Alerts_and_Implementation_Report_20100723.pdf
168	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A			NSSS_Task_2a_Device_Monitoring_and_Analysis_Report_20100721.pdf
167	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D			NSSS_Task_2d_Incident_Report_20100721.pdf
166	Bi-Weekly Activity Report	1B			NSSS_Task 1b_Bi-Weekly_Activity_Report_20100720.pdf
165	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E			NSSS_Task_2e_Performance_Support_20100719.pdf
164	Weekly Team Meeting Minutes Report				NDO_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Minutes_20100715_v2.pdf
163	NSSS SLA Discussion with Tier III Examples	1A			NSSS_Task_1a_SLA_Discussion_with_Tier_III_Examples_v03_2010_0714pdf
162	Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan	1A			NSSS_Task_1a_QASP_20100714.pdf
161	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A			NSSS_Task_2a_Device_Monitoring_and_Analysis_Report_20100714.pdf
160	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D			NSSS Task 2d Incident Report 20100714 pdf
159	Bi-Weekly Statistical Analysis Report	2B			NSSS_Task_2b_Bi-Weekly_Statistical_Analysis_Report_2010713.pdf
158	Bi-Weekly Knowledgebase Report	2F			NSSS_Task_2f_Knowledgebase_Report_20100713.pdf
157	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E			NSSS_Task_2e_Performance_Support_20100712.pdf
156	Operational Documentation	2C	7/9/2010		NSSS_Operational_Procedure_ for_Escalation_doc_20100708.v1.1.doc
155	Bi-Weekly Security Alerts and Implementation Report	21	7/9/2010	7/9/2010	
154	Operational Documentation	2C	7/6/2010	7/24/2010	
153	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A	7/7/2010	7/7/2010	
152	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D	7/7/2010	7/7/2010	
151	Bi-Weekly Activity Report	1B	7/7/2010	7/6/2010	
150	Bi-Weekly Statistical Analysis Report	2B	7/7/2010	6/29/2010	
149	Bi-Weekly Knowledgebase Report	2F	7/7/2010	6/29/2010	NSSS_Task_2f_Knowledgebase_Report_20100629.pdf
148	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	7/6/2010	7/6/2010	NSSS_Task_2e_Performance_Support_20100706.pdf



147	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A	6/30/2010	6/30/2010	NSSS_Task_2a_Device_Monitoring_and_Analysis_Report_20100630.pdf
146	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D	6/30/2010	6/30/2010	NSSS_Task_2d_Incident_Report_20100630.pdf
145	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	6/28/2010	6/28/2010	NSSS_Task_2e_Performance_Support_20100628.pdf
144	Monthly Travel Management Report	1D	6/25/2010		NSSS_Task_1d_Travel_Management_Report_20100625.pdf
143	Monthly Cost Management Report	1C	6/25/2010		NSSS_Task_1c_Cost_Management_Report_20100625.doc
142	Bi-Weekly Security Alerts and Implementation Report	21	6/24/2010		NSSS_Task_2i_Security_Alerts_and_Implementation_Report_20100624.pdf
141	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A	6/23/2010		NSSS_Task_2a_Device_Monitoring_and_Analysis_Report_20100623.pdf
140	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D	6/23/2010		NSSS_Task_2d_Incident_Report_20100623.pdf
139	Bi-Weekly Activity Report	1B 2C	6/22/2010		NSSS_Task 1b_Bi-Weekly_Activity_Report_20100622.pdf
138	Ticket Priority Setting Procedures	20	6/21/2010		NSSS_Operational_Procedure_for_Ticket_Priority_Setting_doc_20100621.v1.2.doc
137	Weekly Team Meeting Minutes Report		6/21/2010	6/21/2010	NSSS_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Minutes_2010_0617_v1.pdf
136	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	6/21/2010	6/21/2010	NSSS_Task_2e_Performance_Support_20100621.pdf
135	Quarterly Closeout Report - Q3	1F	6/18/2010 6/17/2010	6/18/2010	NSSS_Task_1f_Quarterly_Closeout_Q3_20100618.pdf
134 133	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A 2D	6/17/2010	6/16/2010	NSSS_Task_2a_Device_Monitoring_and_Analysis_Report_20100616.pdf
	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2B	6/16/2010		NSSS_Task_2d_Incident_Report_20100616.pdf NSSS_Task_2b_Bi-Weekly_Statistical_Analysis_Report_2010616_v2.pdf
132	Bi-Weekly Statistical Analysis Report	2F	6/16/2010		NSSS_Task_2f_Knowledgebase_Report_20100616.pdf
131	Bi-Weekly Knowledgebase Report	21			
130	Weekly Team Meeting Minutes Report		6/14/2010		NSSS_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Minutes_2010_0610_v1.pdf
129	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	6/14/2010		NSSS_Task_2e_Performance_Support_20100614.pdf
128	Bi-Weekly Security Alerts and Implementation Report	21	6/11/2010		NSSS_Task_2i_Security Alerts and Implementation_Report_20100611.pdf
127	Weekly Team Meeting Agenda Report		5/26/2010		NDO_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Agenda_Report_2010_0526.doc
126	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A	6/9/2010		NSSS_Task_2a_Device_Monitoring_and_Analysis_Report_20100609.pdf
125	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D	6/9/2010		NSSS_Task_2d_Incident_Report_20100609.pdf
124	Bi-Weekly Activity Report	18	6/8/2010		NSSS_Task 1b_Bi-Weekly_Activity_Report_20100608.pdf
123	Documentation for Incident Report Statistics Preparation	2C	6/3/2010		NSSS_Task_2c_Incident_Report_Statistics_Preparation_Doc_20100603.v1.doc
122	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	6/7/2010		NSSS_Task_2e_Performance_Support_20100607.pdf
121	Weekly Team Meeting Minutes Report	2.	6/2/2010		NSSS_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Minutes_20100527_v1.pdf
120	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A	6/2/2010		NSSS_Task_2a_Device_Monitoring_and_Analysis_Report_20100602.pdf
119	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D	6/2/2010		NSSS_Task_2d_Incident_Report_20100602.pdf
118	Bi-Weekly Knowledgebase Report Weekly Performance Support Report	2F 2E	6/1/2010		NSSS_Task_2f_Knowledgebase_Report_20100601.pdf
117		2E 2B	6/1/2010		NSSS_Task_2e_Performance_Support_20100601.pdf
116 115	Bi-Weekly Statistical Analysis Report	28	6/1/2010 5/27/2010		NSSS_Task_2b_Bi-Weekly_Statistical_Analysis_Report_2010601.pdf
114	Bi-Weekly Security Alerts and Implementation Report Monthly Travel Management Report	1D	5/27/2010		NSSS_Task_2i_Security Alerts and Implementation_Report_20100527.pdf  NSSS_Task_1d_Travel_Management_Report_20100527.pdf
113	Monthly Cost Management Report  Monthly Cost Management Report	1C	5/27/2010		NSSS_Task_to_travel_management_keport_20100527.pdf  NSSS_Task_to_Cost_Management_Report_20100527.doc
112	Weekly Team Meeting Agenda Report	10	5/26/2010		NDO_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Agenda_Report_2010_0526.doc
111	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A	5/26/2010		NSSS_Task_2a_Device_Monitoring_and_Analysis_Report_20100526.pdf
110	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D	5/26/2010		NSSS Task_2d_Incident_Report_20100526.pdf
109	Bi-Weekly Activity Report	1B	5/25/2010		NSSS_Task 1b_Bi-Weekly_Activity_Report_20100525.pdf
108	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	5/24/2010		NSSS_Task_2e_Performance_Support_20100524.pdf
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107	Bi-Weekly Knowledgebase Report	2F	5/19/2010		
106	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A	5/19/2010		
105	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D	5/19/2010		
104	Bi-Weekly Statistical Analysis Report	2B	5/18/2010		
103	Weekly Team Meeting Minutes Report		5/17/2010		NSSS_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Minutes_2010_0513_v1.pdf
102	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	5/17/2010		NSSS_Task_2e_Performance_Support_20100517.pdf
101	Bi-Weekly Security Alerts and Implementation Report	21	5/13/2010		NSSS_Task_2i_Security Alerts and Implementation_Report_20100513.pdf
100	Weekly Team Meeting Agenda Report		5/12/2010	5/13/2010	NDO_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Agenda_Report_2010_0513.doc
99	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A	5/12/2010		NSSS_Task_2a_Device_Monitoring_and_Analysis_Report_20100512.pdf
98	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D	5/12/2010		NSSS_Task_2d_Incident_Report_20100512.pdf
97	Bi-Weekly Activity Report	1B	5/11/2010		NSSS_Task 1b_Bi-Weekly_Activity_Report_20100511.pdf
96	Weekly Team Meeting Minutes Report		5/10/2010		NSSS_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Minutes_2010_0506_v1.pdf
95	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	5/10/2010		NSSS_Task_2e_Performance_Support_20100510.pdf
94	HIPS / NIPS Event Handling Process	2C	5/5/2010		NSSS_Task_2c_NSOC_Operational_HIPS_NIPS_Event_Handling_Process_Doc_20100421.v5.5.doc
93	Operational Documentation	2C	5/5/2010		Plan_for_Identifying_Top_10_VA_Malware_Risks_v1.0_2010_0505.doc
92	Operational Documentation	2C	5/5/2010		Outbreak_Definition_v1_2010_0505_pdf
91	Weekly Team Meeting Agenda Report		5/6/2010		NDO_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Agenda_Report_2010_0506.doc
90	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A	5/5/2010		NSSS_Task_2a_Device_Monitoring_and_Analysis_Report_20100505.pdf
89	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D	5/5/2010		NSSS_Task_2d_Incident_Report_20100505.pdf
88	Ad Hoc Incident Summary Report	2D	5/5/2010		NSSS_Task_2d_NSOC_Ad_Hoc_Incident_Summary_Report_Region_2_Conficker_Summary_20100505_v1.pdf
87	Bi-Weekly Knowledgebase Report	2F	5/4/2010		NSSS_Task_2f_Knowledgebase_Report_20100504.pdf
86	Bi-Weekly Statistical Analysis Report	2B	5/4/2010 5/3/2010		NSSS_Task_2b_Bi-Weekly_Statistical_Analysis_Report_2010504.pdf  NSSS Task 2e Performance Support 2010 0503.pdf
85 84	Weekly Performance Support Report Weekly Team Meeting Minutes Report	2E			NSSS_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Minutes_2010_0429_v1.pdf
83	Ad Hoc Incident Summary Report	2D	5/3/2010 4/30/2010		NSSS_Task_2d_NSOC_Ad_Hoc_Incident_Summary_Report_for_Assessment_of_NIPS_XPress_Update_20100430_v3
82	Bi-Weekly Security Alerts and Implementation Report	20			NSSS_Task_2d_NSUC_Ad_Hot_Incident_Summary_Report_for_Assessment_or_NIPS_XPress_update_20100430_vs NSSS_Task_2i_Security Alerts and Implementation_Report_20100430.pdf
81	HIPS / NIPS Event Handling Process	2C			NSSS_Task_2c_NSOC_Operational_HIPS_NIPS_Event_Handling_Process_Doc_20100421.v5.4.doc
80	Monthly Travel Management Report	1D			NSSS_Task_2C_NSOC_Operational_Firs_NiPs_Event_Handring_Process_Doc_20100421.vs.4.doc  NSSS_Task_1d_Travel_Management_Report_2010_0429.pdf
79	Monthly Cost Management Report	1C	4/29/2010		
78	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D	4/29/2010		
77	Weekly Team Meeting Agenda Report		4/28/2010		NDO_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Agenda_Report_2010_0429.doc
76	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A	4/28/2010		
75	PowerPoint Slide Template Suggestions for Weekly Threa				Sample_NDO_Malware_Templates.ppt
74	Bi-Weekly Activity Report	1B	4/27/2010	4/27/2010	NSSS_Task 1b_Bi-Weekly_Activity_Report_20100427.pdf
73	HIPS / NIPS Event Handling Process	1			NSSS_Task_2c_NSOC_Operational_HIPS_NIPS_Event_Handling_Process_Doc_20100421.v5.3.doc
72	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E			NSSS_Task_2e_Performance_Support_2010_0426.pdf
71	Weekly Team Meeting Minutes Report				NSSS_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Minutes_2010_0422_v1.pdf
70	HIPS / NIPS Event Handling Process	2C			NSSS_Task_2c_NSOC_Operational_HIPS_NIPS_Event_Handling_Process_Doc_20100421.v5.0.doc
69	Weekly Team Meeting Agenda Report				NSSS_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Agenda_Report_2010_0422.doc
68	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D			NSSS_Task_2d_Incident_Report_20100421.pdf
67	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A			NSSS_Task_2a_Device_Monitoring_and_Analysis_Report_20100421.pdf
66	Bi-Weekly Knowledgebase Report	2F			NSSS_Task_2f_Knowledgebase_Report_20100420.pdf
65	Bi-Weekly Statistical Analysis Report	2B			NSSS_Task_2b_Bi-Weekly_Statistical_Analysis_Report_2010420.pdf
64	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E			NSSS_Task_2e_Performance_Support_2010_0419.pdf
63	Weekly Team Meeting Minutes Report				NSSS_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Minutes_2010_0415_v1.pdf
	Bi-Weekly Security Alerts and Implementation Report	21			NSSS_Task_2i_Security Alerts and Implementation_Report_20100416.pdf
62					
62	Operational Documentation - ePO Report Creation	2C	4/16/2010	4/24/2010	NSSS_Task_2c_NSOC_Operational_ePo_ Daily_Report_ Procedure_Doc_20100401.v1.0.doc



