July 8, 2020

TO: All PBGC Staff

FROM: Gordon Hartogensis

Director

SUBJECT: Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement

The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) protects the retirement incomes of nearly 37 million American workers in nearly 25,000 private-sector defined benefit pension plans. For PBGC to do its job well, we must continue to strive for inclusion, cooperation, and respect for the talents that a diverse workforce can bring to any successful venture.

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PBGC is committed to ensuring that its employees and applicants for employment are treated equitably in an environment that is free from discrimination based on race, religion, color, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, parental status, marital status, national origin, age, disability, family medical history, genetic information or reprisal. Employees and applicants who believe they may have experienced discrimination on any of these bases, or who believe they may have been retaliated against for exercising the right to go through the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) process, should contact the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity (OEEO) as discussed below.

All employees will have the freedom to compete on a fair and level playing field. Equal employment opportunity covers all personnel/employment programs, management practices, and decisions, including, but not limited to, recruitment, hiring, merit promotions, transfers, reassignments, training and career development, benefits and separations.

All employees are responsible for exhibiting professional conduct and behavior in the workplace and cooperating in the enforcement of this policy. Individuals engaging in conduct or behavior that violates this policy may be subject to appropriate disciplinary action up to, and including, removal from Federal service.

If you believe you may have been subjected to discrimination or retaliation, you should contact OEEO at 202-229-4363 or email <u>all-eeo-fed@pbgc.gov</u> immediately. OEEO offers a confidential and neutral early intervention process to address concerns without your having to initiate the EEO complaint process. If, however, you decide to initiate the EEO complaint process, you must do so within 45 calendar days of the incident or the date you became aware of the incident. Where an aggrieved individual elects and OEEO determines that Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) is appropriate, managers and/or supervisors have a duty to participate in PBGC's ADR process.

In our work processes, PBGC will create avenues for full participation to enable excellence and innovation that is realized through collaboration of diverse ideas, experiences, and perspectives. By working together to promote the principles of equal opportunity, we will ensure that all

employees and applicants for employment have an opportunity to succeed and contribute to PBGC's mission of protecting America's retirement security.