

Commission policy and procedures for identifying and dealing with conflicts of interest and improper influence or favoritism in connection with contracts involving current or former Commission employees. This subpart does not apply to agreements with other departments or agencies of the Federal Government.

3503.600-71 Definitions.

Commission employee means:

(a) Any officer or employee of the Panama Canal Commission who is employed or appointed, with or without compensation, to serve more than 130 days during any period of 365 consecutive days, or

(b) Any officer or employee of the Commission who is retained, designated, appointed or employed to perform, with or without compensation, temporary duties either on a full-time or intermittent basis for not more than 130 days during any period of 365 consecutive days and who actually served more than 60 days during such 365-day period.

3503.601 Policy.

Except as authorized at 3503.602 or excluded at 3503.670, no contract shall be awarded without competition to a—

(a) Former Commission employee (or to a business concern or other organization owned or substantially owned or controlled by a former Commission employee) whose employment terminated within 365 calendar days before submission of an offer to the Commission; or

(b) Prospective contractor which employs, or proposes to employ, a current Commission employee or a former Commission employee whose employment terminated within 365 calendar days before submission of an offer to the Commission, if either of the following conditions exist:

(1) The current or former Commission employee is or was involved in developing or negotiating the offer for the prospective contractor.

(2) The current or former Commission employee will be involved directly or indirectly in the management, administration, or performance of the contract.

3503.602 Exceptions.

(a) The Director, Office of Executive Administration in his capacity as the Designated Agency Ethics Official may authorize an exception, in writing, to the policy in FAR 3.601 and 3503.601 for the reasons stated in FAR 3.602, if the exception would not involve a violation of 18 U.S.C. 203, 18 U.S.C. 205, 18 U.S.C. 207, 18 U.S.C. 208, section 27 of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act, or Commission regulations in the "Employee Code of Conduct". The Director, Office of Executive Administration shall consult with the cognizant Bureau or Staff Director who originated the request and with the General Counsel before authorizing any exceptions.

(b) This subpart does not apply to subcontracts, that is, agreements to undertake part of the work as an independent contractor. However, where subcontracts essentially create an "employer-employee" relationship between the Commission and the subcontractors, the subpart shall apply. In determining whether such a relationship exists, the contracting officer shall generally be guided by the standards of Chapter 304, Subchapter 1-4 of the "Federal Personnel Manual" in distinguishing between employees and independent contractors.

3503.603 Responsibilities of the contracting officer.

Before awarding a contract, the contracting officer shall obtain an authorization under 3503.602 for any of the reasons stated in FAR 3.603.

3503.670 Exclusions.

Former or current Commission employees who participated personally and substantially in the conduct of any Commission procurement of supplies or services, including those who were responsible for reviewing and approving the award, modification, or extension of any contract for such procurement, are excluded from the 365 calendar day "before submission of an offer" time period specified in 3503.601 (a) and (b). Instead, the time period for such employees shall be two years after the last date the employee participated personally and substantially in the