59	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D	4/14/2010	4/14/2010 NSSS_Task_2d_Incident_Report_20100414.pdf
58	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A	4/14/2010	4/14/2010 NSSS_Task_2a_Device_Monitoring_and_Analysis_Report_20100414_v2.pdf
57	Bi-Weekly Activity Report	1B	4/13/2010	4/13/2010 NSSS_Task 1b_Bi-Weekly_Activity_Report_20100413.pdf
56	Operational Documentation - Ticket Creation	2C	4/13/2010	4/24/2010 NSSS_Task_2c_NSOC_Operational_Creating_a_CND_Ticket_Doc_20100413.v2.4.doc
55	Operational Documentation - Event Handling	2C	4/13/2010	4/24/2010 NSSS_Task_2c_NSOC_Operational_Event_Handling_Process_Doc_20100316.v4.0.docx
54	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	4/12/2010	4/12/2010 NSSS_Task_2e_Performance_Support_2010_0412.pdf
53	Incident Summary Report	2D	4/9/2010	4/9/2010 NSSS_Task_2d_NSOC_Ad_Hoc_Incident_Summary_Report_for_FakeAlertAVSoft_20100409.pdf
52	Weekly Team Meeting Agenda Report		4/8/2010	4/8/2010 NSSS_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Agenda_Report_2010_0408.pdf
51	Operational Documentation	2C	4/7/2010	4/24/2010 NSSS_Task_2c_NSOC_Operational_Creating_ a_CND_Ticket_Doc_20100316 v2 3.doc
50	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A	4/7/2010	4/7/2010 NSSS_Task_2a_Device_Monitoring_and_Analysis_Report_20100407.pdf
49	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D	4/7/2010	4/7/2010 NSSS Task 2d Incident Report 20100407.pdf
48	Bi-Weekly Knowledgebase Report	2F	4/7/2010	4/7/2010 NSSS_Task_2f_Knowledgebase_Report_20100407.pdf
47	Bi-Weekly Statistical Analysis Report	2B	4/6/2010	4/6/2010 NSSS Task 2b Bi-Weekly Statistical Analysis Report 2010407.pdf
46	Weekly Team Meeting Minutes Report		4/5/2010	4/5/2010 NSSS Weekly Team Meeting Minutes 2010 0401 v3.pdf
45	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	4/5/2010	4/5/2010 NSSS Task 2e Performance Support 2010 0405.pdf
44	Weekly Team Meeting Agenda Report		4/1/2010	4/1/2010 NSSS Weekly Team Meeting Agenda Report 2010_0401.pdf
43	Bi-Weekly Activity Report	1B	4/1/2010	3/31/2010 NSSS_Task 1b_Bi-Weekly, Activity, Report_20100330.pdf
42	Operational Documentation	2C	4/1/2010	4/24/2010 NSSS Task 2c NSOC Operational Ticket Creation Doc 20100401.v4.0.doc
41	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A	3/31/2010	3/31/2010 NSSS Task 2a Device Monitoring and Analysis Report 20100331.pdf
40	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D	3/31/2010	3/31/2010 NSSS Task 2d Incident Report 20100331.pdf
39	Weekly Team Meeting Minutes Report		3/29/2010	3/29/2010 NSSS_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Minutes_2010_0325_v3.pdf
38	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	3/29/2010	3/29/2010 NSSS Task 2e Performance Support 2010 0329.pdf
37	Monthy Cost Management Report	1C	3/25/2010	3/25/2010 NSSS_Task_1c_Cost_Management_Report_20100325.doc
36	Monthly Travel Management Report	1D	3/25/2010	3/25/2010 NSSS Task 1d Travel Management Report 2010 0325.pdf
35	Weekly Team Meeting Agenda Report	1	3/25/2010	3/25/2010 NSSS_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Agenda_Report_2010_0325.pdf
34	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A	3/24/2010	3/24/2010 NSSS_Task_2a_Device_Monitoring_and_Analysis_Report_20100324.pdf
33	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D	3/24/2010	3/24/2010 NSSS Task 2d Incident Report 20100324.pdf
32	Bi-Weekly Knowledgebase Report	2F	3/24/2010	3/24/2010 NSSS Task 2f Knowledgebase Report 20100324.pdf
31	Operational Documentation	2C	3/23/2010	3/24/2010 NSSS_Task_2c_NSOC_Operational_Event_Handling_Process_Doc_20100316.v4.0.pdf
30	Bi-Weekly Statistical Analysis Report	2B	3/23/2010	
29	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	3/22/2010	3/22/2010 NSSS_Task_2e_Performance_Support_2010_0322.pdf
28	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	3/22/2010	3/23/2010 NSSS_Task_2e_Performance_Support_2010_0322_v2.pdf
27	Weekly Team Meeting Minutes Report	20	3/19/2010	
26	Quarterly Closeout Report - Q2	1F	3/18/2010	
25	Weekly Team Meeting Agenda Report	- 1	3/18/2010	3/18/2010 NSSS Weekly Team Meeting Agenda Report 2010 0318 v1.doc
24	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D	3/17/2010	3/17/2010 NSSS_Task_2d_Incident_Report_20100317.pdf
23	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2D 2A	3/17/2010	3/17/2010 NSSS Task 2a Device Monitoring and Analysis Report 20100317.pdf
22		1B	3/16/2010	
21	Bi-Weekly Activity Report	2E	3/15/2010	
20	Weekly Performance Support Report	25	3/13/2010	3/15/2010 NSSS_Task 2e_Performance_Support_2010_0315.pdf 3/12/2010 NSSS_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Minutes_2010_0311_v2.doc
	Weekly Team Meeting Minutes Report	_		
19	Weekly Team Meeting Agenda Report		3/11/2010	3/11/2010 NSSS Weekly Team Meeting Agenda Report 2010 0311 v1.doc
18	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A	3/10/2010	3/10/2010 NSSS_Task_2a_Device_Monitoring_and_Analysis_Report_20100310
17	Weekly Incident Summary Report	2D	3/10/2010	3/10/2010 NSSS_Task_2d_Incident_Report_20100310.pdf
16	Bi-Weekly Knowledgebase Report	2F	3/10/2010	3/10/2010 NSSS_Task_2f_Knowledgebase_Report_20100310.pdf
15	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	3/9/2010	3/9/2010 NSSS_Task 2e_Performance_Support_2010_0309.pdf
14	Weekly Team Meeting Minutes Report		3/5/2010	3/5/2010 NSSS_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Minutes_2010_0304_v4
13	Weekly Team Meeting Agenda Report		3/4/2010	3/4/2010 NSSS_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Agenda_Report_2010_0304_v1
12	Weekly Device Monitoring and Analysis Report	2A	3/3/2010	3/3/2010 NSSS_Task_2a_Device_Monitoring_and_Analysis_Report_20100303.pdf
11	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	3/1/2010	3/1/2010 NSSS_Task 2e_Performance_Support_2010_0228.pdf
10	Monthly Travel Management Report	1D	2/26/2010	2/26/2010 NSSS_Task_1d_Travel_Management_Report_2010_0226.doc
9	Monthy Cost Management Report	1C	2/26/2010	2/26/2010 NSSS_Task_1c_Cost_Management_Report_20100226.doc
8	Bi-Weekly Statistical Analysis Report	2B	2/23/2010	2/23/2010 NSSS_Task_2b_BWSAR_20100222.pdf
7	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	2/22/2010	2/22/2010 NSSS_Task 2e_Performance_Support_2010_0221.doc
6	Bi-Weekly Activity Report	1B	2/16/2010	2/16/2010 NSSS_Task 1b_BWAR_20100216.v3.doc
5	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	2/14/2010	2/14/2010 ESN_NSOC_NSSS_Hines_VA_Project_Status_Report_2010_0214_Slater_William.pdf
4	Bi-Weekly Statistical Analysis Report	2B	2/8/2010	2/8/2010 NSSS_Task_2b_BWSAR_20100208.pdf
3	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	2/7/2010	2/7/2010 ESN_NSOC_NSSS_Hines_VA_Project_Status_Report_2010_0207_Slater_William.pdf
2	Bi-Weekly Activity Report	1B	2/1/2010	2/1/2010 NSSS_Task 1b_BWAR_20100131.v2.doc
1	Weekly Performance Support Report	2E	1/31/2010	1/31/2010 ESN NSOC NSSS Hines VA Project Status Report 2010 0131 Slater William.pdf



