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| TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT NOTICE | NO. 34-11 |
| | DATE March 27, 2012 |

TO: ALL STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES
ALL STATE WORKFORCE LIAISONS
NATIONAL FARMWORKER JOBS PROGRAM GRANTEES

FROM: JANE OATES /s/
Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: Monitor Advocate Training Sessions at the 2012 MAFO Conference

1. **Purpose.** To inform State Workforce Agencies (SWAs), SWA liaisons, and National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP) grantees of Monitor Advocate training sessions, which will take place at the MAFO National Farmworker Conference.
2. **Background.** Program regulations at 20 CFR 653.108(k) require that Monitor Advocates attend conferences of farmworker organizations in order to initiate and maintain contact with farmworker-serving organizations to better coordinate delivery of services to migrant and seasonal farm workers (MSFWs). The MAFO National Farmworker Conference provides State Monitor Advocates the opportunity to meet with these organizations and receive training. Program regulations (20 CFR 653.108(e)) also indicate that State Monitor Advocates must attend training sessions required by the National Monitor Advocate.
3. **Monitor Advocate Training.** To provide technical assistance to Monitor Advocates, and ensure continued compliance with regulations, the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) National and Regional Monitor Advocates conduct annual training sessions for all State Monitor Advocates. State Monitor Advocates are required to attend this training, which will take place from April 22 to 26, 2012, at the MAFO National Farmworker Conference.

Both events will provide participants with the opportunity to establish ties that will strengthen partnerships and promote the integration of service delivery to MSFWs within the workforce system. Proposed objectives of the training sessions are to: (1) provide best practices to Monitor Advocates to improve services and performance; (2) better integrate services to MSFWs and agricultural employers provided by the public workforce system; (3) better coordinate the enforcement of farmworker regulations; (4) facilitate the exchange of information among farmworker service providers; and (5) enhance communication and cooperation between farmworker groups and state and Federal officials.

The Monitor Advocate training sessions will include the following: (1) regional pre-harvesting conferences (required at 20 CFR 658.603(f)(10)); (2) processing job orders in connection with an H-2A visa application (required at 20 CFR 655.121); (3) how to

strengthen the Job Service Complaint System (required at 20 CFR 658.410); and (4) conducting effective monitoring reviews of the services provided to MSFWs in a One-Stop Career Center environment. A draft agenda and additional conference information is available at www.mafofarmworker.com.

4. **Arrangements.** The Monitor Advocate training sessions will begin April 22, 2012, at 2:00 p.m. and continue until 3:00 p.m. on April 26, 2012. The training sessions will be held at the Hyatt Regency San Antonio, 123 Lasoya Street, San Antonio, Texas 78205. Information on hotel reservations can be found at www.mafofarmworker.com. State Monitor Advocates and other participants must cover the costs of attendance, including conference registration.
5. **Action Requested.** To comply with regulations set forth at 20 CFR 653.108 (e), State Administrators are requested to allow State Monitor Advocates and other staff involved with farmworker and One-Stop services to attend the MAFO Conference and the Monitor Advocate training sessions.
6. **Inquiries.** Inquiries concerning this Training and Employment Notice should be directed to either the ETA Regional Monitor Advocate serving your state or to Mr. Juan M. Regalado, National Monitor Advocate, at NMA@dol.gov. A list of ETA Regional Monitor Advocates and the states they serve can be found at: http://www.doleta.gov/programs/pdf/MONITOR_ADVOCATE_NATIONAL_DIRECTORY_PY_2010.pdf.