

Date: July 11, 2025

From: Acting Executive Director, Office of Acquisition and Logistics (003A), and Acting Senior Procurement Executive

Subj: Class Deviation for FAR Part 43 in Support of Executive Order 14275, Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement

To: Heads of the Contracting Activities

1. Purpose. Deviate from Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 43 for purposes of implementing the FAR Council's model deviation text to FAR Part 43.

2. Background. [Executive Order \(E.O.\) 14275](#) Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement signed April 15, 2025, mandates a comprehensive review and simplification of the FAR.

The FAR is being updated to:

- Remove non-statutory language
- Remove redundant or obsolete language
- Clarify or provide more plain language
- Revise language for the new FAR framework
- Retain language necessary for governmentwide acquisition standards

This project is referred to as the Revolutionary FAR Overhaul (RFO) initiative. This initiative will make the FAR more concise, understandable, and focused on core procurement requirements.

3. Summary of Changes. FAR Part 43, Contract Modifications, has been streamlined to provide the essential contract modification standards for the workforce to limit risk to the public and government.

Statutory requirements retained in the RFO FAR Part 43 model deviation include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 31 U.S.C. § 1501, Documentary Evidence Requirement for Government Obligations
- 31 U.S.C. § 1341, Anti-Deficiency Act
- 41 U.S.C. §§ 7101-7109, Contract Disputes Act of 1978

Change	Description
Retained	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Non-statutory definitions and procedures for contract modifications are retained to maintain uniformity across Government.• Instructions for documenting and definitizing change orders are retained and clarified.
Removed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plain language edits have been made throughout, resulting in a 300-word decrease.

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This table is not an exhaustive list.

4. Instructions.

- The VA acquisition workforce shall follow the RFO Part 43 model deviation text instead of FAR Part 43 as codified at 48 CFR Chapter 1. The FAR Council's RFO Part 43 model deviation text is available at www.Acquisition.gov/far-overhaul and is incorporated into this class deviation.
- Review templates and related standard operating procedures to align with this deviation and remove unnecessary process steps.

5. Applicability. All VA procurements.

6. Authority. [E.O. 14275](#), [OMB Memo M-25-26](#), [48 CFR 1.4](#) and [RFO FAR 1.304](#).

7. Effective Date. This class deviation is effective immediately and remains in effect until rescinded or incorporated into the FAR.

8. Point of Contact. Questions related to this deviation may be directed to va.procurement.policy@va.gov

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