



Weekly Report for July 18, 2014

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS

DoD, GSA, and NASA Issue a Proposed Rule to Amend FAR Review and Justification of Pass-Through Contracts

Department of Defense (DoD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) issued a proposed rule to amend the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) to implement section 802 of the National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2013, [79 Fed. Reg. 39361](#). This section provides additional requirements relative to the review and justification of Pass-Through contracts. Comments on the proposed rule are due September 9, 2014 to be considered in the formation of the final rule.

DoD Issues Proposed Rule to Amend DFARS Business Systems Compliance (DFARS Case 2012-D042)

The Department of Defense (DoD) issued a proposed rule to amend the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to ensure appropriate contractor accountability for adequate contractor business systems, [79 Fed. Reg. 41172](#). Comments are due September 15, 2014 to be considered in the formation of a final rule.

OFPP Issues FY 2014 3rd Quarter Contractor Past Performance Assessment Reporting

The Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) issued the contractor past performance assessment reporting for FY 2014 third quarter. The report identifies the Past Performance Information Retrieval System's (PPIRS) compliance metrics as of July 7, 2014, and compares the FY14 second quarter data of 83.19% against the third quarter data of 80.33%. The overall decrease in the Department of Defense's (DoD) compliance can be attributed to the implementation of the Contract Performance Assessment Reporting System (CPARS) merge of the Construction Contractor Appraisal Support System and the Architect-Engineer Contract Administration Support System now being included in CPARS, effective on July 1, 2014; [OFPP 3rd Quarter FY 2014 Contractor Past Performance Assessment Reporting](#).

SMALL BUSINESS

OMB Issues Memorandum Entitled "Providing Prompt Payment to Small Business Contractors"

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued Memorandum M-12-16, "Providing Prompt Payment to Small Business Subcontractors," which established the Executive Branch policy that agencies should, to the full extent permitted by law, temporarily accelerate payments to all prime contractors with a goal of paying them within 15 days of receipt of proper invoices in order to allow them to provide prompt payments to small business subcontractors, [M-14-10](#). To support the policy, the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council (FAR Council) created a new clause for agencies to incorporate into their contracts requiring prime contractors to accelerate payments to their small business subcontractors when they receive accelerated payments from the government. The temporary policy established by Memorandum M-12-16, which was extended by Memorandum M-13-15, is set to expire on July 11, 2014. This memorandum further extends the temporary policy to December 31, 2016.

SBA Issues Notice of FY 2014 3rd Quarter Interest Rate

The Small Business Administration (SBA) issued a notice to publish the optional "peg" rate (13 CFR 120.214), the interest rate released on a quarterly basis. This rate is a weighted average cost of money to the government for maturities similar to the average SBA direct loan. This rate may be used as a base rate for guaranteed fluctuating interest rate SBA loans. This rate will be three (3.00) percent for the July-September quarter of FY 2014; [79 Fed. Reg. 38641](#).

Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled

The Following Notice Was Issued:

[79 Fed. Reg. 40067](#), July 11, 2014, is adding products (Tape, Masking & Packaging, General Purpose; Magnetic Porcelain Surface, Mahogany Finish, Top-Bottom-Side Rails, 36" x 24"; Magnetic Porcelain Surface, Oak Finish, 24" x 18"; Magnetic Porcelain Surface, Oak Finish, 60" x 36"; Magnetic Porcelain Surface, Mahogany Finish, 36" x 24"; Magnetic Porcelain Surface, Mahogany Finish, 48" x 36"; Magnetic Porcelain Surface, Mahogany Finish, 72" x 48"; Melamine Surface, Oak Finish, 36" x 24"; Melamine Surface, Oak Finish, 48" x 36"; Magnetic Porcelain Surface, Mahogany Finish, Top-Bottom-Side, 48" x 36"; Magnetic Porcelain Surface, Mahogany Finish, Top-Bottom-Side Rails, 72" x 48"; Magnetic Porcelain Surface, Oak Finish, 36" x 24"; Magnetic Porcelain Surface, Oak Finish, 48" x 36"; Magnetic Porcelain Surface, Oak Finish, 72" x 48"; Turner, Flexible, Thin, 11.5" X 12" X 4"; Squeezer, Citrus, Aluminum; Peeler, Corn; Pitter, Cherry and Olive; Drinking Straws, Flexible, Clear, 180ct; Funnel, Collapsible; Baster, Bottletop; Pouf Balls, Bath, Toddler; Set, Cookie Cutter, Assorted, 3PC; Calcium, Lime, and Rust Remover, 5 GL) and deleting a product (Ergo Aluminum Broom Handle & Mophead) from the Procurement List. The additions and deletion will be effective August 11, 2014.