

Weekly Report for May 2, 2014

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS

DoD, GSA, and NASA Issue the Small Entity Compliance Guide

The Department of Defense (DoD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) issued the Small Entity Compliance Guide, prepared in accordance with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, <u>79 Fed. Reg. 24254</u>. It consists of a summary of the rules appearing in Federal Acquisition Circular (FAC) 2005-73, which amends the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR). Interested parties may obtain further information regarding these rules by referring to FAC 2005-73. These documents are also available via the Internet at <u>http://www.regulations.gov</u>. The Small Entity Compliance Guide will be available on April 29, 2014.

CAPITOL HILL

SBA Isn't Ready to Boast Yet, But All Agencies Have Met Their Small Biz Contracting Goals

For the first time in seven years, all federal agencies in fiscal year 2013 met their goals of steering 23 percent of contracting to small businesses, according to panelists at an industry conference on Thursday, April 24, 2014. Emily Murphy, senior counsel for the House Small Business Committee, in a discussion on legislation and the Small Business Administration's rulemaking progress, made the disclosure and suggested that SBA is tardy in making the announcement. SBA public affairs specialist, Tiffani Shea Clements, has said that the agency "is in the process of finalizing the contracting performance and score card for each federal agency. Until that time, we have no further comment." A spokesman for the House committee cited section 1632 of the fiscal 2013 National Defense Authorization Act that amended the Small Business Act, which requires the SBA administrator to release the results to the President and Congress, as well as post on a public website 60 days after agencies deliver their data at the end of the fiscal year, which this go-round was Sept. 30, 2013, <u>SBA Isn't Ready to Boast Yet</u>, But All Agencies Have Met Their Small Biz Contracting Goals.

House Passes Measure to Ban Bonuses for VA Executives

The House passed a bill amendment, on April 30, 2014, that would ban bonuses for senior executives with the Department of Veterans Affairs. Rep. Tim Huelskamp (R-Kan.), a co-sponsor of the proposal and a member of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, said the measure is needed because of "systematic leadership failures," including preventable deaths at VA health centers, a backlog of longstanding disability claims and extensive delays for many of the department's construction projects; <u>House</u> Passes Measure to Ban Bonuses for VA Executives.

SMALL BUSINESS

SBA Issues Notice of Revised Risk Rating System

The Small Business Administration (SBA) issued a notice implementing changes to the Risk Rating System, an internal tool to assist SBA in assessing the risk of the SBA loan operations and loan portfolio of each active 7(a) Lender and Certified Development Company (CDC), <u>79 Fed. Reg. 24053</u>. Consistent with industry best practices, SBA recently redeveloped the model used to calculate the composite Risk Ratings to ensure that the Risk Rating System remains current and predictive as technologies and available data evolve. This notice is effective April 29, 2014. Comments are due June 30, 2014.

Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled Issued the Following Notice

<u>79 Fed. Reg. 22951</u>, April 25, 2014, proposing to add products (Cup, Disposable, Paper, Hot Food, 16 oz, White; late, Paper, Disposable, 3-Compartmented Tray, Rectangular, White, 8 x 10), services (Janitorial Service, US Coast Guard, Air Station Atlantic City, William J. Hughes Federal Aviation Administration Technical Center, Atlantic City International Airport, FAA Technical Center, Building 350, Egg Harbor Township, NJ.; Fedcap Rehabilitation Services, Inc., New York, NY., Contracting Activity: Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Coast Guard, Base Portsmouth, Portsmouth, Va; Healthcare Housekeeping and Related Service, U.S. Army Medical Command, Madigan Army Medical Center and affiliated Medical Treatment Facilities, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA, 2199 Storage Street, Suite 68, Fort Sam Houston, TX.), and delete a product (Strap, Webbing) from the Procurement List. Comments on the proposed additions and deletions are due Mary 26, 2014.