

Authority: 41 U.S.C. 421 and 48 CFR Chapter 1.

PART 212—ACQUISITION OF COMMERCIAL ITEMS

212.504 [Amended]

2. Section 212.504 is amended by removing paragraphs (a)(xxiii) and (a)(xxiv) and redesignating paragraph (a)(xxv) as paragraph (a)(xxiii).

[FR Doc. 04–3706 Filed 2–20–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001–08–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

48 CFR Part 214

[DFARS Case 2003–D076]

Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Sealed Bidding

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Proposed rule with request for comments.

SUMMARY: DoD is proposing to amend the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to update text pertaining to sealed bidding. This proposed rule is a result of a transformation initiative undertaken by DoD to dramatically change the purpose and content of the DFARS.

DATES: Comments on the proposed rule should be submitted in writing to the address shown below on or before April 23, 2004, to be considered in the formation of the final rule.

ADDRESSES: Respondents may submit comments via the Internet at <http://emissary.acq.osd.mil/dar/dfars.nsf/pubcomm>. As an alternative, respondents may e-mail comments to: dfars@osd.mil. Please cite DFARS Case 2003–D076 in the subject line of e-mailed comments.

Respondents that cannot submit comments using either of the above methods may submit comments to: Defense Acquisition Regulations Council, Attn: Ms. Teresa Brooks, OUSD(AT&L)DPAP(DAR), IMD 3C132, 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301–3062; facsimile (703) 602–0350. Please cite DFARS Case 2003–D076.

At the end of the comment period, interested parties may view public comments on the Internet at <http://emissary.acq.osd.mil/dar/dfars.nsf>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Teresa Brooks, (703) 602–0326.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

DFARS Transformation is a major DoD initiative to dramatically change

the purpose and content of the DFARS. The objective is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the acquisition process, while allowing the acquisition workforce the flexibility to innovate. The transformed DFARS will contain only requirements of law, DoD-wide policies, delegations of FAR authorities, deviations from FAR requirements, and policies/procedures that have a significant effect beyond the internal operating procedures of DoD or a significant cost or administrative impact on contractors or offerors. Additional information on the DFARS Transformation initiative is available at <http://www.acq.osd.mil/dp/dars/transf.htm>.

This proposed rule is a result of the DFARS Transformation initiative. The proposed changes include—

- Deletion of unnecessary text at DFARS 214.201–1, 214.407–3(h), and 214.5.
- Redesignation of DFARS 214.202–5(d) as 214.202–5(c) for consistency with the corresponding FAR text.
- Addition of the Defense Contract Management Agency General Counsel to the list of agency officials authorized to permit correction of mistakes in bid before award.

This rule was not subject to Office of Management and Budget review under Executive Order 12866, dated September 30, 1993.

B. Regulatory Flexibility Act

DoD does not expect this rule to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601, *et seq.*, because the DFARS changes are limited to deletion of unnecessary text and administrative updates. Therefore, DoD has not performed an initial regulatory flexibility analysis. DoD invites comments from small businesses and other interested parties. DoD also will consider comments from small entities concerning the affected DFARS subparts in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 610. Such comments should be submitted separately and should cite DFARS Case 2003–D076.

C. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act does not apply because the rule does not impose any information collection requirements that require the approval of the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Part 214

Government procurement.

Michele P. Peterson,

Executive Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council.

Therefore, DoD proposes to amend 48 CFR Part 214 as follows:

1. The authority citation for 48 CFR Part 214 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 41 U.S.C. 421 and 48 CFR Chapter 1.

PART 214—SEALED BIDDING

214.201–1 [Removed]

2. Section 214.201–1 is removed.

214.202–5 [Amended]

3. Section 214.202–5 is amended by redesignating paragraph (d) as paragraph (c).

4. Section 214.407–3 is amended as follows:

- a. By adding paragraph (e)(ix); and
- b. By removing paragraph (h). The added text reads as follows:

214.407–3 Other mistakes disclosed before award.

(e) * * *

(ix) Defense Contract Management Agency: General Counsel, DCMA.

Subpart 214.5—[Removed]

5. Subpart 214.5 is removed.

[FR Doc. 04–3697 Filed 2–20–04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

48 CFR Part 224

[DFARS Case 2003–D038]

Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Protection of Privacy and Freedom of Information

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Proposed rule with request for comments.

SUMMARY: DoD is proposing to amend the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to delete text pertaining to the applicability of the Freedom of Information Act. This proposed rule is a result of a transformation initiative undertaken by DoD to dramatically change the purpose and content of the DFARS.

DATES: Comments on the proposed rule should be submitted in writing to the address shown below on or before April 23, 2004, to be considered in the formation of the final rule.

ADDRESSES: Respondents may submit comments via the Internet at <http://emissary.acq.osd.mil/dar/dfars.nsf/pubcomm>. As an alternative, respondents may e-mail comments to: dfars@osd.mil. Please cite DFARS Case 2003–D038 in the subject line of e-mailed comments.

