(c) Either upon motion by a party or on its own initiative, the Office of Dispute Resolution for Acquisition may, at any time, exercise its discretion to:

(1) Recommend to the Administrator dismissal or the issuance of a summary decision with respect to the entire protest;

(2) Dismiss the entire protest or issue a summary decision with respect to the entire protest, if delegated that authority by the Administrator; or

(3) Dismiss or issue a summary decision with respect to any count or portion of a protest.

(d) A dismissal or summary decision regarding the entire protest by either the Administrator, or the Office of Dispute Resolution for Acquisition by delegation, shall be construed as a final agency order. A dismissal or summary decision that does not resolve all counts or portions of a protest shall not constitute a final agency order, unless and until such dismissal or decision is incorporated or otherwise adopted in a decision by the Administrator (or the Office of Dispute Resolution for Acquisition, by delegation) regarding the entire protest.

(e) Prior to recommending or entering either a dismissal or a summary decision, either in whole or in part, the Office of Dispute Resolution for Acquisition shall afford all parties against whom the dismissal or summary decision is to be entered the opportunity to respond to the proposed dismissal or summary decision.

§ 17.21 Protest remedies.

(a) The Office of Dispute Resolution for Acquisition has broad discretion to recommend remedies for a successful protest that are consistent with the AMS and applicable statutes. Such remedies may include, but are not limited to one or more, or a combination of, the following—

(1) Amend the SIR;

(2) Refrain from exercising options under the contract;

(3) Issue a new SIR;

(4) Require recompetition;

(5) Terminate an existing contract for the FAA's convenience;

(6) Direct an award to the protester;

(7) Award bid and proposal costs; or

(8) Any combination of the above remedies, or any other action consistent with the AMS that is appropriate under the circumstances.

(b) In determining the appropriate recommendation, the Office of Dispute Resolution for Acquisition should consider the circumstances surrounding the procurement or proposed procurement including, but not limited to: the nature of the procurement deficiency; the degree of prejudice to other parties or to the integrity of the acquisition system; the good faith of the parties; the extent of performance completed; the cost of any proposed remedy to the FAA; the urgency of the procurement; and the impact of the recommendation on the FAA.

(c) Attorney's fees of a prevailing protester are allowable to the extent permitted by the Equal Access to Justice Act, 5 U.S.C. 504(a)(1)(EAJA).

Subpart C—Contract Disputes

§ 17.23 Dispute resolution process for contract disputes.

(a) All contract disputes arising under contracts subject to the AMS shall be resolved under this subpart.

(b) Contractors shall file contract disputes with the Office of Dispute Resolution for Acquisition and the CO pursuant to § 17.25.

(c) After filing the contract dispute, the contractor should seek informal resolution with the CO:

(1) The CO, with the advice of FAA legal counsel, has full discretion to settle contract disputes, except where the matter involves fraud;

(2) The parties shall have up to twenty (20) business days within which to resolve the dispute informally, and may contact the Office of Dispute Resolution for Acquisition for assistance in facilitating such a resolution; and

(3) If no informal resolution is achieved during the twenty (20) business day period, the parties shall file joint or separate statements with the Office of Dispute Resolution for Acquisition pursuant to § 17.27.

(d) If informal resolution of the contract dispute appears probable, the Office of Dispute Resolution for Acquisition shall extend the time for the filing of the joint statement under § 17.27 for

up to an additional twenty (20) business days, upon joint request of the CO and contractor.

(e) The Office of Dispute Resolution for Acquisition shall hold a status conference with the parties within ten (10) business days after receipt of the joint statement required by § 17.27, or as soon thereafter as is practicable, in order to establish the procedures to be utilized to resolve the contract dispute.

(f) The Office of Dispute Resolution for Acquisition has broad discretion to recommend remedies for a successful contract dispute, that are consistent with the AMS and applicable law.

§ 17.25 Filing a contract dispute.

(a) Contract disputes are to be in writing and shall contain:

(1) The contractor's name, address, telephone and fax numbers and the name, address, telephone and fax numbers of the contractor's legal representative(s) (if any) for the contract dispute;

(2) The contract number and the name of the Contracting Officer;

(3) A detailed chronological statement of the facts and of the legal grounds for the contractor's positions regarding each element or count of the contract dispute (i.e., broken down by individual claim item), citing to relevant contract provisions and documents and attaching copies of those provisions and documents;

(4) All information establishing that the contract dispute was timely filed;

(5) A request for a specific remedy, and if a monetary remedy is requested, a sum certain must be specified and pertinent cost information and documentation (e.g., invoices and cancelled checks) attached, broken down by individual claim item and summarized; and

(6) The signature of a duly authorized representative of the initiating party.

(b) Contract disputes shall be filed by mail, in person, by overnight delivery or by facsimile at the following address:

(1) Office of Dispute Resolution for Acquisition, AGC–70, Federal Aviation Administration, 400 7th Street, SW., Room 8332, Washington, DC 20590, Telephone: (202) 366–6400, Facsimile: (202) 366–7400; or

(2) Other address as shall be published from time to time in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(c) A contract dispute against the FAA shall be filed with the Office of Dispute Resolution for Acquisition within two (2) years of the accrual of the contract claim involved. A contract dispute by the FAA against a contractor (excluding contract disputes alleging warranty issues, fraud or latent defects) likewise shall be filed within two (2) years after the accrual of the contract claim. If an underlying contract entered into prior to the effective date of this part provides for time limitations for filing of contract disputes with The Office of Dispute Resolution for Acquisition which differ from the aforesaid two (2) year period, the limitation periods in the contract shall control over the limitation period of this section. In no event will either party be permitted to file with the Office of Dispute Resolution for Acquisition a contract dispute seeking an equitable adjustment or other damages after the contractor has accepted final contract payment, with the exception of FAA claims related to warranty issues, gross mistakes amounting to fraud or latent defects. FAA claims against the contractor based on warranty issues must be filed within the time specified under applicable contract warranty provisions. Any FAA claims against the contractor based on gross mistakes amounting to fraud or latent defects shall be filed with the Office of Dispute Resolution for Acquisition within two (2) years of the date on which the FAA knew or should have known of the presence of the fraud or latent defect.

(d) A party shall serve a copy of the contract dispute upon the other party, by means reasonably calculated to be received on the same day as the filing is to be received by the Office of Dispute Resolution for Acquisition.

§ 17.27 Submission of joint or separate statements.

(a) If the matter has not been resolved informally, the parties shall file joint or separate statements with the