## MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD 2009 ANNUAL EMPLOYEE SURVEY RESULTS

1. Interpretation of results: An analysis of MSPB's 2009 Annual Employee Survey (AES) results indicates that MSPB's performance continues to be strong. As in previous surveys, the findings suggest that MSPB employees have a clear sense of mission and enjoy and find value in their jobs. Furthermore, they continue to feel that the workforce has the necessary knowledge and collaborative relationships to produce quality work.

MSPB compared the 2009 FHCS responses to the responses on the 2008, 2007, 2006, and 2004 annual employee surveys. Overall the results were fairly stable. There were some areas of improvement from previous years, including satisfaction with training, pay, as well as the information employees receive from management on what is going on with their organization.

There were some areas that bear further consideration due to a decrease in positive opinions. MSPB examined how the survey responses cluster into the four major indices of the Human Capital Assessment and Accountability Framework (HCAAF) developed by the Office of Personnel Management. OPM's metrics for the HCAAF systems include four major indices based on items required in the annual employee survey: Leadership and Knowledge Management, Results-Oriented Performance Culture, Talent Management and Job Satisfaction. In comparing the 2008 and 2009 indices, there was no significant change in terms of Talent Management and Job Satisfaction. However, we did see a slight decrease in the areas of Leadership and Knowledge Management and Results-Oriented Performance Culture. MSPB will look more closely at what might be contributing to these changes to determine what actions may be necessary.

## 2. How the survey was conducted:

The survey was conducted online from September 29, 2009 until November 17, 2009. An invitation to participate in the survey was sent via e-mail to all agency employees.

## 3. Description of sample:

All 215 agency employees (as of September 14, 2009) were invited to participate in the survey.
4. Number of employees surveyed, number responded and representativeness of respondents:
The survey was distributed to 215 MSPB employees, of whom 170 responded for an overall response rate of $79 \%$. Due to MSPB's size, we did not collect demographic information on the respondents to protect anonymity.

## MSPB Annual Employee Survey 2009

1. The people I work with cooperate to get the job done.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $44.6 \%$ | 75 |
| Agree | $44.0 \%$ | 74 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $4.2 \%$ | 7 |
| Disagree | $5.4 \%$ | 9 |
| Strongly Disagree | $1.8 \%$ | 3 |
|  | answered question | $\mathbf{1 6 8}$ |
|  | skipped question | $\mathbf{2}$ |

2. I am given a real opportunity to improve my skills in my organization.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $32.7 \%$ | 55 |
| Agree | $39.3 \%$ | 66 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $13.7 \%$ | 23 |
| Disagree | $9.5 \%$ | 16 |
| Strongly Disagree | $4.8 \%$ | 8 |
|  | answered question | $\mathbf{1 6 8}$ |
|  | skipped question | $\mathbf{2}$ |

3. My work gives me a feeling of personal accomplishment.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $39.4 \%$ | 65 |
| Agree | $43.0 \%$ | 71 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $10.3 \%$ | 17 |
| Disagree | $3.6 \%$ | 6 |
| Strongly Disagree | $3.6 \%$ | 6 |
|  | answered question | $\mathbf{1 6 5}$ |
|  | skipped question | $\mathbf{5}$ |

4. I like the kind of work I do.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $47.9 \%$ | 80 |
| Agree | $38.9 \%$ | 65 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $10.2 \%$ | 17 |
| Disagree | $2.4 \%$ | 4 |
| Strongly Disagree | $0.6 \%$ | 1 |

answered question 167
skipped question 3
5. I have trust and confidence in my supervisor.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $36.0 \%$ | 59 |
| Agree | $31.7 \%$ | 52 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $18.3 \%$ | 30 |
| Disagree | $4.3 \%$ | 7 |
| Strongly Disagree | $9.8 \%$ | 16 |
|  | answered question | $\mathbf{1 6 4}$ |
|  | skipped question | $\mathbf{6}$ |

6. Overall, how good a job do you feel is being done by your immediate supervisor/ team leader?

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Very Good | $38.2 \%$ | 63 |
| Good | $33.9 \%$ | 56 |
| Fair | $17.0 \%$ | 28 |
| Poor | $6.1 \%$ | 10 |
| Very Poor | $4.8 \%$ | 8 |
|  | answered question | $\mathbf{1 6 5}$ |
|  | skipped question | $\mathbf{5}$ |

7. The workforce has the job-relevant knowledge and skills necessary to accomplish organizational goals.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $43.5 \%$ | 73 |
| Agree | $39.9 \%$ | 67 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $7.7 \%$ | 13 |
| Disagree | $5.4 \%$ | 9 |
| Strongly Disagree | $2.4 \%$ | 4 |
| Do Not Know | $1.2 \%$ | 2 |

