January 31, 2017



Pursuant to OMB Memorandum M-12-12, Promoting Efficient Spending to Support Agency Operations, and OMB Memorandum M-17-08, Amending OMB Memorandum M-12-12, Promoting Efficient Spending to Support Agency Operations, agencies must publicly report any agency-hosted or -sponsored conference where net expenses for the conference exceed \$100,000. OMB memorandum M-12-12 defines a "conference" as "[a] meeting, retreat, seminar, symposium or event that involves attendee travel. The term 'conference' also applies to training activities that are considered to be conferences under 5 C.F.R. § 410.404." See 41 C.F.R. § 300-3.1.

Consistent with that guidance, the Federal Maritime Commission strives to ensure that conference expenses are appropriate, necessary, and managed in a manner that minimizes expense to taxpayers. The FMC has not hosted or sponsored any conference that met or exceeded the OMB-defined \$100,000 spending level during fiscal years 2012 through 2016.