

**Subpart A—General Provisions****§ 1450.1 Definitions.**

(a) The term *agency* means the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS) or any other agency of the U.S. Government as stated at §1450.20.

(b) The term *agency head* means the Director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

(c) The terms *appropriate agency official* or *designee* mean the Director of the Financial Management Staff of FMCS, or such other official as may be named in the future by the Director of FMCS.

(d) The terms *claim* and *debt* are deemed synonymous and interchangeable. They refer to an amount of money or property which has been determined by an appropriate agency official to be owed to the United States from any person, organization or entity, except another Federal agency.

(e) A debt is considered *delinquent* if it has not been paid by the date specified in the agency's written notification or applicable contractual agreement, unless other satisfactory payment arrangements have been made by that date, or if at any time thereafter the debtor fails to satisfy obligations under a payment agreement with the agency.

(f) The term *referral for litigation* means referral to the Department of justice for appropriate legal proceedings.

**§ 1450.2 Exceptions.**

(a) Claims arising from the audit of transportation accounts pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3726 shall be determined, collected, compromised, terminated or settled in accordance with regulations published under the authority of 31 U.S.C. 3726 (see 41 CFR part 101-41).

(b) Claims arising out of acquisition contracts subject to the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) shall be determined, collected, compromised, terminated, or settled in accordance with those regulations. (See 48 CFR part 32). If not otherwise provided for in the FAR system, contract claims that have been the subject of a contracting officer's final decision in accordance with section 6(a) of the Contract Disputes Act of 1978 (41 U.S.C. 605(a)), may be

determined, collected, compromised, terminated or settled under the provisions of this regulation, except that no additional review of the debt shall be granted beyond that provided by the contracting officer in accordance with the provisions of section 6 of the Contract Disputes Act of 1978 (41 U.S.C. 605), and the amount of any interest, administrative charge, or penalty charge shall be subject to the limitations, if any, contained in the contract out of which the claim arose.

(c) Claims based in whole or in part on conduct in violation of the antitrust laws, or in regard to which there is an indication of fraud, presentation of a false claim, or misrepresentation on the part of the debtor or any other party having an interest in the claim, shall be referred to the Department of Justice (DOJ) as only the DOJ has authority to compromise, suspend, or terminate collection action on such claims.

(d) Tax claims are also excluded from the coverage of this regulation.

**§ 1450.3 Use of procedures.**

Procedures authorized by this regulation (including, but not limited to, disclosure to a consumer reporting agency, contracting for collection services, administrative offset and salary offset) may be used singly or in combination, so long as the requirements of applicable law and regulation are satisfied.

**§ 1450.4 Conformance to law and regulations.**

The requirements of applicable law (31 U.S.C 3701-3719 and 5 U.S.C. 5514 as amended by Pub. L. 97-365, 96 Stat. 1749) have been implemented in Governmentwide standards:

(a) The Regulations of the Office of Personnel Management (5 CFR part 550),

(b) The Federal Claims Collection Standards issued jointly by the General Accounting Office and the Department of Justice (4 CFR parts 101-105), and

(c) The procedures prescribed by the Office of Management and Budget in Circular A-129 of May 9, 1985.