Ad Hoc Report Reque	ests Tasked to the NSSS Team						
Last Updated: July 16	, 2010						
Requester	Description	Requested To	File Name	Date Requested	Most Recent Delivery	Next Expected Delivery	Remarks
Steven Mattocks, VA	PWS Task Report Deliverable Updates - Ad Hoc	William Slater via	NSSS_Ad_Hoc_Report_for_Steven_Mattocks_2010_0716.pdf	July 13, 2010	July 16, 2010	N/A	
	Report	teleconference					
Ashraf Aziz, NSOC	Job Descriptions & Responsibilities Ad Hoc	William Slater via in	NSSS_Team_Member_Job_Descriptions_20100630_v1.1pdf	June 29, 2010	June 30, 2010	N/A	
Team Lead	Report	person					
Ashraf Aziz, NSOC	Ticket Priority Descriptions and Handling	NSSS Team via e-mail	NSSS_Operational_Procedure_for_Ticket_	June 21, 2010	June 21, 2010	N/A	
Team Lead	Procedures	and Teleconference	Priority Setting doc 20100621.v1.2.doc				
Ashraf Aziz, NSOC	HIPS Report via SPLUNK on Threee Specific IP	NSSS Team via e-mail	TBA	June 9, 2010	June 9, 2010	N/A	
Team Lead	Hosts	and Teleconference					
Ashraf Aziz, NSOC	Re-work of Data for Weekly TMS Threat Briefing	Chad Copenhaver via e-	Weekly Threat Brief 06-02-10_v2.pptx	June 3, 2010	June 3, 2010	N/A	
Team Lead	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	mail					
Ashraf Aziz, NSOC	Reports showing details about network traffic	Chad Copenhaver via e-	341451.rtf and NIPS.rtf	June 2, 2010	June 2, 2010	N/A	
Team Lead	going to a malicious IP address	mail					
Ashraf Aziz, NSOC	Feedback on NDO Concept of Operations	NSSS Team via e-mail	NDO CONOPS 05132010 v1.2.docx	May 4, 2010	May 20, 2010	N/A	
Team Lead	Document	and Teleconference			* '		
Ashraf Aziz, NSOC	Ad Hoc Outbreak Description Report	Doug Dziuba and	Outbreak Definition v1 2010 0505 .pdf	May 13, 2010	May 20, 2010	N/A	
Team Lead		William Slater via e-mail		•	1 .		
Ashraf Aziz, NSOC	Ad Hoc - Top 10 Malware Selection Procedure	Doug Dziuba via e-mail	Plan_for_Identifying_Top_10_VA_Malware_Risks_v1.0_2010_0505.doc	May 4, 2010	May 5, 2010	N/A	
Team Lead	for Weekly Threat Management Briefing	-		-	· ·		
		Doug Dziuba and	NSSS_Task_2d_NSOC_Ad_Hoc_Incident_Summary_Report_Region_2_C	May 4, 2010	May 5, 2010	N/A	
	Incident in Region 2		onficker_Summary_20100505_v1.pdf	_	-		
Ashraf Aziz, NSOC	Would you please send me a report on the NIPS	William Slater via e-mail	NSSS_Task_2d_NSOC_Ad_Hoc_Incident_Summary_Report_for_Assess	Apr. 30, 2010	Apr. 30, 2010	N/A	
Team Lead	Exposures due to Xpress Update		ment_of_NIPS_XPress_Update_20100430_v3.pdf		1		
Ashraf Aziz, NSOC	Would you please send me a report on the	William Slater via e-mail	NSSS_Task_2d_NSOC_Ad_Hoc_Incident_Summary_Report_for_FakeAle	Apr. 7, 2010	Apr. 9, 2010	N/A	
Team Lead	FakeAlertAVSOFT malware?		rtAVSoft_20100409.pdf		1		
Ashraf Aziz, NSOC	Would you please send to me the compliance	John Deneen via e-mail	Researching this document name.	Feb. 23, 2010	Feb. 23, 2010	N/A	The report was created
Team Lead	numbers for R4 for the latest DAT?		-				and sent via e-mail by
							John Deneed to Ashraf
Ashraf Aziz, NSOC	Daniel Lauffer (BAH) requested an ePO report	NCD NSSS Team via e-	Researching this document name.	Feb. 19, 2010	Feb. 20, 2010	N/A	The report was created
Team Lead	be run (for the last 30 days) for the IP addresses	mail	-				and sent via e-mail by
	listed. This request is associated with tickets						Chad Copenhaver to
Ashraf Aziz, NSOC	Minutes	Marci Givan, via Villiam	NSSS_Weekly_Team_Meeting_Minutes_2010_0304_v5	Mar. 2, 2010	Mar. 5, 2010	N/A	
Team Lead		Slater					

