



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition and Materiel Management  
Washington DC 20420

IL 049-04-1  
January 5, 2004

**OFFICE OF ACQUISITION AND MATERIEL MANAGEMENT INFORMATION LETTER**

**TO:** Under Secretaries for Health, Benefits, and Memorial Affairs; Assistant Secretary for Management; Chief Facilities Management Officer, Office of Facilities Management; Veterans Integrated Service Network Directors; Directors, VA Medical Center Activities, Domiciliary, Outpatient Clinics, Medical and Regional Office Centers, and Regional Offices; Directors, Denver Distribution Center, Austin Automation Center, Records Management Center, VBA Benefits Delivery Centers, and VA Health Administration Center; and the Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, VA National Acquisition Center

**ATTN:** Head of the Contracting Activity, VA Contracting Officers, Purchase Cardholders

**SUBJ:** The Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) List, the Denied Persons List, and Other Lists

1. In addition to the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS), also referred to as the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs or the Debarred List (see <http://epls.gov>), there is another list that contracting officers and purchase cardholders must check prior to making awards. The Department of Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) List is a list of terrorists, narcotics traffickers, and individuals or companies owned or controlled by targeted countries. Federal agencies are prohibited from doing business with anyone who appears on this list. OFAC's SDN List is separate from the EPLS List and must be checked independently. However, a searchable copy of the SDN List is posted at the lower left side of the EPLS Web page noted above, identified as SDN and Blocked Persons List – Terrorists and Drug Trafficking. Additional information on the SDN List can be found at <http://www.treas.gov/offices/eotffc/ofac/sdn/index.html>.

2. Another List that appears as a separate link/search page on the lower left side of the EPLS Web site is the Denied Persons List, established and maintained by the U.S. Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) (see <http://www.bxa.doc.gov/dpl/Default.shtm>). Individuals or companies are added to the Denied Persons List based on their violation of export statutes or regulations and are excluded from participating in export activities. The listed individuals or firms are not debarred under Federal procurement programs, but VA contracting officers and purchase cardholders should carefully consider the responsibility of and whether they should be doing business with listed entities. Determinations of non-responsibility of small businesses must be processed in accordance with Federal Acquisition Regulation 19.6. VA contracting officers and purchase cardholders should check the Denied Persons List prior to making awards.

2.

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3. Two other lists that are not currently linked to the EPLS Web site, but which contracting officers should check as necessary and appropriate prior to making awards, are the Department of State's (DOS) Debarred List, a list of firms who violated munitions export statutes or regulations (see <http://pmdtc.org/debar059.htm>), and the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Debarment List, a list of individuals convicted of violating the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (see [http://www.fda.gov/ora/compliance\\_ref/debar/default.htm](http://www.fda.gov/ora/compliance_ref/debar/default.htm)). As with the BIS Denied Persons List, individuals or firms on the DOS Debarred List or the FDA Debarment List are not debarred under Federal procurement programs, but VA contracting officers and purchase cardholders should carefully consider the responsibility of and whether they should be doing business with listed entities.

4. Contracting officers must report any entities on the BIS Denied Persons List, the DOS Debarred List, or the FDA Debarment List who attempt to do business with VA to the VA Debarring Official (049A5B) for possible debarment from Federal procurement programs.

5. Note that the Department of Health and Human Services' List of Excluded Individuals and Entities (LEIE) (see <http://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/exclusions.html>) has been incorporated into the EPLS database. Thus, a single check of the EPLS List will cover both the EPLS and the LEIE Lists.

6. Please direct any questions regarding the above to Howard Swartzman at (585) 393-7840 or to Don Kaliher at (202) 273-8819.



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for Acquisitions

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