

FAC 2005-24 amends the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) as specified below:

Item I--Contractor Personnel in a Designated Operational Area or Supporting a Diplomatic or Consular Mission (FAR Case 2005-011)

This final FAR rule addresses the issues of contractor personnel that are providing support to the mission of the United States Government in a designated operational area or supporting a diplomatic or consular mission outside the United States, but are not authorized to accompany the U.S. Armed Forces. This final FAR rule clarifies that contractor personnel are only authorized to use deadly force in self-defense or in the performance of security functions, when use of such force reasonably appears necessary to execute their security mission. The purpose and effect of the rule is to relieve the perceived burden on contractors operating without consistent guidance or a standardized clause in a contingency operation or otherwise risky environment.

Item II--Numbered Notes for Synopses (FAR Case 2006-016)

This final rule amends the FAR to update and clarify policy for synopses of proposed contract actions and to delete all references to Numbered Notes (Notes) in the FAR and Federal Business Opportunities (FedBizOpps) electronic publication. The prescriptions for Numbered Notes were deleted from the FAR in a former FAR case and transitioned from the Commerce Business Daily to FedBizOpps actions. This transition resulted in other synopses-related changes that were not captured in the associated FAR language revision. Additionally, the transition to the electronic FedBizOpps publication for solicitation and other announcements rendered these Notes obsolete or outdated.

Item III--Trade Agreements--New Thresholds (FAR Case 2007-016)

This interim rule adjusts the thresholds for application of the World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement and the other Free Trade Agreements as determined by the United States Trade Representative, according to a formula set forth in the agreements.

Item IV--New Designated Countries--Dominican Republic, Bulgaria, and Romania (FAR Case 2006-028)

This final rule converts, without change, the interim rule published in the Federal Register at 72 FR 46357, August 17, 2007. No comments were received in response to the interim rule. The effective date of the rule was August 17, 2007. The interim rule allowed contracting officers to purchase the goods and services of the Dominican Republic without application of the Buy American Act if the acquisition is subject to the Free Trade Agreements. The threshold for applicability of the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement is \$67,826 for supplies and services (the same as other Free Trade Agreements to date except Morocco, Bahrain,

Israel, and Canada) and \$7,443,000 for construction (the same as all other Free Trade Agreements to date except NAFTA and Bahrain). The interim rule also added Bulgaria and Romania to the list of World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement countries wherever it appears.

Item V--FAR Part 30--CAS Administration (FAR Case 2005-027)

This final rule amending the FAR to implement revisions to the regulations related to the administration of the Cost Accounting Standards (CAS). Among other changes, the final rule streamlines the process for submitting, negotiating, and resolving cost impacts resulting from a change in cost accounting practice or noncompliance with stated practices.

Item VI--Common Security Configurations (FAR Case 2007-004)

This final rule amends the FAR to require agencies to include common security configurations in new information technology acquisitions, as appropriate. The revision reduces risks associated with security threats and vulnerabilities and will ensure public confidence in the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of Government information. This final rule requires agency contracting officers to consult with the requiring official to ensure the proper standards are incorporated in their requirements.