Respondents that cannot submit comments using either of the above methods may submit comments to: Defense Acquisition Regulations Council, Attn: Mr. Euclides Barrera, OUSD(AT&L)DPAP(DAR), IMD 3C132, 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301–3062; facsimile (703) 602–0350. Please cite DFARS Case 2003–D038.

At the end of the comment period, interested parties may view public comments on the Internet at <http://emissary.acq.osd.mil/dar/dfars.nsf>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Euclides Barrera, (703) 602–0296.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

DFARS Transformation is a major DoD initiative to dramatically change the purpose and content of the DFARS. The objective is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the acquisition process, while allowing the acquisition workforce the flexibility to innovate. The transformed DFARS will contain only requirements of law, DoD-wide policies, delegations of FAR authorities, deviations from FAR requirements, and policies/procedures that have a significant effect beyond the internal operating procedures of DoD or a significant cost or administrative impact on contractors or offerors. Additional information on the DFARS Transformation initiative is available at <http://www.acq.osd.mil/dp/dars/transf.htm>.

This proposed rule is a result of the DFARS Transformation initiative. The rule deletes DFARS 224.102, which specifies that the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) does not apply to certain contractor records. DoD considers the DFARS text to be unnecessary, because this issue is adequately addressed in DoD 5400.11–R, Department of Defense Privacy Program, which is referenced in DFARS 224.103.

This rule was not subject to Office of Management and Budget review under Executive Order 12866, dated September 30, 1993.

B. Regulatory Flexibility Act

DoD does not expect this rule to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory

Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601, *et seq.*, because deletion of the DFARS text does not represent a change in DoD policy. Therefore, DoD has not performed an initial regulatory flexibility analysis. DoD invites comments from small businesses and other interested parties. DoD also will consider comments from small entities concerning the affected DFARS subpart in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 610. Such comments should be submitted separately and should cite DFARS Case 2003–D038.

C. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act does not apply because the rule does not impose any information collection requirements that require the approval of the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Part 224

Government procurement.

Michele P. Peterson,

Executive Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council.

Therefore, DoD proposes to amend 48 CFR Part 224 as follows:

1. The authority citation for 48 CFR Part 224 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 41 U.S.C. 421 and 48 CFR Chapter 1.

PART 224—PROTECTION OF PRIVACY AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

224.102 [Removed]

2. Section 224.102 is removed.

[FR Doc. 04–3693 Filed 2–20–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001–08–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

48 CFR Part 228

[DFARS Case 2003–D037]

Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Insurance

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Proposed rule with request for comments.

SUMMARY: DoD is proposing to amend the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to update text pertaining to insurance requirements. This proposed rule is a result of a transformation initiative undertaken by DoD to dramatically change the purpose and content of the DFARS.

DATES: Comments on the proposed rule should be submitted in writing to the address shown below on or before April 23, 2004, to be considered in the formation of the final rule.

ADDRESSES: Respondents may submit comments via the Internet at <http://emissary.acq.osd.mil/dar/dfars.nsf/pubcomm>. As an alternative, respondents may e-mail comments to: dfars@osd.mil. Please cite DFARS Case 2003–D037 in the subject line of e-mailed comments.

Respondents that cannot submit comments using either of the above methods may submit comments to: Defense Acquisition Regulations Council, Attn: Mr. Thaddeus Godlewski, OUSD (AT&L) DPAP (DAR), IMD 3C132, 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301–3062; facsimile (703) 602–0350. Please cite DFARS Case 2003–D037.

At the end of the comment period, interested parties may view public comments on the Internet at <http://emissary.acq.osd.mil/dar/dfars.nsf>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Thaddeus Godlewski, (703) 602–2202.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

DFARS Transformation is a major DoD initiative to dramatically change the purpose and content of the DFARS. The objective is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the acquisition process, while allowing the acquisition workforce the flexibility to innovate. The transformed DFARS will contain only requirements of law, DoD-wide policies, delegations of FAR authorities, deviations from FAR requirements, and policies/procedures that have a significant effect beyond the internal operating procedures of DoD or a significant cost or administrative impact on contractors or offerors. Additional information on the DFARS Transformation initiative is available at <http://www.acq.osd.mil/dp/dars/transf.htm>.

This proposed rule is a result of the DFARS Transformation initiative. The proposed changes delete DFARS text in the areas addressed below. This text will be relocated to the new DFARS companion resource, Procedures, Guidance, and Information (PGI). A proposed rule describing the purpose and structure of PGI is published elsewhere in this issue of the **Federal Register** under DFARS Case 2003–D090, Procedures, Guidance, and Information.

• **DFARS 228.304, Risk-pooling arrangements.** In the early 1950's, DoD teamed with the insurance industry to develop a program that would minimize the cost of workers' compensation and contractor liability charged to Government contracts. The objective was to provide an optional insurance plan to be used if it provided a better deal than what could be purchased on