

March 22, 2006

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM NO. 10

Subject: No cameras or recording devices policy

1. Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to establish the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled policy on cameras and recording devices.

2. No cameras or recording devices policy

a. The Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled has a no camera and recording device policy. No cameras of any kind and no recording device of any kind are permitted in the Office of the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled. Cameras or recording devices are not permitted during Committee meetings.

b. The purpose of this policy is to avoid disruption and maintain decorum, to prevent unauthorized disclosure and release (either by camera or recording) of proprietary and/or official use only information, to respect the privacy of Committee members, employees, contractors, and visitors, and any other sensitivity that the agency or someone may have.

c. The policy applies to all Committee members, staff, other Government employees, contractors, and visitors. This policy is effective immediately. This policy will remain in effect unless the Executive Director makes an exception to the policy on an individual basis. The Committee members or staff may seek an exception for ceremonies, awards, and social events with prior approval by the Executive Director.

d. This policy does not impinge upon the freedom of the press or freedom of free speech because we are prohibiting an action or activity as opposed to an expression of a belief or idea. In D'Amario v. Providence Civic Center Authority, 639 F. Supp 1538, the court held "in this context, a court must readily distinguish between expression and action, for only the former is entitled to first amendment protection under the Freedom of Speech Clause."

Leon A. Wilson, Jr.
Executive Director