

## §41.18

## 38 CFR Ch. I (7-1-03 Edition)

cases of continued inability or unwillingness to have a proper audit, Federal agencies must consider other appropriate sanctions including:

(a) Withholding a percentage of assistance payments until the audit is completed satisfactorily,

(b) Withholding or disallowing overhead costs, and

(c) Suspending the Federal assistance agreement until the audit is made.

(Authority: Pub. L. 98-502)

### §41.18 Auditor selection.

In arranging for audit services State and local governments shall follow the procurement standards prescribed by Attachment O of Circular A-102, "Uniform requirements for grants to State and local governments." The standards provide that while recipients are encouraged to enter into intergovernmental agreements for audit and other services, analysis should be made to determine whether it would be more economical to purchase the services from private firms. In instances where use of such intergovernmental agreements are required by State statutes (e.g., audit services) these statutes will take precedence.

(Authority: Pub. L. 98-502)

### §41.19 Small and minority audit firms.

Small audit firms and audit firms owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals shall have the maximum practicable opportunity to participate in contracts awarded to fulfill the requirements of these regulations. Recipients of Federal assistance shall take the following steps to further this goal:

(a) Assure that small audit firms and audit firms owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals are used to the fullest extent practicable.

(b) Make information on forthcoming opportunities available and arrange timeframes for the audit so as to encourage and facilitate participation by small audit firms and audit firms owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals.

(c) Consider in the contract process whether firms competing for larger audits intend to subcontract with small audit firms and audit firms owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals.

(d) Encourage contracting with small audit firms or audit firms owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals which have traditionally audited government programs and, in such cases where this is not possible, assure that these firms are given consideration for audit subcontracting opportunities.

(e) Encourage contracting with consortiums of small audit firms as described in paragraph (a) of this section when a contract is too large for an individual small audit firm or audit firm owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals.

(f) Use the services and assistance, as appropriate, of such organizations as the Small Business Administration in the solicitation and utilization of small audit firms or audit firms owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals.

(Authority: Pub. L. 98-502)

### §41.20 Reporting.

Each Federal agency will report to the Director of OMB on or before March 1, 1987, and annually thereafter on the effectiveness of State and local governments in carrying out the provisions of these regulations. The report must identify each State or local government or Indian tribe that, in the opinion of the agency, is failing to comply with these regulations.

(Authority: Pub. L. 98-502)

## PART 42—STANDARDS IMPLEMENTING THE PROGRAM FRAUD CIVIL REMEDIES ACT

Sec.

42.1 Basis and purpose.

42.2 Definitions.

42.3 Basis for civil penalties and assessments.

42.4 Investigation.

42.5 Review by the reviewing official.

42.6 Prerequisites for issuing a complaint.

42.7 Complaint.

42.8 Service of complaint.