## SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

**Recommendation 2008-12**: Develop a strategic communications plan, or roadmap, in preparation for the next administration.

**Recommendation 2008-13**: Expand outreach efforts to build support for, and acceptance of the EM program.

**Recommendation 2008-14**: Update publications and other informational materials that help promote EM's mission.

**Recommendation 2008-15**: Encourage efforts that promote and institutionalize the use of plain language in all communications.

**Recommendation 2008-16**: Develop Standard Operating Policies and Procedures for the Office of Communications and External Affairs.

**Recommendation 2008-17**: Complete the build-out of financial, analytical tools for strategic planning.

**Recommendation 2008-18**: Incorporate the use of strategic planning tools and analyses into EM's internal and external dialogues.

**Recommendation 2008-19**: Utilize new strategic planning and budgeting tools to evaluate and address cost escalation issues that can impact current baseline assumptions.

**Recommendation 2008-20**: Utilize new strategic planning and budgeting tools to evaluate potential unfunded liabilities, such as increased mission scope and facility transfers from other Departmental programs.

**Recommendation 2008-21**: Seek an end to the Senior Executive Service hiring freeze in order to fill critical management positions in the Office of Acquisition and Project Management.

**Recommendation 2008-22**: Obtain authority to use Brooks Bill procedures for professional Architect-Engineering services.

**Recommendation 2008-23**: Implement the improvements identified in the Business Clearance Improvement Initiative.

**Recommendation 2008-24**: Include leading indicators in the QA performance metrics that are currently under development.

**Recommendation 2008-25**: Ensure continued commitment from top leadership for the QA initiatives underway.

**Recommendation 2008-26**: If staffing becomes a problem, look to other sources for qualified Quality Assurance professionals.

**Recommendation 2008-27**: Create performance indicators for human capital initiatives in order to track progress over time and assess the extent to which practices have been institutionalized and are achieving the desired goals.

**Recommendation 2008-28**: Make a concerted effort to institutionalize and implement the various elements of the EM Human Capital Plan during the transition period.

**Recommendation 2008-29**: Complete and implement workforce planning tools to help predict and model workforce requirements based on shifts in funding.

**Recommendation 2008-30**: Continue to support the Leadership Excellence Program, which offers great potential for developing a high-performing organization and warrants sustained management commitment and financial resources.

**Recommendation 2008-31**: As part of the strategic communications plan and transition book being prepared for the next administration, develop a new strategic vision statement for EM to reflect the future direction and requirements of the program.