

606.501 Requirement.

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(b) * * *

A/LM/AQM's competition advocate is also designated the contracting activity competition advocate for the Regional Procurement Support Offices. * * *

20. Section 606.501-70 is amended by removing the word "Administrative" and inserting the word "Management" in its place.

PART 609—CONTRACTOR QUALIFICATIONS

21. A new section 609.404-70 is added to read as follows:

609.404-70 Specially Designated Nationals List.

Contracting officers shall not award to any of the entities listed on the Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) List, available on the Department of Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control Web site at <http://www.treas.gov/ofac/>. Contracting officers shall consult this list prior to award for any dollar amount. This list may also be accessed through the EPLS Web site at <http://epls.arnet.gov>.

22. Section 609.405 is amended—

(a) By removing paragraphs (d) and (d)(1)(i);

(b) By adding a new paragraph (d)(3) to read as indicated below; and, (c) By removing paragraphs (d)(4)(i) and (d)(4)(ii).

609.405 Effect of listing.

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(d)(3) The Procurement Executive is the agency head's designee for the purposes of FAR 9.405(d)(3).

23. Section 609.406-3 is amended by revising the last two sentences of paragraph (a)(1) to read as follows:

609.406-3 Procedures.

(a)(1) * * * The Office of the Inspector General shall investigate the matter, as appropriate, and provide a copy of its investigation report to the Procurement Executive for consideration of debarment action, if and when appropriate. The contracting officer shall provide to the Procurement Executive and the Office of the Inspector General a copy of his or her intended actions in response to the Office of the Inspector General report.

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PART 611—DESCRIBING AGENCY NEEDS

24. A new Subpart 611.6 is added to read as follows:

Subpart 611.6—Priorities and Allocations Sec.

611.600 Scope of subpart.

611.602 General.

611.603 Procedures.

Subpart 611.6—Priorities and Allocations**611.600 Scope of subpart.**

On September 18, 2001, the Department of Commerce (DOC) authorized the Department of State to use the Defense Priorities and Allocations System (DPAS). This authority expires on October 1, 2006. The Department of Defense has approved the Department's Embassy Security Protection Program (DOSESPP) as a national defense program eligible for the priorities support under the DPAS.

611.602 General.

(c)(1) Authority to use the DPAS is limited to the following circumstances:

(i) The contract or order must be placed with a U.S. firm; and, (ii) The contract or order must be in support of the DOSESPP, which consists of work involving the security of overseas posts. The DOSESPP includes a wide range of elements of both physical and technical security, such as:

(A) New Embassy/Consulate Compound (NEC/NCC) Program. This program involves the construction of new secure Embassies, Consulates, and related facilities, as well as renovations of newly acquired buildings when used as alternatives to the construction of new secure buildings.

(B) Physical security upgrade. This includes installation of forced entry/ballistic resistant (FE/BR) windows and doors, walls/fences, active anti-ram barriers, bollards (concrete and steel barriers), and related items.

(C) Forced entry/ballistic resistant (FE/BR) components. This includes doors, windows, and related facilities and items that can provide the necessary time to protect Government personnel from attack.

(D) Armored vehicles. This includes passenger vehicles with appropriate armoring.

(E) Entry control and building surveillance equipment. This includes walk-through metal detectors, X-ray equipment, surveillance cameras, explosive detection equipment, and other features to enhance the protection of Government personnel and facilities.

(2) DOC has assigned the following priority rating to DOSESPP contracts or orders: DO-H8.

611.603 Procedures.

(f) Department of State contracting officers are authorized to sign DO-H8 rated contracts or orders. It is the

responsibility of the requirements office to determine which contracts or orders should be rated. All contracts with U.S. firms under the DOSESPP will not necessarily need to be assigned a priority rating.

(g) The contracting officer should place a DO-H8 rating on any contract or order if there is any doubt as to whether a contractor doing work for Embassy security protection will be able to deliver on time. If an unrated contract or order is not completed on time, the contracting officer may modify the contract or order to add the rating; however, the rating shall only be effective for the newly established delivery date, not the original delivery date.

(1) DOC can provide special assistance to implement the DPAS program in specific cases. For example, the Department may request a higher priority rating, or request that DOC issue a written directive to a contractor that is not complying with the DPAS regulations. In addition, although the DPAS program normally applies only to U.S. firms, if the Department has a prime contract with a foreign firm that will be awarding subcontracts with U.S. firms, the Department may request from DOC authorization to place a rating on the prime contract.

(2) Contracting officers or requirements offices who wish to request special assistance from DOC must complete DOC Form BXA-999, *Request for Special Priorities Assistance*, and submit it to A/OPE, which will arrange for submission of the request to DOC.

PART 612—ACQUISITION OF COMMERCIAL ITEMS

25. A new Part 612, consisting of Subpart 612.3 and section 612.302, is added to subchapter B as follows:

PART 612—ACQUISITION OF COMMERCIAL ITEMS**Subpart 612.3—Solicitation Provisions and Contract Clauses for the Acquisition of Commercial Items****612.302 Tailoring of provisions and clauses for the acquisition of commercial items.**

(c) The head of the contracting activity shall approve any request for a waiver to tailor a clause or otherwise include any additional terms or conditions in a solicitation or contract in a manner that is inconsistent with customary commercial practice.