## RESOLUTION OF DEBT-RELATED ISSUES

(10/28/03)

- I. A credit report account coded 3, 4, 5, 8, or 9 when the amount of the delinquent payment on a single account or cumulative accounts is \$1,000.00 or more, must be resolved prior to receiving approval to work on a DEA contract.
- II. Bankruptcy, unpaid judgments, and referrals for collection that are a matter of public record, and regardless of the amount, must be resolved prior to receiving approval to work on a DEA contract.
- III. Delinquent payments or default on CHILD SUPPORT, ALIMONY, STUDENT LOANS, or FEDERAL, STATE, AND/OR LOCAL TAXES are matters of serious concern and must be resolved, regardless of the unpaid or overdue amounts, prior to receiving approval to work on a DEA contract.
- IV. Accounts coded 2 on a credit report must be resolved when any of the conditions in Paragraphs I, II, or III are on the credit report.
- A. The applicant must provide a written statement that explains the reason(s) for the indebtedness (e.g., why the debt has not been paid in a timely manner) and his/her intentions of paying the debt.
- B. The individual must provide evidence (documentation) from the creditor(s) that a repayment plan has been mutually agreed upon, and/or:
- 1. If the obligation/debt has been repaid in full, a letter or statement from the creditor absolving the debt must be provided.
- 2. If a payment to an account has not been made in the past 60 days, arrangements must be made to satisfy the account in full. A copy of the request and the creditor's response must be provided.
- 3. If currently in the process of satisfying the cited debt, copies of the past three (3) monthly account statements must be provided.
- 4. If the debt has been paid in full or the monthly payments are current, but the credit report indicates an outstanding past due balance, a copy of a letter from the creditor or a copy of the current monthly statement that indicates there is no past due balance must be provided.
- 5. If the applicant claims that a reported debt is not a just debt, documents must be provided that clearly show the debt does not belong to him/her or that the debt is the responsibility of another party; e.g., copy of a divorce or legal separation court document, a letter from the creditor, or other acceptable document that refutes the debt.
- 6. If the applicant is involved in bankruptcy, a copy of the declaration and a copy of the trustee's statement covering the most recent three (3) month period must be provided, along with a written explanation of the cause of the bankruptcy. (Generally, bankruptcy trustee statements are provided quarterly instead of monthly.)
- V. <u>COUNSELING REGARDING DEBTS</u>: The applicant, or contractor's employee if the subject of a reinvestigation, must be advised that they must satisfy in good faith their obligations as citizens, including all just financial obligations... (5 C.F.R. 2635).