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OFFICE OF FEDERAL PROCUREMENT POLICY

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE FEDERAL ACQUISITION COUNCIL
SENIOR AGENCY PROCUREMENT EXECUTIVES

FROM: Robert A. Burton
Associate Administrator

SUBJECT: Revised FAR Process

The Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council has established a revised process for developing changes to the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR). While maintaining the benefits of full deliberation and agency coordination provided by the twenty year old former process, the Council expects the revisions to increase responsiveness to requests for FAR changes from both the public and government.

Five newly formed teams replace the twenty-eight standing committees formerly responsible for drafting recommended FAR changes. The teams are composed of representatives from military and civilian agencies. Each team chair is organizationally accountable to one of the agencies that make up the Council. For the first time, representatives from the Office of Federal Procurement Policy are participating as permanent members of the teams in an advisory capacity.

The Civilian Agency Acquisition Council (CAAC) and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council (DAR Council) direct the activities of the teams. When appropriate, the Council will provide upfront policy guidance on significant matters. The CAAC and DARC will review team recommendations concurrently, a change from past practice when reviews were done sequentially.

The new team structure will significantly reduce the resources required to make a FAR change, and at the same time, enhance the efficiency of the FAR rulemaking process.