



CONTRACT LAW DIVISION

Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Finance & Litigation



Biweekly Report - Period Ending February 3, 1996

Procurement & Information Technology Reforms

Major procurement and information technology reform legislation has cleared Congress as part of S. 1124, the modified Defense Authorization Act which had previously been vetoed by the President for other reasons. The House took final action on S. 1124 on January 30, 1996 and sent the bill to the President, who has indicated that he will sign this version. The reform provisions repeal the Brooks Act thus eliminating the jurisdiction of the GSBCA to decide information technology bid protests. The provisions also make many other changes in existing procurement law, primarily in the procurement of commercial items and the acquisition of information technology. The legislation repeals the current procurement integrity provisions and replaces them with simpler provisions, including the elimination of certification requirements. We will prepare Lawyer's View articles describing these changes for our clients before the effective date of the provisions, which for many items is 180 days after enactment.

Systems Development & Maintenance Procurement

The Request for Proposal for PTO's SDM procurement has finally been released. As its name implies, this \$500

million procurement is for the final integration and automation of all of PTO's sub-systems. Award is scheduled for the Spring of 1997. Lisa Obayashi is advising.

IPACS RFP

We have completed our review of this sole-source acquisition which will enable NESDIS to command the NPOESS system consisting of the combined NOAA Tiro and Defense Mapping polar orbiting satellites. Mark Langstein is advising.

Data Capture System (2000) Acquisition Review Team

We attended the third Acquisition Review Team meeting. Preliminary steps in the procurement are continuing, but the future of this acquisition is now in question due to the possibility that all ADP aspects of the 2000 Decennial Census will be incorporated into a single procurement. Fred Kopatich is advising.

Plane Crash

Cecilia Jones is looking into the contract ramifications of a recent mishap during the performance of a NOAA aircraft maintenance contract. The contractor apparently lost control of the NOAA aircraft and ran the plane into a building near the airport runway.

BPR

The BPR team for Commerce's acquisition process has entered its Implementation Phase. Last week, team members, including Lisa Obayashi, accompanied the Department's Procurement Executive to an FAA briefing to explain Commerce's new re-engineered process which the Department hopes to implement.

POLAR Satellite System

Roxie Jones joined SAO and NASA at the latest detailed briefing of Lockheed Martin's plans to transition ongoing POLAR satellite work to a west coast facility. L-M's merger and the related restructuring costs are intended to reduce overall Government contract costs.

McKenna and Shea Join CLD Staff

We welcome Alice McKenna and Catherine Shea to the Contract Law Division. Alice, a member OGC/Admin is on detail to fill in for Ken Lechter. Catherine, recently an attorney with NOAA/OGC has transferred to Commerce to fill Lynn Patton's slot. Both Alice and Catherine are working on the new reform legislation discussed in the lead paragraph.

Actions Completed/Received during Period

	From 1/21/96	To 2/3/96
	Received	Completed
CENSUS	1	1
NIST	5	5
NOAA	8	8
O/S	0	1
PTO	1	3
Total	15	18

Contract Law Division—Client Workload Period Ending 02/03/96

