



May 16, 2025

Amy Gleason
Acting Administrator
Department of Government Efficiency

Re: Message regarding Government Accountability Office and Department of
Government Efficiency

Dear Ms. Gleason:

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) received an email dated May 13, 2025, indicating that the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) wished to discuss assigning a team from DOGE to GAO. This email cited the President's January 20, 2025 Executive Order entitled "Establishing and Implementing the President's 'Department of Government Efficiency'" as authority for such an assignment.

GAO is an agency in the legislative branch, not the executive branch. As a legislative branch agency, GAO is not subject to Executive Orders, including the one cited in the email.

GAO's status as a legislative branch agency has long been established and articulated by statute and the United States Supreme Court. Our mission is to assist the Congress. Our work is performed for the Congress in furtherance of its constitutional legislative, appropriations and oversight functions. See *Bowsher v. Synar*, 478 U.S. 714, 731-32 (1986).

Thus, GAO declines any requests or actions to have DOGE assigned to GAO. If you have any questions, please contact me at [REDACTED] or at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edda Emmanuelli Perez".

Edda Emmanuelli Perez
General Counsel