**Welcome and Opening Comments**

Felix Stump, Deputy Project Director of the Operations Support Manager, gave opening remarks and provided a few updates since the last All EN call occurred in September.

Felix shared the following information:

**503 PowerPoint –** The slides from Sally Rhodes’ presentation on the 503 have been sent out prior to the meeting and will also be available at the Ticket to Work website ([www.yourtickettowork.com](http://www.yourtickettowork.com)).

**Secure Provider Portal –** There are new forms, including additional information you can now submit on the Payment Request Form, the Certification of Services form, and the Universal Auto Pay request. Furthermore, there are some forms for which you can now sign, print, and upload. This includes the Split Payment Request Form and the Individual Work Plan (IWP).

**Portal Phone Factor System –** OSM updated the system so that the message repeats longer, giving the user more time once they pick up the phone so there is less confusion. In addition, you can now search the EN payments status report by work case number in order to make it easier to follow-up on feedback you receive from our EN payments help desk.

Felix Stump turned the call over to Bob Williams, Associate Commissioner at the Office of Employment Support Programs, who gave an overview of the Section 503 webinar taking place during the call. Mr. Williams stated that the majority of the call would be devoted to providing ENs with new information, tips, and resources to learn how they and Ticket participants can take advantage of key provisions in the new rules. This will help them find and keep good paying jobs with federal contractors in their communities.

Bob Williams concluded by urging the audience to share their thoughts on the designated topic.

**All Call Wrap-Up**

After the 503 presentation presentation, Felix Stump informed the audience that if they would like to hear the presentation again, the All State Vocational Rehabilitation Call on November 12 would include the same presentation and EN participants were welcome to join.

**Questions and Answers**

**Q:** *In regard to self-disclosure for federal employers, can people who do not have a disability say they have one just to meet the requirements or do you need a medically documented disability?*

**A:** As the definition of disability is very broad, please hold this question for the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs(OFCPP) presentation.

**Q:** *Will you define who is a person with a disability under 503?*

**A:** It would comply with the definition under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

**Q:** *Does the law only apply to prime contractors or to their sub-contractors as well?*

**A:** We have been advised that the law applies to the prime contractor's subcontractors ... as long as the subcontractors are providing products or services related to the federal contract.

**Q:** *I believe our EN has registered as a referral source on the Employment Resource Referral Directory. How can I verify as I searched and don’t see our agency?*

**A:** Email OFCPP if you are registered and do not see your agency listed.

**Q:** *Some employers are asking the job applicant on online applications if they were referred by a State VR agency or have a disability without stating this is a voluntary question. Would you comment?*

**A:** There were some new provisions added to the final rule and we know that this is a very significant concern to ENs about disclosing disability. The final new rules do require specific language be used by employers when they post their jobs in the application process. Please bring this up at the OFCPP presentation later this year.

**Q:** *Whose responsibility is it to make sure that federal contractors, subject to Section 503, post jobs through the job centers?*

**A:** Our understanding is that it would be OFCPP. These are compliance issues.

Questions not answered here were referred to OFCPP for clarification.