



GSA Office of the Chief Acquisition Officer

MAR 4 2005

Thomas M. Sullivan  
Chief Counsel for Advocacy  
U.S. Small Business Administration  
409 Third Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20416

Dear Mr. Sullivan, *Tom*

Administrator Perry has asked me to respond to your letter of February 1, 2005, in which you brought to our attention some contract data anomalies found in the Federal Procurement Data System (FPDS). You discovered that the General Services Administration (GSA) may have inadvertently inflated certain contract costs recorded in FY 2002 by a multiplier of 1,000, as it converted all such recorded amounts to real dollars. Prior to FY 2003, the standard was to report all contract costs in thousands of dollars.

The records you questioned have been corrected. Furthermore, we had previously conducted an extensive review of other GSA contract data to ensure that dollar costs are properly represented in our system. To better ensure proper entry of dollar costs into the system, we also instructed all agencies on how to report data for years prior to FY 2003.

We, too, are concerned about having the most accurate data possible in what is now known as the Federal Procurement Data System – Next Generation (FPDS-NG). If you have more questions about system data, please call our FPDS-NG program manager, Rod Lantier on 202-501-2647.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Emily Murphy".

Emily Murphy  
Chief Acquisition Officer

cc: Stephen Perry, Administrator, General Services Administration  
David Safavian, Administrator, Office of Federal Procurement Policy

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