



Weekly Report for April 11, 2014

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS

DoD Issues Interim Final Rule Related to the National Industrial Security Program

The Department of Defense (DoD) issued an interim final rule to assign responsibilities and establish requirements related to the National Industrial Security Program (NISP) to ensure maximum uniformity and effectiveness for both DoD and non-DoD Components, as defined in this rule, for which the Department serves as the Cognizant Security Agency (CSA) and provides industrial security services in accordance with Executive Order (EO) 12829, "National Industrial Security Program," [79 Fed. Reg. 19467](#). The rule provides guidance on the procedures used to ensure classified information will be properly safeguarded if a contractor has reported foreign ownership, control or influence (FOCI) information which DoD must evaluate, mitigate, or negate as appropriate. The rule also provides guidance for the evaluation, mitigation, and/or negation of FOCI information reported by a company, as defined in the rule, which is in process for a facility security clearance. This interim rule will be effective April 9, 2014. Comments are due June 9, 2014.

GSA Issues Notice to Announce a New Social Media Community

The General Services Administration (GSA) issued a notice to announce a new social media community on interact.gsa.gov for its Government Wide Acquisition Contracts (GWACs), Alliant II and Alliant Small Business II, [79 Fed. Reg. 19332](#). The new social media community is effective April 8, 2014.

CAPITOL HILL

Obama Wants Federal Contractor to Pay Men and Women Equally

President Obama on Tuesday, April 8, 2014, issued two executive orders aimed at the federal contractor workforce as part of an effort to eliminate gender-based pay disparity. The first executive order will protect a federal contractor's right to discuss their pay openly with coworkers. The order will prohibit an employer contracted by the federal government from retaliating against employees who disclose their pay. The second order will enable the government to better track pay information based on race and gender. Obama will direct Labor Secretary Thomas Perez to create regulations that require federal contractors to collect and submit this information, which the agency could then use to enforce existing laws, [Obama Wants Federal Contractors to Pay Men and Women Equally](#).

House to Take Up VA Accountability Bill

House Speaker John A. Boehner (R-Ohio) has signaled that the chamber will vote on a bill to allow the head of the Veterans Affairs Department (“VA”) to fire or demote senior executives for performance problems. At a news conference on April 3, 2014, GOP lawmakers touted the measure as a way to help VA Secretary Eric K. Shinseki address some of the department’s most pressing problems, including preventable deaths at health clinics, delayed construction projects, perceived slowness in the VA’s responses to congressional inquiries, and a longstanding claims backlog that the agency recently reduced by 44 percent, [House to Take Up VA Accountability Bill](#).

SMALL BUSINESS

SBA Announces National Small Business Week

The Small Business Administration (SBA) announced National Small Business Week will be held May 12-16, 2014 for aspiring entrepreneurs, small business owners and others to attend activities including forums and panels discussing trends in small business, business innovation, financing, growth, matchmaking events, as well as networking opportunities and award ceremonies, [SBA Announces National Small Business Week](#).

SBA Issues a Proposed Rule to Amend Management and Technical Assistance Service Providers Information Regulations

The Small Business Administration (SBA) issued a proposed rule to amend its regulations to establish for the affected public that existing Agency standards governing the use and disclosure of information also applies to information collected from SBA’s resource partners, including Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs), Women’s Business Centers (WBCs) and SCORE, as well as from the clients of these resource partners, [79 Fed. Reg. 19544](#). The rule covers information collected when conducting financial examinations, programmatic reviews, polls, surveys, and any other collections of information. Comments are due June 9, 2014.

Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled

The Following Notice Was Issued:

[79 Fed. Reg. 18891](#), April 4, 2014, proposing to add products (Scissor/Shear, Titanium Blade; Sorbent, Hazardous Material, Granular, Biobased) and delete products (Portfolio, Report Cover, Clear Cover; Heavy Duty Aircraft Cleaner; Folder, File; Squeegee, Ergonomic Style Handle) and service (Switchboard Operation Service, Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Iowa City, IA) from the Procurement List. Comments are due May 5, 2014.

