

United States Department of State

*Office of Equal Employment Opportunity
and Civil Rights*

Washington, D.C. 20520-4216

January 27, 2003

Ms. Patricia M. Wolfe
National President
Federally Employed Women
1666 K. Street, NW, Suite 440
Washington, DC 20006

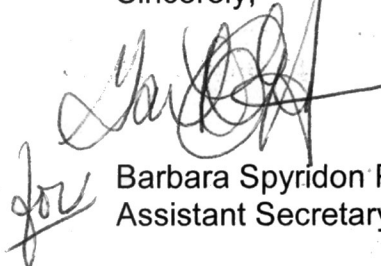
Dear Ms. Wolfe:

I am responding to your letter of December 2, 2002, in which you request a policy memorandum from Secretary Colin L. Powell that endorses and supports the Federally Employed Women's (FEW) 34th Annual National Training Program to be held in Chicago, on July 7-11, 2003. Additionally, in your December 2nd letter, you requested a meeting to discuss the training workshops that FEW provide to Federal agencies. On January 7, 2003, as Assistant Secretary of the Office of Civil Rights, I was asked by the Secretary to respond to your letter.

On Monday, January 13, 2003, a representative of my staff, Antionette F. St.Clair, met with you at the Department of State to discuss FEW's training program. Mrs. St.Clair has briefed me on her meeting with you and FEW's training program. Please be advised that Secretary Powell does not issue policy memoranda endorsing any kind of training programs. The Department does support FEW's efforts to provide high-quality training to Federal agencies. In recognition of FEW's efforts, I will have the training information that you gave to Mrs. St.Clair distributed department-wide. However, it is at the discretion of management officials in each office and bureau to approve his or her employee's request to attend any training.

If you have any questions, you may contact Mrs. St.Clair, Equal Employment Opportunity Manager, Office of Civil Rights, at (202) 647-9040.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barbara Spyridon Pope", with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Barbara Spyridon Pope
Assistant Secretary of State