8. My work unit is able to recruit people with the right skills.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $29.8 \%$ | 50 |
| Agree | $41.7 \%$ | 70 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $12.5 \%$ | 21 |
| Disagree | $7.1 \%$ | 12 |
| Strongly Disagree | $6.0 \%$ | 10 |
| Do Not Know | $3.0 \%$ | 5 |

answered question
9. I know how my work relates to the agency's goals and priorities.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $61.9 \%$ | 104 |
| Agree | $31.5 \%$ | 53 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $3.6 \%$ | 6 |
| Disagree | $1.2 \%$ | 2 |
| Strongly Disagree | $1.8 \%$ | 3 |
| Do Not Know | $0.0 \%$ | 0 |
|  | answered question | $\mathbf{1 6 8}$ |
|  | skipped question | $\mathbf{2}$ |

10. The work I do is important.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $64.3 \%$ | 108 |
| Agree | $28.0 \%$ | 47 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $3.6 \%$ | 6 |
| Disagree | $3.0 \%$ | 5 |
| Strongly Disagree | $0.0 \%$ | 0 |
| Do Not Know | $1.2 \%$ | 2 |

11. Physical conditions (for example, noise level, temperature, lighting, cleanliness in the workplace) allow employees to perform their jobs well.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $46.7 \%$ | 78 |
| Agree | $38.9 \%$ | 65 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $9.6 \%$ | 16 |
| Disagree | $3.0 \%$ | 5 |
| Strongly Disagree | $1.8 \%$ | 3 |
| Do Not Know | $0.0 \%$ | 0 |
|  | answered question | $\mathbf{1 6 7}$ |
|  | skipped question | $\mathbf{3}$ |

12. Supervisors/ team leaders in my work unit support employee development.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $34.5 \%$ | 58 |
| Agree | $39.3 \%$ | 66 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $8.9 \%$ | 15 |
| Disagree | $10.1 \%$ | 17 |
| Strongly Disagree | $6.0 \%$ | 10 |
| Do Not Know | $1.2 \%$ | 2 |

13. My talents are used well in the workplace.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $34.7 \%$ | 58 |
| Agree | $35.9 \%$ | 60 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $11.4 \%$ | 19 |
| Disagree | $10.8 \%$ | 18 |
| Strongly Disagree | $7.2 \%$ | 12 |
| Do Not Know | $0.0 \%$ | 0 |
|  | answered question | $\mathbf{1 6 7}$ |
|  | skipped question | $\mathbf{3}$ |

14. My training needs are assessed.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $18.0 \%$ | 30 |
| Agree | $37.1 \%$ | 62 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $27.5 \%$ | 46 |
| Disagree | $12.0 \%$ | 20 |
| Strongly Disagree | $4.8 \%$ | 8 |
| Do Not Know | $0.6 \%$ | 1 |
|  | answered question | $\mathbf{1 6 7}$ |
|  | skipped question | $\mathbf{3}$ |

15. Promotions in my work unit are based on merit.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $25.0 \%$ | 42 |
| Agree | $28.0 \%$ | 47 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $20.8 \%$ | 35 |
| Disagree | $11.3 \%$ | 19 |
| Strongly Disagree | $7.1 \%$ | 12 |
| Do Not Know | $7.7 \%$ | 13 |
|  | answered question | $\mathbf{1 6 8}$ |
|  | skipped question | $\mathbf{2}$ |

16. In my work unit, steps are taken to deal with a poor performer who cannot or will not improve.

Answer Options

| Response | Response |
| :--- | :--- |
| Percent | Count |

Strongly Agree
Agree 10.1\% 17 29.8\% 50
Neither Agree Nor Disagree
29.2\%

49
Disagree
10.1\%

17
Strongly Disagree
8.9\%

15
Do Not Know
11.9\%

20
17. Creativity and innovation are rewarded.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $20.4 \%$ | 34 |
| Agree | $32.9 \%$ | 55 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $21.0 \%$ | 35 |
| Disagree | $13.2 \%$ | 22 |
| Strongly Disagree | $7.8 \%$ | 13 |
| Do Not Know | $4.8 \%$ | 8 |

18. In my most recent performance appraisal, I understood what I had to do to be rated at different performance levels (e.g., Fully Successful, Outstanding).

| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | 28.9\% | 48 |
| Agree | 42.8\% | 71 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | 12.0\% | 20 |
| Disagree | 6.6\% | 11 |
| Strongly Disagree | 3.0\% | 5 |
| No Basis to J udge | 6.6\% | 11 |
|  | answered question | 166 |
|  | skipped question | 4 |

19. In my work unit, differences in performance are recognized in a meaningful way.

Answer Options
Strongly Agree
Agree
Neither Agree Nor Disagree
Disagree
Strongly Disagree
Do Not Know