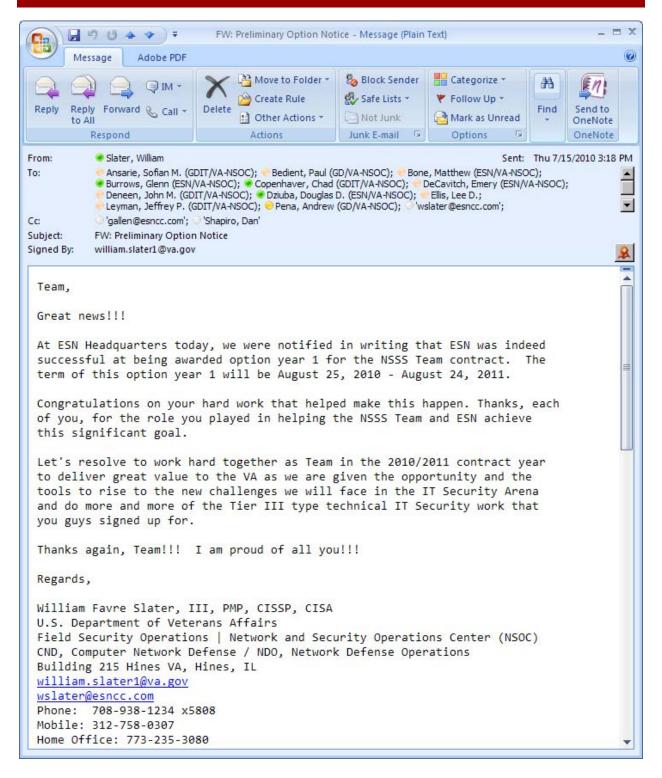
#### **Section - Attitude**

"However, his subordinates find him not enthusiastic but stressed out to a level that negativity affects their ability to get their work done and come to work each day and looking forward to doing their job."

#### Response:

I feel unappreciated by my Team, despite the fact that my efforts helped get contract out of Cure Status, and also helped win the second year on the contract. I know that each of these achievements were a Team effort, but it took a change in the Team leadership and Project Management to accomplish these significant achievements. Also, the basis of the communication below, I am going to dispute the negativity statement. Only one person on the Team thanked me when I made the following announcement to the Team:





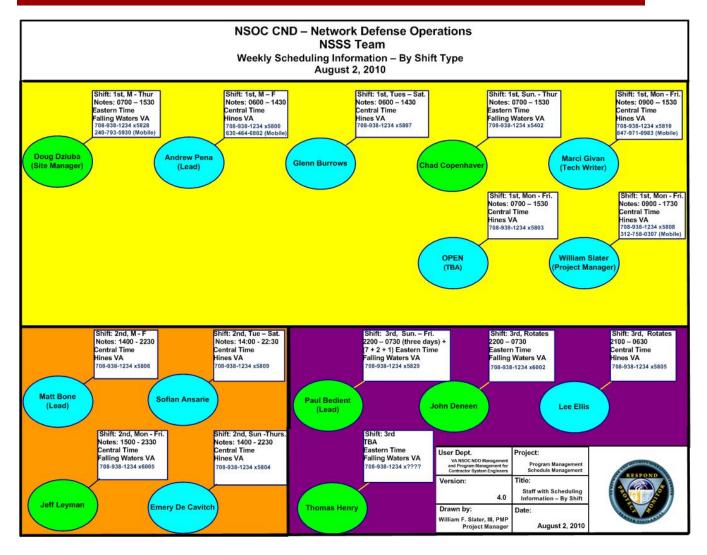


Other comments about working at the VA. Our VA Management and the VA COTR constantly conveys a sense that they usually never happy no matter how much work produce. This type of treatment creates a stressful environment for all of us. I believe it is unfair to attempt blame me for a general work atmosphere that the VA has created for all us.

## **Team Rosters**

NSOC NSSS To	eam Report : August 2, 2010						
First Name	Last Name	Employer	E-Mail	Work Phone	Position	Shift	Location
Sofian	Ansarie	GDIT	Sofian.Ansarie@va.gov	708-938-1234 x5809	Analyst	2nd Shift, Tue - Sat	Hines, IL - Hines VA
Paul	Bedient	GDIT	Paul.Bedient@va.gov	708-938-1234 x5829	Shift Lead	3rd Shift, Sun - Wed	Falling Waters, WV - Falling Waters VA
Matthew	Bone	ESN	Matthew.Bone@va.gov	708-938-1234 x5806	Shift Lead	2nd Shift, Mon - Fri	Hines, IL - Hines VA
Glenn	Burrows	ESN	Glenn.Burrows@va.gov	708-938-1234 x5807	Analyst	1st Shift, Tue - Sat	Hines, IL - Hines VA
Chad	Copenhaver	GDIT	Chad.Copenhaver@va.gov	708-938-1234 x5402	Analyst	1st Shift, Sun - Thu	Falling Waters, WV - Falling Waters VA
Emery	DeCavitch	ESN	Emery.DeCavitch@va.gov	708-938-1234 x5804	Analyst	2nd Shift, Sun - Thu	Hines, IL - Hines VA
John	Deneen	GDIT	John.Deneen@va.gov	708-938-1234 x6002	Analyst	3rd Shift, Mon - Thu	Falling Waters, WV - Falling Waters VA
Douglas	Dziuba	Security Advisers	Douglas.Dziuba@va.gov	708-938-1234 x5828	Site Manager	1st Shift, Mon - Fri	Falling Waters, WV - Falling Waters VA
Lee	Ellis	GDIT	Lee.Ellis@va.gov	708-938-1234 x5805	Analyst	3rd Shift, Wed - Thu	Hines, IL - Hines VA
Marci	Givan	ESN	marci.givan@va.gov	708-938-1234 x5810	Technical Writer	1st Shift, Mon - Fri	Hines, IL - Hines VA
Thomas	Henry	ESN	thomas.henry@va.gov		Analyst	3rd Shift, Wed - Sun	Falling Waters, WV - Falling Waters VA
Jeff	Leyman	GDIT	Jeff.Leyman@va.gov	708-938-1234 x6005	Analyst	2nd Shift, Mon - Fri	Falling Waters, WV - Falling Waters VA
Andrew	Pena	GDIT	Andrew.Pena@va.gov	708-938-1234 x5800	Shift Lead	1st Shift, Mon - Fri	Hines, IL - Hines VA
William	Slater	ESN	william.slater1@va.gov	708-938-1234 x5808	Project Manager	1st Shift, Mon - Fri	Hines, IL - Hines VA







#### Section - Quality / Quantity of Work

"Volume, accuracy and quality of work are appropriate to the current length of experience in this position, though subordinates claim he takes credit for other people's work."

