

Strengthening the Foundation of Federal Statistics

Fundamental Responsibilities of Recognized Statistical Agencies and Units

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Office of the Chief Statistician
of the United States

Agenda

- Authority – Evidence Act (+)
- Strengthening the Foundation – Trust Regulation
- What's next?

*** This presentation does not provide new OMB guidance or interpret existing guidance ***



Authority – Evidence Act (+)

- Evidence Act enacted Jan 2019
 - Builds on CIPSEA 2002
 - Requires OMB to issue 3 rules + new policies and guidance
 - Recognizes **RSAUs** as **foundational** to generating **objective, accurate, reliable, credible data** for evidence-building
- Other related authorities – PRA, IQA, etc.



Strengthening the Foundation – Trust Reg

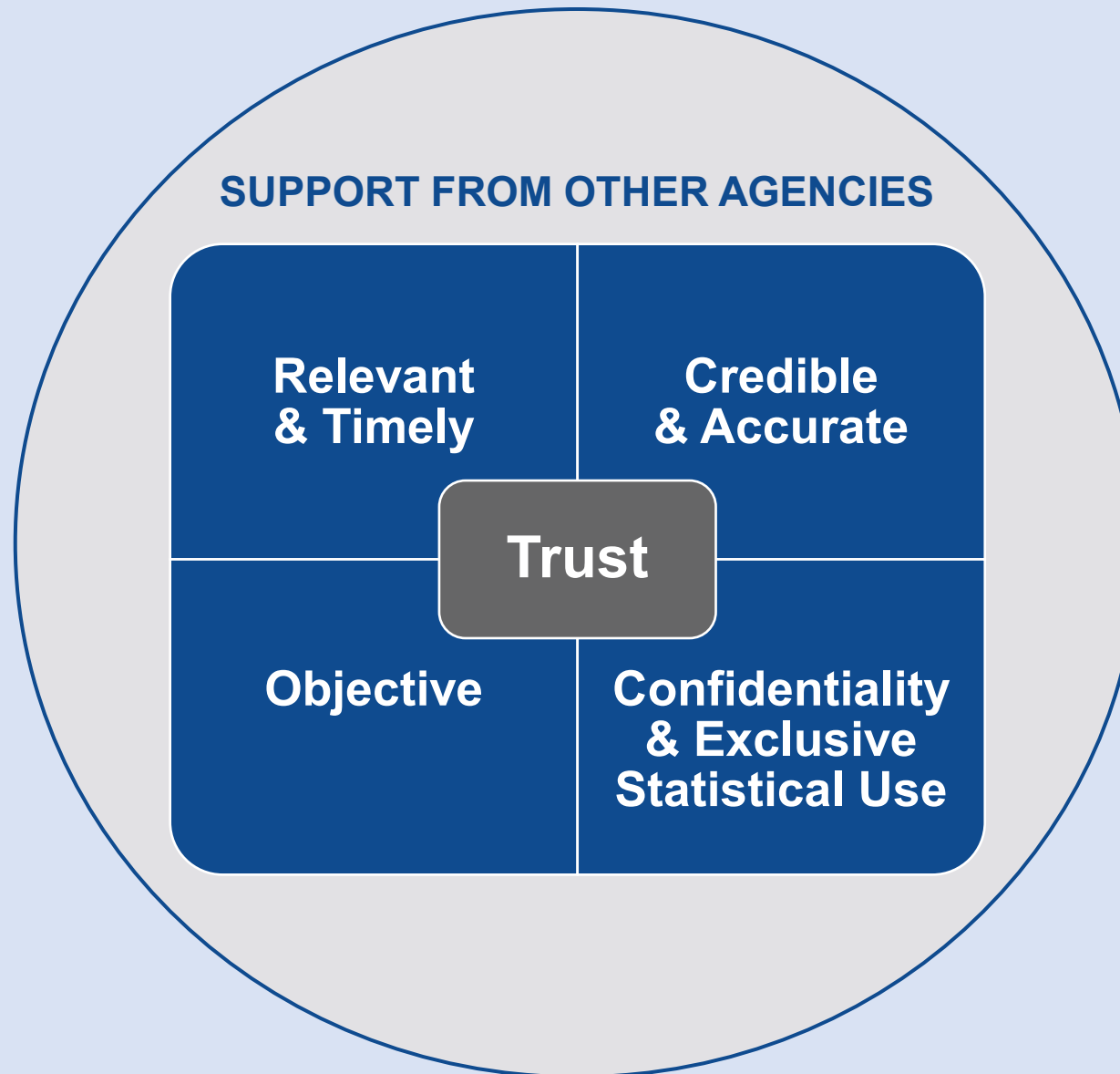
- Foundation built over 100+ years
- Provide for RSAUs to work in an objective, credible, reliable, and accurate manner and enable RSAUs to protect confidentiality
- Additional Congressional requirements meant it was time to review/assess the foundation and strengthen it