Response Response
Percent Count
16.2\% 27
26.9\% 45
24.0\% 40
13.8\% 23
7.8\% $\quad 13$
$11.4 \% \quad 19$
answered question
167
skipped question
3
20. Pay raises depend on how well employees perform their jobs.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $16.9 \%$ | 28 |
| Agree | $23.5 \%$ | 39 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $28.3 \%$ | 47 |
| Disagree | $13.3 \%$ | 22 |
| Strongly Disagree | $7.2 \%$ | 12 |
| Do Not Know | $10.8 \%$ | 18 |
|  | answered question | $\mathbf{1 6 6}$ |
|  | skipped question | $\mathbf{4}$ |

21. My performance appraisal is a fair reflection of my performance.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $29.9 \%$ | 50 |
| Agree | $42.5 \%$ | 71 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $13.2 \%$ | 22 |
| Disagree | $6.0 \%$ | 10 |
| Strongly Disagree | $3.0 \%$ | 5 |
| Do Not Know | $5.4 \%$ | 9 |

answered question 167
skipped question
3
22. Discussions with my supervisor/ team leader about my performance are worthwhile.

Answer Options

| Response | Response |
| :---: | :---: |
| Percent | Count |

Strongly Agree
22.0\%

36
Agree
40.2\%

66
Neither Agree Nor Disagree
20.7\%

34
Disagree
10.4\%

17
Strongly Disagree
6.1\%

10
Do Not Know
0.6\%

1
answered question
skipped question
23. Managers/ supervisors/ team leaders work well with employees of different backgrounds.

## Answer Options

Strongly Agree
Agree
Neither Agree Nor Disagree
Disagree
Strongly Disagree
Do Not Know
$\begin{array}{cc}\text { Response } & \text { Response } \\ \text { Percent } & \text { Count }\end{array}$ 34.1\% 57 35.3\% 59 15.0\% 25 5.4\% $\quad 9$
6.6\% $\quad 11$
3.6\% 6
24. My supervisor supports my need to balance work and family issues.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $50.3 \%$ | 84 |
| Agree | $31.1 \%$ | 52 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $10.8 \%$ | 18 |
| Disagree | $4.8 \%$ | 8 |
| Strongly Disagree | $2.4 \%$ | 4 |
| Do Not Know | $0.6 \%$ | 1 |

25. I have a high level of respect for my organization's senior leaders.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $21.4 \%$ | 36 |
| Agree | $36.9 \%$ | 62 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $19.0 \%$ | 32 |
| Disagree | $10.1 \%$ | 17 |
| Strongly Disagree | $10.7 \%$ | 18 |
| Do Not Know | $1.8 \%$ | 3 |

answered question 168
skipped question
2
26. In my organization, leaders generate high levels of motivation and commitment in the workforce.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $16.1 \%$ | 27 |
| Agree | $30.4 \%$ | 51 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $28.0 \%$ | 47 |
| Disagree | $11.3 \%$ | 19 |
| Strongly Disagree | $11.9 \%$ | 20 |
| Do Not Know | $2.4 \%$ | 4 |
|  | answered question | $\mathbf{1 6 8}$ |
|  | skipped question | $\mathbf{2}$ |

27. Managers review and evaluate the organization's progress toward meeting its goals and objectives.

Answer Options
Strongly Agree

| Response | Response |
| :---: | :---: |
| Percent | Count |

Agree
22.2\%

Neither Agree Nor Disagree
42.5\%

71

Disagree
21.6\% 36

Strongly Disagree
4.8\%

8
3.0\%

5
Do Not Know
6.0\%

10
28. Employees are protected from health and safety hazards on the job.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $36.9 \%$ | 62 |
| Agree | $44.0 \%$ | 74 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $13.7 \%$ | 23 |
| Disagree | $2.4 \%$ | 4 |
| Strongly Disagree | $1.8 \%$ | 3 |
| Do Not Know | $1.2 \%$ | 2 |

29. Employees have a feeling of personal empowerment with respect to work processes.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $20.2 \%$ | 34 |
| Agree | $32.7 \%$ | 55 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $25.0 \%$ | 42 |
| Disagree | $9.5 \%$ | 16 |
| Strongly Disagree | $7.7 \%$ | 13 |
| Do Not Know | $4.8 \%$ | 8 |

30. My workload is reasonable.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $17.9 \%$ | 30 |
| Agree | $57.7 \%$ | 97 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $12.5 \%$ | 21 |
| Disagree | $5.4 \%$ | 9 |
| Strongly Disagree | $6.5 \%$ | 11 |
| Do Not Know | $0.0 \%$ | 0 |
|  | answered question | $\mathbf{1 6 8}$ |
|  | skipped question | $\mathbf{2}$ |

