What is SAM.gov?

- SAM.gov … “System for Award Management”
  - SAM is a federal database that includes an entry for EVERY entity that does business with the federal govt

- You MUST register with SAM.gov to “do business” with the federal govt
  - In particular, SAM registration is required to submit grant proposals to the federal govt
  - Registrations are only active for one year and must be renewed annually

- Grants.gov uses SAM … hence NSF (AFOSR, ARO, and others) is impacted by what happens with SAM
What does SAM.gov do?

- A SAM account associates legal names and addresses with other important information needed to process grants/contracts
  - Our **Research Office** legal name and address are *(per the W-9 filed with the IRS)*:

    NAVY, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE
    181 Wainwright Rd

- In addition to the legal name and address, SAM.gov “connects” USNA to various federal/DoD identifiers …
  - DODAAC (DoD Activity Address Code)
  - CAGE (Commercial And Government Entity)
  - DUNS (Data Universal Numbering System) and now UEI (Unique Entity ID)
Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)
Sensitive – Not Publicly Available

- Social Security Number
  - Issued by SSA
- Employer Identification Number
  - Issued by IRS

Unique Identifier

- Commercial & Government Entity
  - Issued by DLA
- Data Universal Numbering System
  - Issued by D&B

Awardee/Recipient Unique Identifier
Not Sensitive – Publicly Available

2020 Copyright Neil McDonnell
DUNS numbers

- For many years … and prior to April 4, 2022, USNA had three existing entries in SAM.gov: one for the Research Office, one for NABSD, and one “other” (Supt)
  - Research and NABSD were frequently used; Supt was never used

- Each of those 3 entries was associated with a specific DUNS number

- Everything worked just fine using SAM.gov under that system
April 4, 2022

- SAM.gov issued a software upgrade that dropped the use of DUNS numbers
  - DUNS was replaced by a “Unique Entity ID” (UEI)
    - The UEI is assigned by SAM.gov
  - SAM.gov also added the requirement for each DoD entity to provide its DODAAC
    - DODAAC = N00161 for USNA

You have reached SAM.gov, an official website of the U.S. government. There is no cost to use this site.

The unique entity identifier used in SAM.gov has changed.

On April 4, 2022, the unique entity identifier used across the federal government changed from the DUNS Number to the Unique Entity ID (generated by SAM.gov).

- The Unique Entity ID is a 12-character alphanumeric ID assigned to an entity by SAM.gov.
- As part of this transition, the DUNS Number has been removed from SAM.gov.
- Entity registration, searching, and data entry in SAM.gov now require use of the new Unique Entity ID.
- Existing registered entities can find their Unique Entity ID by following the steps here.
- New entities can get their Unique Entity ID at SAM.gov and, if required, complete an entity registration.

❓ I manage an entity. What do I need to do?

For more information about this transition, visit SAM.gov or the Federal Service Desk, FSD.gov. You can search for help at FSD any time or request help from an FSD agent Monday–Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET.

☐ Do not show this message again
April 4, 2022 … So What?

- USNA had 3 SAM entries but only 1 DODAAC (N00161)
  - Per SAM.gov: A DoDAAC can have ONLY one legal name and address, and ONLY one entity user

- For Navy: The name and address on a DODAAC are managed by the Budget Submitting Office (BSO) and DCNO, N1 (Pentagon)

- The DODAAC “owner” (USNA for N00161) cannot make edits to the label info on its DODAAC
DoDAAC: N00161
RIC: P84
UIC: 00161
CREATION DATE: 08/07/1995

DODAAC SERVICE/AGENCY: US NAVY (USN)
ORGANIZATION TYPE CODE: DoD
AUTHORITY CODE: 00 - Requisitioner
MAJ COMMAND: NB - Chief Of Naval Personnel
SUB TIER CODE: 1700 - DEPT OF THE NAVY
PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY: Yes
GRANT AUTHORITY: No
FUNDING OFFICE: Yes

RIC: P84

COMM'R(s) INFORMATION
DP: RUTTTTT
BILL: RUGAEXC

Note: RII(s) RUWAWW, RUTTTTT, RURRBR, RESERVE, RDELETE - for DAAS Use Only

TAC1 (OWNER)
LINE 1: SUPERINTENDENT US NAVAL ACADEMY
LINE 2: 121 BLAKE ROAD
LINE 3: ANNOPOOLS MD 21402-5000
LINE 4: 
LINE 5: 
CITY: ANNOPOOLS
STATE/PROVINCE: MD
COUNTRY NAME: UNITED STATES
GENCC: UUSUSA
POC:
POC PHONE:
The Upshot …

