(IRS email obtained by Federal News Radio)

As the Commissioner announced earlier this month, Congress has approved our <u>fiscal year 2012 budget</u>, which reflects a \$305 million reduction from our 2011 budget. While that reduction is less than we anticipated during the November round of buyouts, it is still a significant amount. Our cost-cutting measures remain in place, but we do not see an immediate need for a second, expanded round of buyout and early out offers.

However, we will be making offers to a very limited group of employees in the same general areas targeted in November, including analysts, communications and outreach positions and embedded support operations. We expect to send approximately 400 offer letters later today with an off-rolls date of March 2.

The decision to retire is an important one, and we urge those who receive an offer to consider carefully your options. We know many of you will have questions about the VERA/VSIP process. Please visit the <u>Workforce Transition website</u> on IRWeb for more information and to help you with this decision.

We will continue to keep a close watch on our expenses and our anticipated budget for fiscal year 2013, and we will alert you if our situation changes. Thank you for your support as we continue to work together during these challenging times.

- --Beth Tucker, Deputy Commissioner, Operations Support
- --Steve Miller, Deputy Commissioner, Services and Enforcement