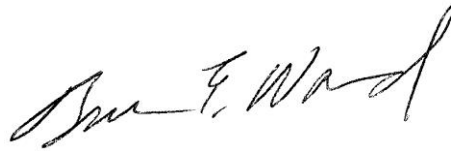


**For:** FSA Employees

**Designating “NOAUTH-A4” Activity Code for StrikeForce in the Activity Reporting System**

**Approved by:** Acting Associate Administrator for Operations and Management



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**1 Overview**

**A Background**

In 2010, USDA piloted the StrikeForce Initiative as an effort to leverage partnerships in poverty stricken rural areas to ensure that every community has equal access to USDA programs. The Initiative was piloted in Arkansas, Georgia, and Mississippi. In 2011, StrikeForce expanded to the Southwest, adding Colorado, Nevada, and New Mexico. Over the next 2 years, the Initiative grew to include 20 States, adding Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Kentucky, Louisiana, North Carolina, North Dakota, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, and West Virginia.

During the pilot stage of StrikeForce, employees in the participating States reported time working on the initiative activity as “Outreach”.

**B Purpose**

In 2013, the Secretary officially launched the StrikeForce Initiative for Rural Growth and Opportunity. Additional States were added in 2014, and FSA was named as the lead Agency of the Initiative. To accurately report FSA’s efforts and activities to the Secretary on StrikeForce efforts, there will be a change in reporting time in the Activity Reporting System.

This notice authorizes the designation of “NOAUTH-A4” to be used for StrikeForce activity in the Activity Reporting System.

**C Contacts**

For questions about this notice, contact either of the following by e-mail:

- Vicki Larson at [vicki.larson@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:vicki.larson@wdc.usda.gov)
- Mitzi Lankford at [mitzi.lankford@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:mitzi.lankford@wdc.usda.gov).

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**Disposal Date**

January 1, 2015

**Distribution**

All FSA employees; State Offices relay to County Offices

## 2 StrikeForce Activity

### A StrikeForce Target

StrikeForce is targeted toward new customers or customers who have **not** participated in FSA programs for an extended period of time located in identified persistent poverty counties. These customers are located within the 770 designated StrikeForce counties in 20 States. A list can be found at [www.fsa.usda.gov/strikeforce](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/strikeforce).

### B Reporting StrikeForce Activity in the Activity Reporting System

To report StrikeForce activity, employees shall use the applicable program; that is, “FLPDL”, “NAP”, etc. If working on a StrikeForce project that is **not** related to FSA programs, employees shall use “NP”. “NOAUTH-A4” shall be used for all activities that are completed while working with new or returning customers, such as:

- explaining programs and answering questions
- assisting with applications
- determining eligibility
- approval and payment
- any activity that would normally be reported using “Outreach”, “Extaff”, or “Signup & Eligib” activity.

**Note:** The StrikeForce activity code does **not** apply to activity completed for a StrikeForce county’s reoccurring customer base.

Other activities that should be captured for StrikeForce are as follows:

- speaking at conferences, field days, and workshops about the StrikeForce Initiative
- meeting with producers, organizations, and various groups to discuss different USDA programs or assistance available in StrikeForce designated counties
- preparing StrikeForce activity reports
- planning and/or participating in StrikeForce trainings and conference calls
- all travel associated with StrikeForce
- performing all activities related to the USDA StrikeForce Coordinator position.