#### Response:

This is an untrue statement. <u>I have never taken credit for anyone else's work</u> and can provide numerous examples where I have openly and generously acknowledged the contributions of others in work products I have turned in.

Section - Responsibility / Dependability

Needs to improve team building, communication skills, and bring the stress level down for subordinates.

#### Response:

There are schedule and geographic limitations that make "Team Building" very challenging. I have had to work for the most part with the Team I inherited. As far as joint sub-team projects, I have worked very well with Andrew Pena to get the PWS Task 2I - Bi-Weekly Security Alerts and Implementation Report produced every two weeks since April. I have also worked very well with Marci Givan, Ken Conquest, Doug Dziuba, and Chad Copenhaver to get other reports produced under tight the deadlines that the VA has so frequently set for us.

Much of the stress was produced by these circumstances because the Team knew the following:

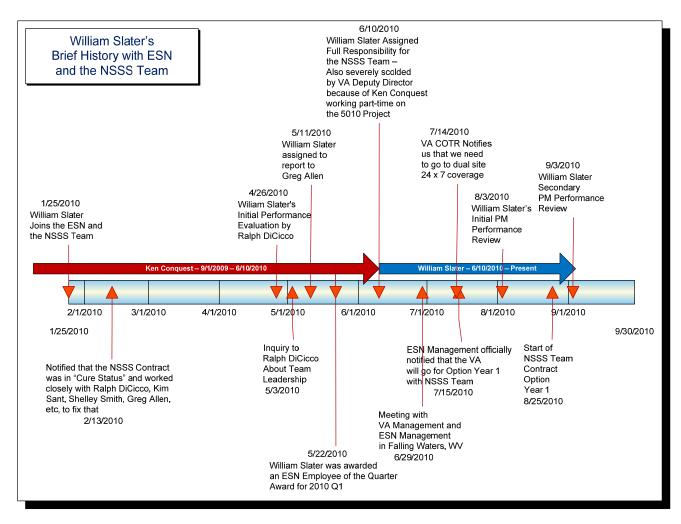
- 1) The VA Management runs an intense, demanding, and challenging environment.
- 2) The Team was not properly equipped to do the work defined in the Performance Work Statement and we are still struggling to get tools and procedures in place, from September 1, 2009 through today, August 6, 2010.
- 3) The entire Team witnessed the fact that Ralph DiCicco and Ken Conquest were removed as Team Management as far as the VA was concerned.
- 4) The entire Team was aware that ESN came dangerously close to losing the NSSS contract in the first Year of the contract.
- 5) The entire Team was in fear of not having jobs in a tough Economy in the first Year of the Contract if the VA had declared the contract in default, and also if ESN was not awarded the second Year on the NSSS contract.
- 6) In the eyes of the VA, William Slater was responsible for the Team from January 25, 2010 until present, yet the Team reported to Ken Conquest until his departure on June 10, 2010.
- 7) The Team felt strongly that Ken Conquest got a raw deal and mistreatment by VA Management.
- 8) William Slater has a different personality and management style from Ken Conquest and the other previous ESN Management.



9) The Team has quite possibly had difficulties and expectations of William Slater because he has a direct management and communication style, and because he is willing to hold his Team members accountable for their performance as well as their workplace behavior.

Not one of the nine items listed above was the fault of William Slater.

### A Timeline is provided for reference:





#### **Section – Other Comments Regarding Present Performance**

"Needs to remember that he can't do it without his team and learn to trust them and communicate, coordinate, and cooperate better with his team."

#### Response:

I am very well aware that I need the cooperation of a well-motivated, high performance Team in order to accomplish our objectives and to be successful. I am working on this on a daily basis.

"Needs to do a better job of deflecting customer criticisms and resultant pressure from his team to create a more enjoyable work environment."

#### Response:

I am always working on this but I have no direct control over the behavior of VA Management (particularly Ash Aziz has a bad habit sending scolding e-mails with Reply All responses directly to the Team). Nevertheless, as the Project Manager, I am responsible for my Team and their performance, so yes, I will do everything I can to deflect criticisms and try to make things better for the Team.

"Needs to develop a rapport with his customer where he is not hesitant to say something that isn't going to be popular, like proposing a better alternative; standing up to an overburdening workload that the current team cannot handle; or questioning whether tasking is within scope."

#### Response:

This probably either an unfair or untrue criticism, or it requires more elucidation. There are two primary issues here:

- The Team and ESN management are not privy to most of the conversations and communications I have with VA management, though a great deal of this is documented in status reports.
- 2) VA Management will often communicate directly with a Team member or the Site Manager and omit me from conversations until something has been completed. At the rapid pace and high-pressure that characterize the nature of work and working conditions in this environment, it is difficult to do anything about such transactions after the fact. Plus, it would be career limiting to "dress down" VA Management for these communications, though I have directly requested several times that VA Management copy me on communications with my Team.



"Creating a team environment and lessoning the stress level for his team must happen quickly to prevent ESN from losing key ESN and subcontractor personnel resources, which could impede progress made on this project, and is unacceptable to ESN management. Corrective action is required immediately to prevent further HR actions."

#### Response:

I would like to have clearly defined goals and objectives that are attainable and measurable.

There are several statements in this document that are either false or one-sided. I am writing a response document (this document) and will submit it by Friday, August 6, 2010.

#### Situation Assessment:

Difficulties were created by the length of time required for the transition of the Team leadership from Ken Conquest to William Slater. These difficulties have been complicated because members of the Team were naturally confused: Should they be loyal to the supervisor to whom they were officially assigned? Or should they be loyal to the Team Project Manager, who was not officially their boss. The confusion and awkwardness created by this situation created additional stresses on the entire Team.

Other difficulties have arisen because of behaviors that I witnessed while the Team was under Mr. Conquest's leadership, yet I was not empowered to correct. For example, I addressed issues of Emery De Cavitch's performance in the areas of excessive breaks, office behaviors, and poor work performance several times with Ken Conquest and felt that he did little to correct the situation. In fact, some of the issues I am experiencing now I believe are the result of Mr. De Cavitch possibly going on the offensive and trying to attack his boss by making false accusations.

Nevertheless, in the interest of meeting the VA's performance expectations as well as ESN's expectations, I will not be hesitant to administer disciplinary measures if and when the need arises.

Appendix A contains my Contribution Statement and Appendix B Contains my Plan of Action to Meet ESN Management's Goals and Expectations to be successful as the Project Manager of this Team and to help ensure that the Team will continue to me successful. Other Appendices in this document reference forms and documents that can help me be successful.



## **Closing Comments:**

Thanks for taking the time read and digest all this.

I greatly value my time, my Team, our accomplishments, and my relationships here at ESN, and hope that I will be treated fairly and justly with regards to some of the recent allegations that have been made.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments about the content listed here.

Best regards,

William F. Slater, III, PMP, CISSP, CISA Project Manager, VA NSOC NSSS Team

Hines VA, Hines, IL william.slater1@va.gov wslater@esncc.com

Mobile: 312-758-0307 Office: 708-938-1234 x5808



## Appendix A - Contribution Statement

My Contribution Statement William F. Slater, III August 6, 2010

I will demonstrate through word, thought and deed that I am an effective, dedicated and inspired manager, who can lead by example and who can inspire every member of my Team to perform at an optimal level, in order to provide services that delight the customer and exceed their expectations. I will also at the same time strive to help each member of the Team become the best IT Security professional that they can be, and be a personal resource and mentor to all who need one.



## Appendix B - Plan of Action

My plan of action will be to actively implement the ideas and principles that I learned in a Management Seminar I attended in October 2007.

#### Introduction

A while back, I attended the Franklin Covey Management Training Seminar titled "Seven Habits of Highly Effective Managers" in Downtown Chicago. There were 16 participants attending. The seminar was derived from the principles of Dr. Steven Covey's bestselling business book, "the Seven Habits of Effective People." It was excellent in every way. Among the highlights was training in some valuable tools that will help make me a more effective manager, along with some excellent concepts in leading people.