[79 Fed. Reg. 18892](#), April 4, 2014, proposing to add products (Flat Top 28, Bifocal, Single Vision, Plastic, Clear; Flat Top 28, Bifocal, Plastic, Clear; Flat Top 35, Bifocal, Clear; Clear Plastic Round 25 and Round 28; Flat Top 7 x 28, Plastic, Clear; Flat Top 8 x 35, Plastic, Clear; Progressives, (VIP, Adaptar, Freedom, Image), Plastic, Clear; Lenticular Aspheric, Single Vision, Plastic, Clear; Flat Top-Round Aspheric Lenticular, Plastic, Clear; Executive Bifocal, Plastic, Clear; Single Vision, Glass, Clear; Flat Top 28,

Bifocal, Glass, Clear; Flat Top 35, Bifocal, Glass, Clear; Flat Top 7 x 28, Trifocal, Glass, Clear; Flat Top 8 x 35, Trifocal, Glass, Clear; Progressives, (VIP, Adaptar, Freedom), Glass, Clear; Executive Bifocal, Glass, Clear; Single Vision, Polycarbonate, Clear; Flat Top 28, Bifocal, Polycarbonate, Clear; Flat Top 35, Bifocal, Polycarbonate, Clear; Flat Top 7 x 28, Trifocal, Polycarbonate, Clear; Flat Top 8 x 35, Trifocal, Polycarbonate, Clear; Progressives (VIP, Adaptar, Freedom, Image), Polycarbonate; Single Vision, Plastic, Clear; Flat Top 28, Bifocal, Plastic, Clear; Flat Top 35, Bifocal, Plastic, Clear; Round 25 and 28, Bifocal, Plastic, Clear; Flat Top 7 x 28, Trifocal, Plastic, Clear; Flat Top 8 x 35, Trifocal, Plastic, Clear; Progressives, Plastic, Clear; SV, Aspheric, Lenticular, Plastic, Clear; FT or round aspheric lenticular, Plastic, Clear; Bifocal, Executive, Plastic, Clear; Single Vision, Glass, Clear; Flat Top 28, Bifocal, Glass, Clear; Flat Top 35, Bifocal, Glass, Clear; Flat Top 7 x 28, Trifocal, Glass, Clear; Flat Top 8 x 35, Trifocal, Glass, Clear; Progressives (VIP, Adaptar, Freedom), Glass, Clear; Bifocal, Executive, Glass, Clear; Single Vision, Polycarbonate, Clear; Flat Top 28, Polycarbonate, Clear; Flat Top 35, Bifocal, Polycarbonate, Clear; --Flat Top 7 x 28, Trifocal, Polycarbonate, Clear; Flat Top 8 x 35, Trifocal, Polycarbonate, Clear; Lenses, Progressives (VIP, Adaptar, Freedom, Image), Polycarbonate; Transition, Plastic, CR-39; Photochromatic/Transition, (Polycarbonate Material); Photogrey (glass only); High Index transition (CR 39); Anti-reflective Coating (CR 39 and polycarbonate); Ultraviolet Coating (CR 39); Polarized Lenses (CR 39); Slab-off (polycarbonate, CR 39: trifocal and bifocal; High Index (CR-39); Prism (up to 6 diopters no charge) > 6 diopters/diopter; Diopter + or--9.0 and above; Lenses, oversize eye, greater than 58, excluding progressive; Hyper 3 drop SV, multifocal (CR 39); Add powers over 4.0; --Plastic or Metal) and delete the product (Bag, Plastic) and services (Grounds Maintenance Service, U.S. Army Reserve Center, Lewiston, PA; Janitorial/Custodial Service, U.S. Army Reserve Center, Franklin, PA.) from the Procurement List. Comments are due May 5, 2014.