

## Department of Veterans Affairs

837.7001

obtain peer review of research proposals.

[64 FR 69221, Dec. 16, 1998]

### **837.270 Special controls for letters of agreement.**

(a) Letters of agreement may be used to procure advisory and assistance services and advisory board memberships only by those individuals designated in 801.670-5 and individuals delegated authority under the conditions specified in paragraph (b) of that section, and will be limited to a value of \$500 per letter and to an accumulated annual total of \$2,500 to any individual or firm. Letters of agreement should only be used where normal procurement channels are not feasible and only for obtaining the following services:

(1) Advisory and assistance services including peer review of research proposals and advisory board memberships.

(2) Management and professional services (837.271)

(3) Instructors and training obtained pursuant to section 7472 of Title 38, United States Code.

(b) The delegated official will perform or have performed for each letter of agreement all those duties and requirements prescribed in this subpart, as modified by paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section. That official will also insure that all reporting requirements are completed for each action.

(c) The administration head or staff office director will be the highest level approving official for each procurement action which does not exceed \$500 in consulting fees (excluding travel, per diem and other travel-related costs) and which does not award more than an accumulated total of \$2,500 per year in consulting fees to any individual or firm. (Advisory and assistance services anticipated to exceed these dollar limitations will not be obtained through letters of agreement.)

(d) Justifications for letters of agreement will provide a statement of need and will certify that such services do not unnecessarily duplicate any previously performed work or services. The justification will also certify that the procurement action will not violate post-employment restrictions pre-

scribed in the Ethics in Government Act and 803.101-3.

(e) Copies of all advisory and assistance services procurements accomplished through letters of agreement shall be provided to the local servicing purchase and contract office for entry into the Federal Procurement Data System.

[49 FR 12620, Mar. 29, 1984, as amended at 50 FR 794, Jan. 7, 1985; 54 FR 40065, Sept. 29, 1989; 64 FR 69221, Dec. 16, 1998]

## **Subpart 837.3—Dismantling, Demolition, or Removal of Improvements**

### **837.300 Scope of subpart.**

Contracting officers should be cognizant of the requirements contained in VA Manual MP-3, Part II, Chapter 6, for approval necessary prior to entering into a contract for disposal of VA real property. Such approval(s) shall be included in the contract file.

## **Subpart 837.4—Nonpersonal Health-Care Services**

### **837.403 Contract clause.**

The contracting officer shall insert the clause at 852.237-7, Indemnification and Medical Liability Insurance, in lieu of FAR Clause 52.237-7, in solicitations and contracts for nonpersonal health-care services. The contracting officer may include the clause in bilateral purchase orders for nonpersonal health-care services awarded under the procedures in FAR parts 12, 13, 14, or 15 and (VAAR) 48 CFR parts 812, 813, 814, or 815.

[61 FR 52709, Oct. 8, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 69222, Dec. 16, 1998]

## **Subpart 837.70—Mortuary Services**

### **837.7001 General.**

This subpart establishes the policies and procedures governing the procurement of funeral and burial services for deceased beneficiaries of the Department of Veterans Affairs, as provided in 38 U.S.C. 2303.

[61 FR 52709, Oct. 8, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 69222, Dec. 16, 1998]