In this report, I have strived to share what I learned from the seminar and also the actual tools we were introduced to during the seminar. I know the things I learned in this seminar will benefit me for the rest of my life. But it is my hope that others in our organization can also benefit from the ideas and tools detailed in this paper.

## What Are the Seven Habits of Highly Effective Managers?

The diagram below from Dr. Steven Covey's bestselling business book, "the Seven Habits of Effective People," was the "roadmap" for the order in which the habits were presented.



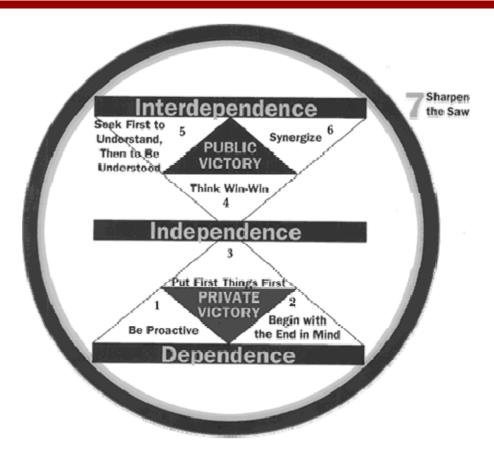


Figure 1 – The Stephen Covey Diagram of Seven Habits of Highly Effective People



The actual seven habits we reviewed are listed and summarized below.

Using your resourcefulness and initiative to break the barriers to results.

Make the contribution you are capable of making.

Focus on a few "wildly important goals" and track your progress.

Make Win-Win Performance Agreements to motivate superb performance.

Practice Empathic Listening and give honest, accurate feedback

Always see the Third Alternative – the truly creative solution or decision.

Unleash the potential of your Team members by tapping the "whole person."

## **Application to My Present Position**

Among the most important principles discussed that can help me be a more effective manager:

- You manage things not people. You lead and inspire people to accomplish the mission.
- You need to get your own house in order before you can be an effective leader and lead others.
- Great leaders trust their people, inspire, equip, and empower them to be successful.

This seminar made me more mindful of my responsibilities to be a positive, effective leader and how applying these concepts can help ensure my success and the success of my Team.

## Application to My Personal Life

The concepts covered in this seminar, particularly regarding being more organized and also using the tools show in the appendices, are applicable to my personal life as well as my professional life. I am already using some of the concepts and tools to make me more effective in my personal life.



## **Overall Opinion of the Class**

Shown below is the feedback I gave on my seminar evaluation form:

The class was very effective because:

- 1) great content
- 2) great tools and processes
- 3) great facilitator
- 4) great participants to share with, work with and learn from
- 5) it was presented in a good setting, a great environment that was very conducive to learning and growth
- 6) it had relevant ideas and tools that will be immediately useful when I return to work I would definitely recommend this class to anyone who is in or who is aspiring to be in a leadership role.

## **Personal Reflection**

While the concepts covered in this seminar are very simple to understand, and for the most part, rather easy to implement, finding the person who applies all these concepts is an uncommon thing. The two areas I saw that I need to work on were the Empathic Listening skills and also the Constructive Feedback. I also discovered in this seminar that the will to succeed and the application of having a well-disciplined life, where these seven habits are applied, can lead to success both in my personal life and in my professional life. A few times during the seminar, the phrase, "so you can have those mountaintop experiences" was used. To me, that phrase indicates the experience and feeling of a person who has been successful at applying the seven habits, and attains the sensation that one feels when they have reached the summit of a mountain they have been climbing. That is precisely what I am aiming for, by applying these principles, adding these additional disciplines and tools into my personal and professional life.

## **Conclusion**

Attending this seminar, with all the things I learned and useful materials I received, was a real growing experience. When I was first scheduled to attend this seminar, I knew it would be worthwhile and offer some helpful information, so I came in with an open mind and a positive attitude. However, it surprised me because the practical information and tools offered in this seminar were all of such high quality, that they will help make me a more effective manager and a more effective IT professional throughout the rest of my career.



## Some Tools for Highly Effective Managers

The following tools were explained and used with different student partners in the class.

Tool Name	Area	Primary Purpose	Usefulness	Comments
Hidden-Resource Finder	1 – Be Proactive	This is a valuable aid for finding resources to accomplish tasks or projects when we face constraints on resources, money or both.	This is essentially a brainstorming tool to help overcome roadblocks when tasks or projects need to get done but the resource pool(s) have been exhausted, or people are denying you access to the resources you need to complete your objectives.	This is a quick way to tap into additional resources that you may have previously not considered.
Contribution Statement	2 – Begin with the End in Mind	This tool makes the person focus on what their contribution to the organization will be, and then put that in writing.	This is a useful tool because it makes the person think about what their contribution will be, and then write it down. If done as recommended by the instructor, sharing the contribution statement with others, including the Team and my manager is a powerful form of communication.	I wrote a Contribution Statement on the first day of the seminar. I have shared this statement, as recommended by the instructor, with my team and my manager.
5-Minute Meeting Planner	2 – Begin with the End in Mind	This is a useful tool to ensure that meetings and planned, and that they each have a purpose.	Proper use of this tool ensures that people's time will not be wasted, and that the manager will be seen as being able to plan and organize and meeting.	This is a useful tool. While I always have an agenda for meetings I plan and conduct, I will probably use this tool also from time to time.



Tool Name	Area	Primary Purpose	Usefulness	Comments
5-Minute Presentation Planner	2 – Begin with the End in Mind	This tool makes sure that presentations are purposeful and to the point.	This can be used for presentations delivered both inside work and outside of work.	It is a very useful tool, even if it is a bit simplistic for long presentations. One of the really useful things about this tool is the checklist of presentation requirements at the bottom of page one. This can help ensure that the presenter doesn't forget anything that could be necessary for the presentation.
5-Minute Project Planner	2 – Begin with the End in Mind	This is a very high- level tool to define the purposes of a project and the help organize the planning effort.	This tool can serve to quickly communicate to colleagues in a well-organized way, what the purposes of a project are, and it is one methods to help ensure that the project will be seen in a positive light and that it will be approved.	This is helpful in getting started with a project.
Work Compass	3 – Put First Things First	This tool, when used at the beginning of each week, will list and focus the individual on the "Wildly Important Goals" (WIGs) as well as the key objectives to be accomplished under each of the WIGs.	When this Work Compass is put in a prominent place, such as the individual's planning book, it is useful to be a constantly reminder about the WIGs and the key objectives to be accomplished during that week. It also serves as documentation in the future about what needed to be accomplished during a given week.	I will be using this tool to help me be better organized.



Tool Name	Area	Primary Purpose	Usefulness	Comments
Time Matrix – Quadrant Categorizer Tool	3 – Put First Things First	This tool helps an individual understand the categories of the daily activities that they are involved in, and how some of those activities can be time-wasters.	Categorizing activities in this manner helps me understand the value of Quadrant II activities and how these leadership activities can help avert crises, and minimize time and impact of Quadrant II activities.	This is a really useful tool. It makes me more committed to planning and spending most of my time doing Quadrant I and Quadrant II activities.
Four Management Mindsets and the Continuums of Consideration vs. Courage: Win-Win Win-Lose Lose-Lose Lose-Win	4 – Think Win –Win	This tool helps define the types of interaction that people can have, and helps managers be mindful of creating situations that can be described as Win-Win.	This tool graphically categorizes these mindsets and serves as a kind of caution about the negative results of these mindsets:  Win-Lose Lose-Lose Lose-Win	The emphasis on the continuums of degrees of courage and consideration required for each of these mindsets was a useful reminder to me about the dynamics and the types of effort that go into having these interactions.
Win-Win Performance Agreement	4 – Think Win –Win	This tool captures in writing the principles of the Win-Win mindset, and establishes the expectations of a Win-Win situation and methods to achieve them.	This tool, in a highly organized way, will help capture the necessary steps to create a Win-Win performance and mindset. It also serves as good documentation, showing the intentions of what is expected, a timetable, and how the progress toward these goals will be measured.	This is an extremely useful tool and I will be using it when I need it.



