

GSA Public Buildings Service

SEP 2 1 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT REGIONAL ADMINISTRATORS (PBS)

FROM:

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ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER (PV)

SUBJECT:

Pricing Policy Clarification #22, Free Space in Leased Locations

The attached pricing policy clarification covers policy when free space is offered at a leased location. Also attached are implementation instructions and a sample of the OA Clause used in accordance with this clarification.

This clarification has been cleared through the PBS Issuance System. It was drafted in coordination with the Pricing Network and the Real Estate Acquisition Division. A Realty Services letter will be issued to provide operational guidance in support of the policy.

If you have questions regarding this clarification, please contact one of the National Pricing Points of Contact, Beth Lemanski at 202-501-3277, David C. Baker at 202-595-4648 or Kelly Juarez at 816-823-2545.

Attachments

cc: Assistant Commissioners, Regional PT Directors, Regional Pricing POCs, and Realty Services Officers

FREE SPACE CLARIFICATION #22

Effective Date: September 10, 2007

<u>Purpose</u>: Pricing Policy Clarification #22 on Free Space in a Leased Location No policy currently exists for the treatment of free space in leased locations. This clarification is provided for consistent treatment of the issue.

Existing Desk Guide Language:

The existing Pricing Desk Guide does not address free space in leased locations.

Clarification:

Add to Section 3.2 after Rent Concessions.

Free Space in Leased Locations

When an offeror has a contiguous block of space that exceeds the maximum amount for which GSA has solicited, he or she may offer this space at no charge to the Government. When the offered space exceeds the maximum solicitation for offers (SFO) requirement, the tenant agency must be consulted. The agency must agree to accept the extra space and sign an occupancy agreement (OA) for the actual square footage, or it must reject the additional square footage.

If the customer agency accepts the space, then rent for the total square footage (including the free space) will be assessed on the rent bill. However, the overall rate will be reduced (blended in the OA Tool) to essentially make the additional space free. If the customer agency rejects the extra square footage, the offeror must show that the free space will be partitioned off from the requested block of space.

Once free space is accepted, the following apply:

- The contracting officer must not consider the free space during negotiations or evaluations of a competitive lease action.
- The tenant improvement allowance must not be increased to include the square footage of the free space.
- A clause must be completed and included in the OA to explain the terms of the free space and details of the blended rate.
- The square footage of the free space must not be included in the base cost of services.
- The annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustment is not applied to the free space.
- The percent of government occupancy, for real estate tax purposes, must not include the free space.

- If space is returned by the agency prior to expiration of the lease, an amount of square footage up to the total free space square footage must be returned first, with no adjustment to the rent, before any paid space can be released. This is the case even if the physical space that was initially counted as free remains in the tenant's possession. This information is included in the free space OA clause.
- The free space square footage is not included in any scoring analysis pertaining to a location with free space.
- Seek further guidance from Real Property Asset Management (RPAM) at national office prior to accepting free space for a prospectus level lease.

Charges outside of the lease contract, such as security costs billed through the Federal Protective Service (FPS), will be assessed on the entire block of space since it is occupied by the customer agency.