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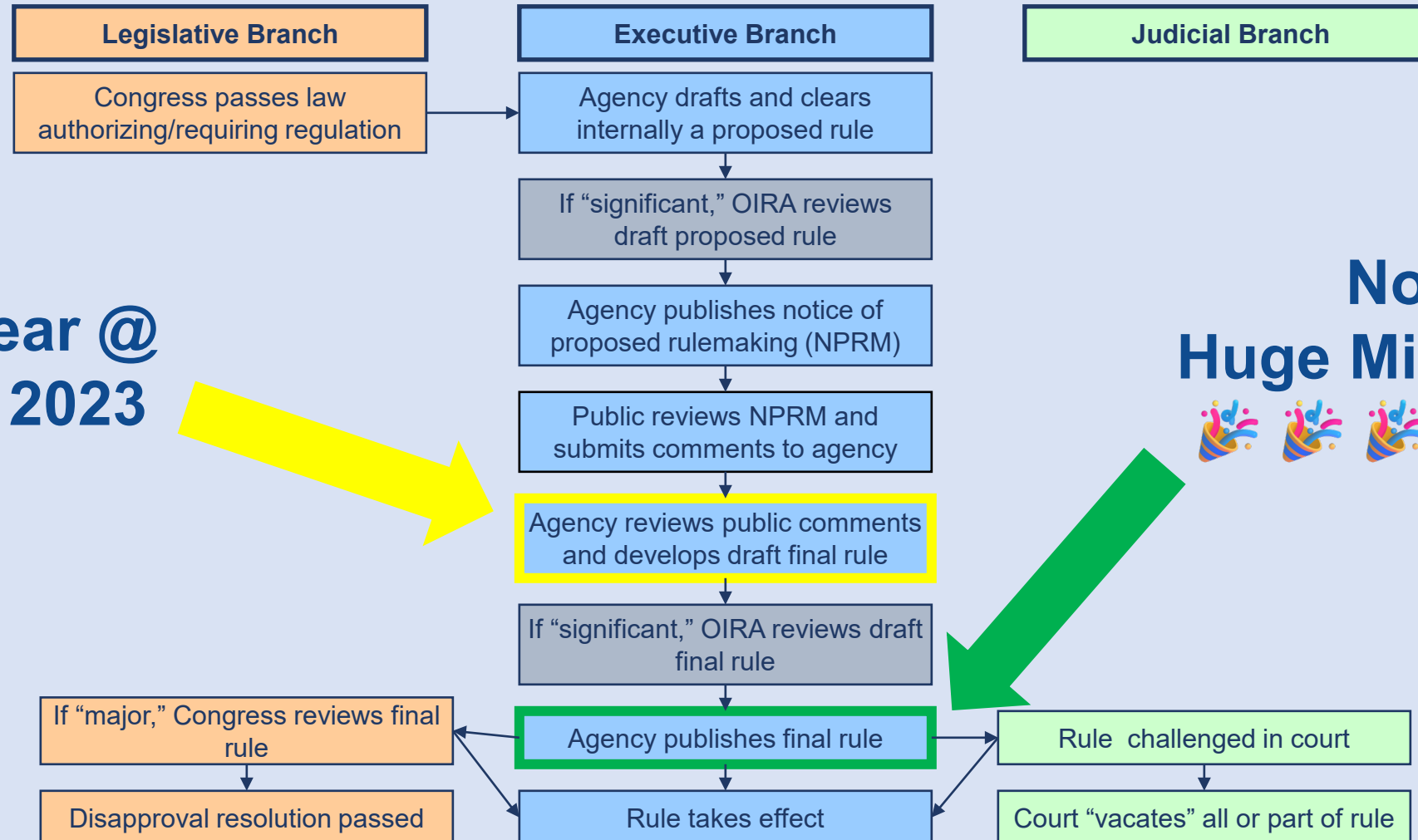




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Last Year @
FCSM 2023



Now –
Huge Milestone!!!



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Key changes since NPRM:

- Definition of “Parent Agency”
- Communication, education, engagement, and branding requirements
- RSAU budget presentation and engagement with OMB
- Compliance review
 - IGs to be responsible for reviews with CIGIE to develop guidance for reviews



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Example provisions maintained from NPRM:

- Schedules of release dates
- Consultation with parent agency for relevance
- Maintain publicly available policies and standards on quality
- Autonomy in function and conducting statistical activities
- Protect confidential data and ensure its exclusive statistical use
- Parent agency supports for RSAUs



What's next?

- Rule takes effect 60 days after publication in the Federal Register
- Implementation
 - Joint effort by OMB, ICSP, RSAUs, Parent Agencies, IGs, CIGIE, and the public
 - Will include developing resources and tools to support implementation
 - Will include educating all relevant agencies (RSAUs, Parent Agencies, etc.) on the responsibilities
- **What else should we be thinking about for implementation?**



Resources

- <https://www.statspolicy.gov/>
- <https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/information-regulatory-affairs/statistical-programs-standards/>
- <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/10/11/2024-23536/fundamental-responsibilities-of-recognized-statistical-agencies-and-units>

Abbrev./ Acronym	Meaning
Evidence Act	Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act
CIPSEA	Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
RSAUs	Recognized Statistical Agencies and Units
PRA	Paperwork Reduction Act
IQA	Information Quality Act
NPRM	Notice of Proposed Rulemaking
FSS	Federal Statistical System
IG	Inspector General
CIGIE	Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency



Thank You!

Questions?

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