Tool Name	Area	Primary Purpose	Usefulness	Comments
Emotional Bank Account – Making Deposits and Withdrawals	4 – Think Win –Win	This tool is a simple checklist to help people understand the effect of behaviors on the trust levels and quality of relationships.	This can help people understand the effects of both good and bad behaviors and how they can build up or tear down relationships and the trust that needs to exist in order to make things work well in a relationship.	This is a very useful tool, even though some might bristle at the name, "Emotional Back Account."
Feedback Facilitator	5 – Seek First to Understand Then to be Understood	This tool helps provide Constructive Feedback in an organized way.	This is used to accurately communicate constructive feedback in an organized way.	This is a very useful tool but I think that its use could carry with it some career limiting implications and results.
Empathic Listening Checklist	5 – Seek First to Understand Then to be Understood	This covers the Do's and Don'ts of Empathic Listening.	This is an important tool to help an individual understand the way they are listening and providing feedback when interacting with a person.	I personally found this to be one of the most challenging concepts in the seminar and one where I need more practice.
Empathic Listening Framework	5 – Seek First to Understand Then to be Understood	This framework shows how to give feedback during a conversation so that the person you are interacting with will understand that you are engaging in empathic listening.	This is very useful but requires a great deal of thought and practice, at least for me.	(See comments above.)



Tool Name	Area	Primary Purpose	Usefulness	Comments
Constructive Feedback Guideline Checklist	5 – Seek First to Understand Then to be Understood	This checklist contains the various types of Feedback Techniques and categorizes them as Do's or Don'ts, and it provides examples of what each of the types of Do's and Don'ts	This is very useful and requires practice.	I will be using this tool at work.
Third-Alternative Finder	6 – Synergize	This tool helps a manager find other alternatives when a problem needs to be solved.	This tool is very useful because it helps you come up with other solutions that can better solve a problem, but which had not been previously considered.	While this is a useful tool, I probably won't be using it more than once or twice a month, because the challenges I have are not conducive to having the solutions worked out in this manner. Something about the way a government position adds structure can create a framework of bureaucracy that doesn't permit the use of such tools.
Team Member Survey: The Four Dimensions of the Whole Person	7 – Sharpen the Saw	This tool helps a manager understand that a person must be understood and viewed from the dimensions of Heart, Mind, Body and Spirit.	If Team members open up and share the ideas listed in this survey, it will help the manager understand them better as a person. If you understand people better, you can relate to them better and lead them more effectively.	I shared this survey with my tool and two have already responded.



# Appendix C - Hidden Resource Finder HIDDEN-RESOURCE FINDER

The Hidden–Resource Finder helps you identify resources you never knew you had so you can overcome obstacles and accomplish your goals.

Write your challenge in the middle and brainstorm out from the four resource categories. Reference the questions on the next page.

CHALLENGE	
People	Knowledge
Budget	Technology/Tools



## HIDDEN-RESOURCE FINDER

#### **HIDDEN-RESOURCE QUESTIONS**

#### **People**

- Who could help us?
- Who has interests or goals that are aligned with ours?
- Whose view of this challenge is totally different from ours?
- Who else could we brainstorm with?

#### **Budget**

- Suppose the existence of the entire organization depended on this project. What would we do to get the budget?
- No budget? No approval? We just haven't talked to the right people yet. Who else could we talk with?
- What kind of business case do we need to make that would persuade people to give us the budget?
- What partnerships could we form to get the budget?

### Knowledge

- What don't we know that we need to know?
- If we could ask anyone in the world about this, whom would we contact?
- What's the best, richest, most up-to-date source of information on this subject? How do we get to it?
- Imagine that these obstacles didn't exist—how would we proceed?



## Technology/Tools

- What tools and technology do we need?
- What tools and technology do we have access to?
- If we had our choice of technology, what would we use?
- Who has it? What's in it for them to provide us the use of it?



## Appendix D - 5-Minute Presentation Planner

## 5-MINUTE PRESENTATION PLANNER

Presentation Title	
Location	Date and Time
What is the audience and what are their needs?	
What is the overall goal of my presentation?	
What are the three main supporting points I want to make?	
1.	
2.	
3.	
What do I want the audience to do as a result of my presenta	ation?



How many people will be in the room?

What equipment and materials will I need?	
Handouts	Screen
Flip chart and markers	Speakers
☐ Computer	Microphone
☐ Projector	Other
Notes	



## Appendix E - 5-Minute Project Planner

## 5-MINUTE PROJECT PLANNER

Project Title	Project Leader
Start Date	Target Finish Date

What's the purpose of this project?

## What are the desired results of this project?

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	

How does this project advance the organization's most important priorities?



Who are the key stakeholders? What are their needs?

Stakeholders	Needs

Which factor is most important—time, cost, or quality? Why?

What is the budget?

What resources do we need for this project (people, equipment, material, facilities)?



## Notes



## Appendix F - Work Compass

	WORK COMPASS ™
Week of:	
	WILDLY IMPORTANT GOALS
WIG 1	
WIG 2	
WIG 3	
	THIS WEEK'S FOCUS
	What are the few key objectives I must
	accomplish this week to advance my WIGs?
Objective	
Task	
Task	
Task	
Objective	
Task	
Task	
Task	
Objective	

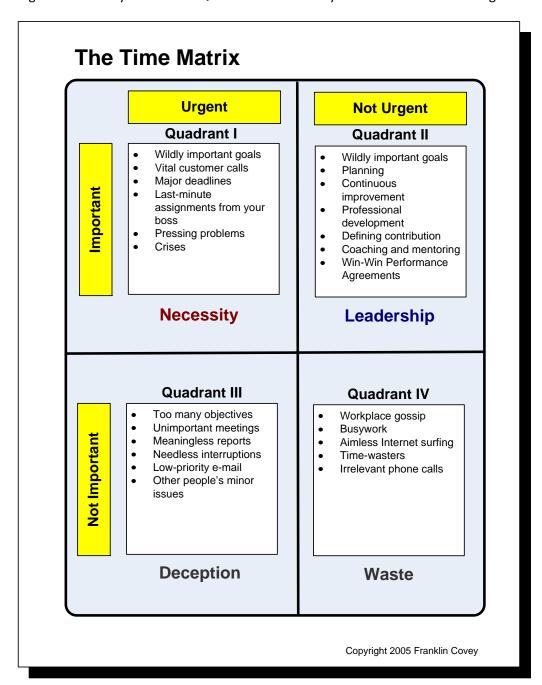


Task		
Task		
Task		
	NOTES	
	WORK COMPASS INSTRUCTIONS	
-	ord your wildly important goals (WIGs). Where possible, write the WIGs in terms of from what to what by when?	
<b>Step 2:</b> Under "This Week's Focus," record the few key objectives you must accomplish to advance the WIGs. (Think in terms of results, not just activities.)		
Step 3: List a few key tasks under each objective.		
Step 4: At the end of the week, evaluate your performance.		



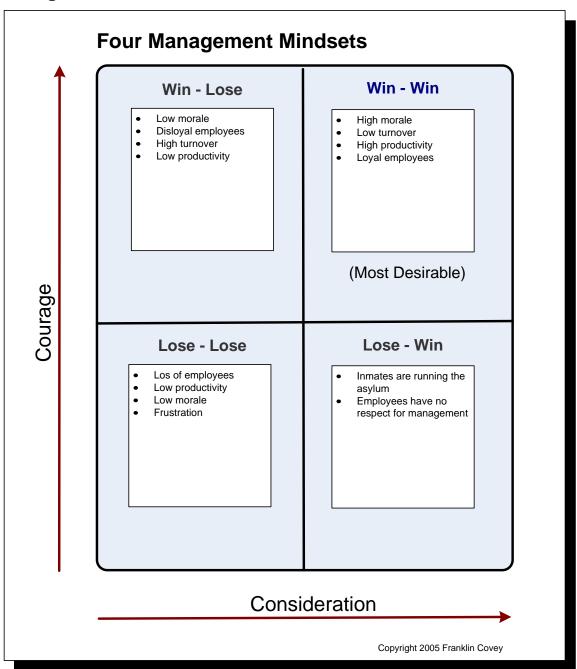
## Appendix G - Time Matrix - Quadrant Categorizer Tool

Doing a self-analysis and understanding where you spend most of your time as a manager, and trying to organize most of your life into Quadrant II will make you a more effective manager.





