

## Client Alert

### Department of Labor Institutes New Pilot Program to Expedite Processing of Discretionary Suspensions and Debarments

**April 4, 2019**

On April 2, the Department of Labor (DOL) announced a new pilot program for discretionary suspensions and debarments in an effort to decrease DOL's processing time of these actions "from months to days." As part of the program, DOL's Office of Inspector General (OIG) will include in its referrals to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management (OASAM) information based on indictments or convictions, with the hope that such information will allow OASAM to process these actions more quickly. Because of the unique nature of DOL debarments – which are largely imposed as a collateral consequence of labor violations – the pilot program increases risk to government contractors under scrutiny by DOL and its components/programs. This development emphasizes the importance of hiring counsel with capabilities to address the full spectrum of risks, including a proactive approach to suspension and debarment defense.

For more information, please contact the professional(s) listed below, or your regular Crowell & Moring contact.

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