31. Managers communicate the goals and priorities of the organization.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $24.4 \%$ | 41 |
| Agree | $48.8 \%$ | 82 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $14.9 \%$ | 25 |
| Disagree | $7.7 \%$ | 13 |
| Strongly Disagree | $3.6 \%$ | 6 |
| Do Not Know | $0.6 \%$ | 1 |
|  | answered question |  |
|  | skipped question |  |
|  |  | $\mathbf{1 6 8}$ |
|  |  | $\mathbf{2}$ |

32. My organization has prepared employees for potential security threats.

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Strongly Agree | $19.8 \%$ | 33 |
| Agree | $43.7 \%$ | 73 |
| Neither Agree Nor Disagree | $18.0 \%$ | 30 |
| Disagree | $14.4 \%$ | 24 |
| Strongly Disagree | $3.6 \%$ | 6 |
| Do Not Know | $0.6 \%$ | 1 |
|  | answered question | $\mathbf{1 6 7}$ |
|  | skipped question | $\mathbf{3}$ |

33. How satisfied are you with the information you receive from management on what's going on in your organization?

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Very Satisfied | $16.2 \%$ | 27 |
| Satisfied | $48.5 \%$ | 81 |
| Neither Satisfied Nor Dissatisfied | $17.4 \%$ | 29 |
| Dissatisfied | $10.8 \%$ | 18 |
| Very Dissatisfied | $7.2 \%$ | 12 |
|  | answered question | $\mathbf{1 6 7}$ |
|  | skipped question | $\mathbf{3}$ |

34. How satisfied are you with your involvement in decisions that affect your work?

Answer Options
Very Satisfied
Response Response

Satisfied
Neither Satisfied Nor Dissatisfied
Percent Count
16.7

28

Dissatisfied
24.4\%

61

Very Dissatisfied
13.1\%

41
9.5\% $\quad 16$
answered question
skipped question
35. How satisfied are you with your opportunity to get a better job in your organization?

Answer Options
Very Satisfied
Satisfied
Neither Satisfied Nor Dissatisfied
Dissatisfied
Very Dissatisfied
$\begin{array}{cc}\text { Response } & \text { Response } \\ \text { Percent } & \text { Count }\end{array}$
10.4\% 17
24.4\% 40
39.0\% 64
15.2\% 25
11.0\% 18
answered question
164
skipped question
6
36. How satisfied are you with the recognition you receive for doing a good job?

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Very Satisfied | $30.7 \%$ | 51 |
| Satisfied | $33.7 \%$ | 56 |
| Neither Satisfied Nor Dissatisfied | $17.5 \%$ | 29 |
| Dissatisfied | $12.0 \%$ | 20 |
| Very Dissatisfied | $6.0 \%$ | 10 |
|  | answered question | $\mathbf{1 6 6}$ |
|  | skipped question | $\mathbf{4}$ |

37. How satisfied are you with the policies and practices of your senior leaders?

## Answer Options

Very Satisfied
Satisfied
Neither Satisfied Nor Dissatisfied

| Response | Response |
| :---: | :---: |
| Percent | Count |

Dissatisfied
17.0\%

28
29.7\% 49
29.7\% 49

Very Dissatisfied
12.7\%

21
10.9\% 18
answered question
165
skipped question
5
38. How satisfied are you with the training you receive for your present job?

Answer Options
Response Response Percent Count
Very Satisfied
23.5\%

39
Satisfied
46.4\%

77
Neither Satisfied Nor Dissatisfied $18.1 \%$ 30
Dissatisfied
7.8\%

13
Very Dissatisfied
4.2\%

7
answered question
skipped question
39. Considering everything, how satisfied are you with your job?

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Very Satisfied | $34.7 \%$ | 58 |
| Satisfied | $38.9 \%$ | 65 |
| Neither Satisfied Nor Dissatisfied | $11.4 \%$ | 19 |
| Dissatisfied | $12.0 \%$ | 20 |
| Very Dissatisfied | $3.0 \%$ | 5 |
|  | answered question | $\mathbf{1 6 7}$ |
|  | skipped question | $\mathbf{3}$ |

40. Considering everything, how satisfied are you with your pay?

| Answer Options | Response <br> Percent | Response <br> Count |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Very Satisfied | $24.4 \%$ | 41 |
| Satisfied | $46.4 \%$ | 78 |
| Neither Satisfied Nor Dissatisfied | $11.9 \%$ | 20 |
| Dissatisfied | $13.7 \%$ | 23 |
| Very Dissatisfied | $3.6 \%$ | 6 |
|  | answered question | $\mathbf{1 6 8}$ |
|  | skipped question | $\mathbf{2}$ |