## Appendix H – Four Management Mindsets, and Win-Win Performance Management





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## **Traditional Performance Management vs.** Win - Win Performance Management **Traditional Performance** Win – Win Performance Management Management Boss decides what to work on Boss and employee decide together what Ambiguous or unclear individual work goals the desired results are Little notion of consequences Clear goals with clear measures Awkward, infrequent performance reviews "Wins" clearly defined for all parties, as well as the consequences for nonfulfillment that are disconnected from the results. Frequent reviews where all parties account Unmotivating or unclear. Boss rates employee's performance on for progress toward goals Highly motivating because driven by "wins vague criteria. for all parties. Boss and employee both rate performance on clear criteria.



## Appendix I - Win-Win Performance Agreement

#### WIN-WIN PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT

Agreement Between	and
For	
Time Period:	

#### **Desired Results**

Goal	Measure(s)	Deadline	Weight

#### **Guidelines**

What key criteria, standards, policies, or procedures should be followed?

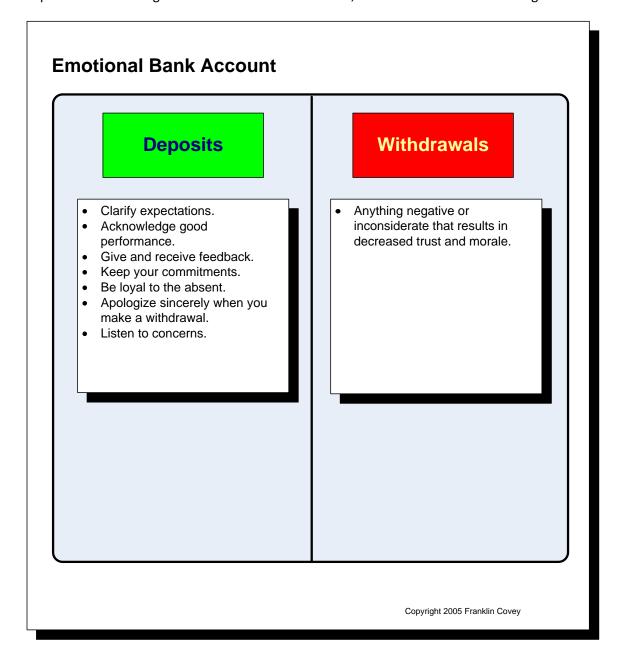


Resources	
What people, budget, and tools are available?	
Accountability	
How will we give feedback? How often?	
Consequences	
What are the rewards if the agreement is fulfilled?	
What are the consequences if the agreement is not fulfilled?	
Notes	



### Appendix J - Emotional Bank Account

The concept of the "emotional bank account" helps managers and Team members understand the importance of treating one another with consideration, so trust and morale will be high.





## Appendix K - Feedback Facilitator

## FEEDBACK FACILITATOR

Answer these questions to prepare to give effective feedback—either positive or negative.
Who needs this feedback (e.g., boss, team, individual, etc.)?
When will I share the feedback?
What is the issue?
What are the facts?
What is the impact of this issue on results?
What are the anticipated responses I should prepare for?



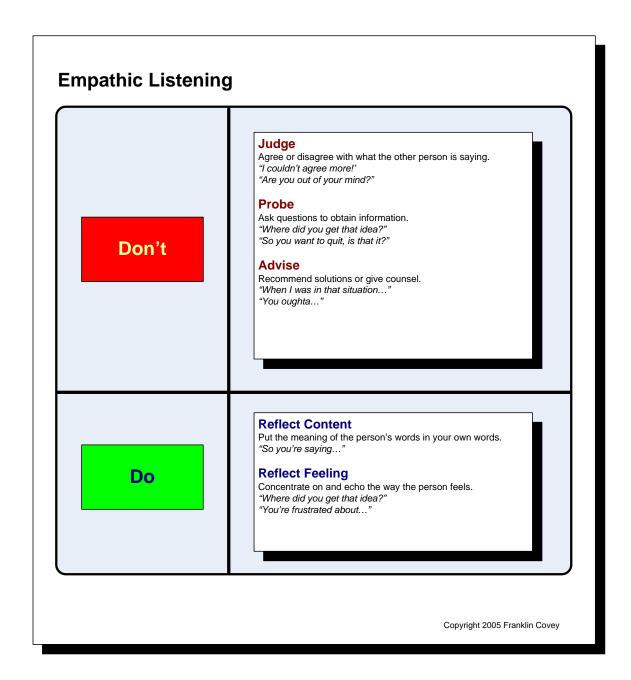
Use this table to record action items and follow-up dates.

Action Item	By When

Notes

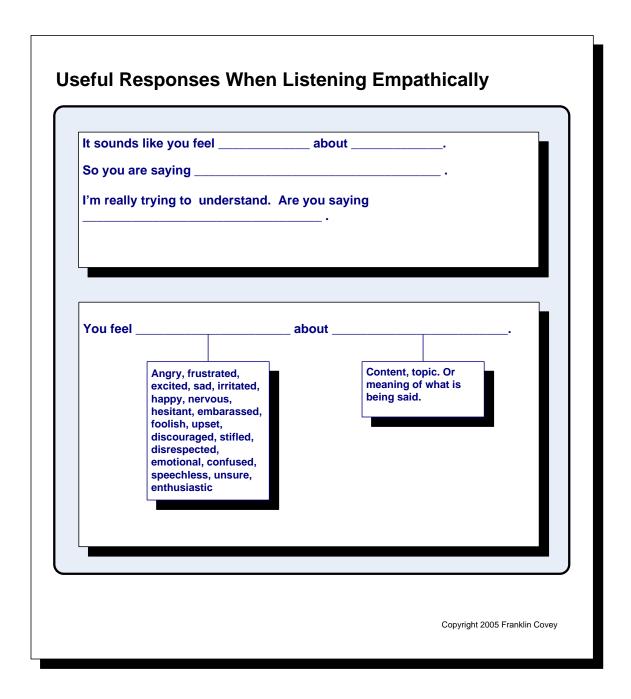


## Appendix L - Empathic Listening Checklist



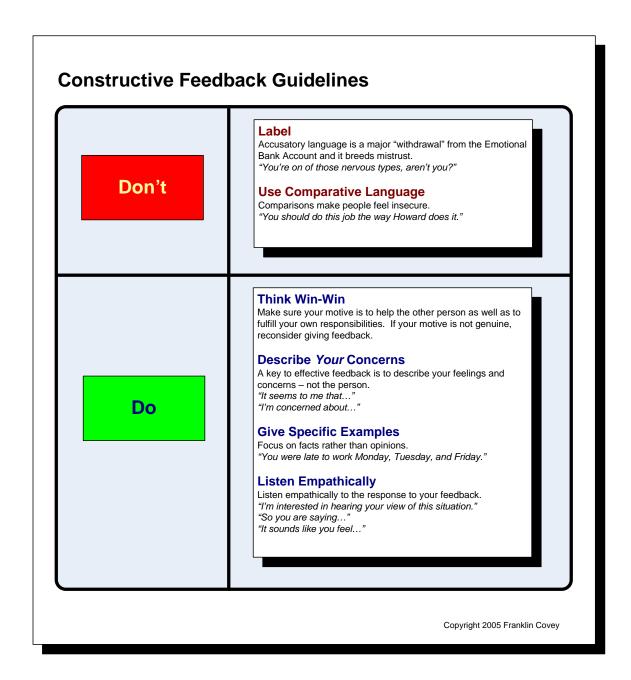


### Appendix M - Empathic Listening Guidelines





## Appendix N - Constructive Feedback Guideline Checklist





# Appendix O - Third Alternative Finder

## THIRD-ALTERNATIVE FINDER

Issue		
	•	
Criteria of Success	•	
	•	
	•	
	•	
	PROTOTYPE 1	COUNTERTYPE 1
Prototypes	PROTOTYPE 2	COUNTERTYPE 2
	PROTOTYPE 3	COUNTERTYPE 3
Countertypes	PROTOTYPE 4	COUNTERTYPE 4



PROTOTYPE 5

**COUNTERTYPE 5** 



Based on the criteria of success and the prototypes and countertypes above, what is the Third Alternative?

Notes



# Appendix P - Team Member Survey - Four Dimensions of the Whole Person

Name:	
Date:	
Heart	What have you always loved doing?
	What job-related opportunities are you passionate about?
Mind	What are you really good at?  What opportunities do you see for growth and development?





Body	Do you feel you are fairly compensated?  How can we improve your work environment?
	What would make your work more meaningful to you?
Spirit	What contributions would you love to make in your current role?

