

## NOAA Acquisition and Grants Office Policy

### Fiscal Year 2018 Year-End Cut-Off Dates and Late Acquisition and Grant Requests

On September 22nd, the Director of the NOAA Acquisition and Grants Office (AGO) issued [Fiscal Year 2018 Year End Cut-Off Dates and Late Acquisition and Grant Requests Memorandum](#). All FY18 contract actions must be obligated and submitted for recordation no later than close of business (COB) September 21st, 2018. All FY18 financial assistance awards, including grants and cooperative agreements, must be obligated no later than COB Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The cutoff dates are identified on the [AGO homepage](#).

### Proper Roles of Services Contractor

On September 7<sup>th</sup>, the Director of the NOAA AGO issued [Acquisition Alert \(AA\) 17-03, Proper Roles of the Services Contractor](#). The AA established NOAA specific acquisition policy in regards to service contractors receiving awards and recognition, participating in team and morale-building events or social gatherings, participating on NOAA councils, and accessing NOAA facilities. The AA also issued a Standard Operating Procedure that identifies Federal, Department of Commerce (DOC), and NOAA policies for Government and service contractor interactions.

### Field Delegate Program

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, the Director of NOAA AGO issued [Acquisition Instruction \(AI\) 17-03, Field Delegate Program](#). This AI established NOAA AGO policy and procedures for the Field Delegate Program. The AI replaced AGO-POL-08-006, dated July 10, 2008, and its interim Revision No. 1 dated March 18, 2010, located at NAM 1330-1.670.

## Department of Commerce (DOC) Office of Acquisition Management Policy

### Delegation of Contracting Authority Policy Update

On September 13th (effective October 2017), DOC updated [Commerce Acquisition Manual \(CAM\) 1301.7-Delegation of Contracting Authority](#). The revisions to the CAM chapter: (1) added First Net as a contracting office and (2) identified actions that require notification to the Senior Procurement Executive (SPE). The updated CAM chapter incorporated and canceled Procurement Memorandum (PM) 2010-10 Protests, Lawsuits, and Appeals Notification, and PM 2011-05, Contract Actions Requiring SPE Review and Approval Prior to Execution.

### Acquisition Planning Policy Update

On September 13th, DOC updated [CAM 1307.1-Acquisition Planning](#). The revisions to the CAM chapter: incorporated the consolidation and bundling requirements in the acquisition planning process and other policy-related updates.

### Small Business Programs Policy Update

On September 26th, DOC issued a new policy under [CAM 1319.70-DOC Small Business Programs](#). This CAM chapter established policy and guidance to maximize acquisition opportunities to small business concerns. As a result, PM 2003-04, Guidance on Contract Bundling and Revised CD-570; PM 2013-04, Rescission of PM 2013-03 and Issuance of Revised 8(a) Partnership Agreement between SBA and DOC; and PM 2017-01, Fiscal Year 2017 Small Business and Socio-Economic Goals, were cancelled.

### Class Deviation to Implement an Act to Enhance Whistleblower Protection for Contractor Employees

On September 13<sup>th</sup>, PM 2017-05, [Class Deviation to the Federal Acquisition Regulation \(FAR\) to Implement an Act to Enhance Whistleblower Protection for Contractor Employees](#), was issued to implement 41 U.S.C. 4712 to make the 4-year pilot program permanent and to clarify the use of certain Whistleblower Protection clauses under FAR 3.908.

### Class Deviation from the FAR to Remove the Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces

On August 10<sup>th</sup>, PM 2017-04, [Class Deviation from the Federal Acquisition Regulation \(FAR\) to Remove the Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces Final Rule](#), was issued to comply with Pub L. 115-11 by removing FAR sections, clauses, and provisions addressing paycheck transparency requirements.

### Class Deviation from the FAR to Delay Transition to new Procurement Instrument Identifiers (PIID)

On September 28<sup>th</sup>, PM 2017-06, [Class Deviation from the FAR to Delay Transition to new Procurement Instrument Identifiers \(PIID\)](#), was issued in order to allow the Department to continue to utilize the existing PIID structure beyond the October 1, 2017, transition date. Contracting Officers shall use the deviation to the FAR.