- The N00161 DoDAAC became associated with “Supt” … the ONE not used!
  - The name and address for this entity do not match the IRS W-9 … therefore all submissions failed

- The Research Office entity in SAM.gov became “locked out” (deactivated)
  - No notification was received from SAM.gov on the “deactivation”

- This “deactivation” was not discovered until June 27, 2022 when a faculty member tried to submit an ONR YIP proposal through grants.gov (which links to SAM.gov)
  - SAM.gov rejected the submission because the Research Office entity was deactivated
  - But … Reza completed the “submission by hand” … no harm to the faculty member
What’s the Issue?

● Whatever is used in SAM.gov MUST MATCH what the IRS and DLA have associated with the legal name and address
  ○ IRS → W-9 entries must match
  ○ DLA → CAGE code must match

● Remember: N00161 can only be associated with ONE legal name and address
  ○ USNA cannot change this info

● Clearly the legal name on N00161 ("Supt") does not match what the IRS and DLA have for our Research Office
What’s the Solution?

● Between 27 June and 22 July …
  ○ Nineteen incident reports, hours of phone calls, discussions via a live chat, contacts (calls and emails) made to a DLA “service help desk”, to BSO and to others to find a fix to the problem
  ○ Frustration mounts upon every attempt

● Why not create a new DoDAAC assigned ONLY to the Research Office?
  ○ Great idea! Remember …
  ○ IRS → W-9 entries must match!
  ○ DLA → CAGE code must match!
  ○ Must get the legal name and address EXACTLY right!
July 22, 2022

- July 22, 2022
  - New DoDAAC requested by USNA
  - BSO approved and created new DODAAC: N4245B
  - Name/address assigned was:
    - US NAVAL ACADEMY RESEARCH
    - 589 MCNAIR RD, NIMITZ HALL
    - → this does NOT match the IRS W-9 … therefore fails
  - More frustration
Why is this so hard?

- On August 18, 2022 we finally “figured out” all the details of required name / address matching between SAM, IRS, DLA

- Recall: Changing an existing DoDAAC’s legal name / address requires action OUTSIDE of USNA authority

- Making a change (done outside USNA), testing the change (at USNA), providing feedback (to those outside USNA) on whether it works seems to take about 7 days PER CHANGE!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Line 1</strong></th>
<th><strong>Line 2</strong></th>
<th><strong>Line 3</strong></th>
<th><strong>Line 4</strong></th>
<th><strong>Line 5</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY</td>
<td>181 WAINWRIGHT RD</td>
<td>HALLIGAN HALL</td>
<td>ANnapolis MD 21402-5008</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANnapolis</td>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>UNITED STATES</td>
<td>21402-5008</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TAC1 (OWNER)**

**EFF DATE:** 09/16/2022
Next Steps

● Get the legal name to be “NAVY, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE”
  ○ Done at the DCNO, N1 level at the request of the BSO

● Test it … in SAM.gov by completing the registration process on the new DODAAC (N4245B)
  ○ The completed record must then flow to the IRS for validation and then to the DLA for confirmation as to the info
  ○ If “all good” at the IRS and at the DLA, the Research Office will receive a notification and a proposal submission can be attempted (made)
As of Sept 23, 2022 at 0930 …

● The DoDAAC N4245B is now correct, but it has NOT YET populated to SAM.gov
  ○ Stand by …
Note that each step in the process takes days for any feedback.
Which Federal Agencies are / will be Affected?

- **NSF** – must use SAM.gov
  - No alternatives to proposal submissions; we have asked MANY times
- **ONR** – SAM.gov is required for proposal submissions for a YIP and for a DURIP
  - Other submissions are direct to ONR, therefore SAM.gov has no impact
  - Also, Reza has successfully “hand carried” a YIP
- **NIH** – must use SAM.gov
  - No alternatives to proposal submissions
  - We have other issues with NIH as well … so SAM.gov isn’t the problem right now
- **DOE** – It appears that DOE must use SAM.gov
  - This is being verified
- **NASA** – It appears that NASA must use SAM.gov
  - This is being verified