

## Department of Health and Human Services

## § 30.9

### § 30.4 Other administrative proceedings.

This regulation does not supersede or require omission or duplication of administrative proceedings required under contract, statute, regulation or other agency procedures. Examples: Resolution of audit findings under grants or contracts, Chapter 1-105, Grants Administration Manual (GAM); informal grant appeals, 45 CFR Part 75 (Departmental), 42 CFR 50.401 et seq. (Public Health Service); formal appeals to the Departmental Grant Appeals Board, 45 CFR Part 16; and review under a procurement contract Disputes Clause and the Contract Disputes Act of 1978 (41 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), 48 CFR Part 33.

### § 30.5 Other remedies.

The remedies and sanctions available to the Department under this regulation when collecting debts are not intended to be exclusive. The Secretary may impose other appropriate sanctions upon a debtor for inexcusable, prolonged or repeated failure to pay a debt. For example, the Secretary may stop doing business with a grantee, contractor, borrower or lender; convert the method of payment under a grant from an advance to a reimbursement method; or revoke a grantee's letter-of-credit.

### § 30.6 Property claims.

Any person who converts, or negligently loses or destroys personal property belonging, entrusted or loaned to the Department is liable for the return of the property or payment of its fair market value. A person who damages such property is liable for the cost of repairs or its fair market value, whichever is less. Collection of these debts means the recovery of the property, its fair market value, or the cost of repairs. Demand for payment of these claims means a demand for the return of the property or for payment of its fair market value or the cost of repairs.

### § 30.7 Claims involving criminal activity or misconduct.

(a) A debtor whose indebtedness involves criminal activity is subject to punishment by fine or imprisonment as

well as to a civil claim by the United States for compensation for the misappropriated funds or property. Examples of such activity are fraud, embezzlement and theft or misuse of Government money or property. See 18 U.S.C. 641, 643. The Secretary will refer cases of suspected criminal activity or misconduct to the Office of Inspector General. That office will investigate such cases, refer them to the Department of Justice for criminal prosecution and/or return them to the Secretary for collection, application of administrative sanctions or other disposition.

(b) Debts involving anti-trust violations, fraud, false claims or misrepresentation—

(1) Shall be referred by the Secretary to the Office of Inspector General for review. The Office of Inspector General shall refer the claim back to the Secretary for collection or other disposition to the extent authorized by the Department of Justice.

(2) Shall not be compromised, terminated, suspended or otherwise disposed of by the Secretary under these regulations. Only the Department of Justice is authorized to compromise, terminate, suspend or otherwise dispose of such debts.

### § 30.8 Claims arising from GAO exceptions.

The Secretary may not compromise but will collect, suspend or terminate collection of debts due on account of illegal, improper or incorrect payments shown in General Accounting Office notices of exception issued to certifying or disbursing officers. Only the General Accounting Office has the authority to compromise such debts.

### § 30.9 Subdivision of claims.

Debts may not be subdivided to avoid the monetary ceilings imposed by 31 U.S.C. 3711(a) (2) and (3) on the Secretary's authority to compromise, suspend or terminate collection of debts. A debtor's liability arising from a particular incident or transaction will be considered a single debt in determining whether the claim exceeds \$20,000 for purposes of compromising, suspending or terminating collection efforts.