

Date: September 15, 2025

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

Subj: Class Deviation for FAR Part 51 in Support of Executive Order 14275, Restoring
Common Sense to Federal Procurement (VIEWS 13766878)

To: Heads of the Contracting Activities

1. Purpose. Deviate from Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) part 51 for purposes of implementing the FAR Council's model deviation text to FAR part 51.

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:

- Eliminate non-statutory language
- Remove redundant or obsolete language
- Enhance clarity through plain language
- Align with the new FAR framework
- Preserve essential 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 51, Use of Government Sources By Contractors, is removed in its entirety. All statutory text and essential text retained to support sound procurement will be moved to FAR part 8.

4. Instructions.

- The VA acquisition workforce shall follow the RFO part 51 model deviation text instead of FAR part 51 as codified at 48 CFR Chapter 1. The FAR Council's RFO part 51 model deviation text is available at www.Acquisition.gov/far-overhaul and is incorporated into this class deviation.
- Contracting activities must review templates and related standard operating procedures to align with this deviation and remove unnecessary process steps.

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5. Applicability. All VA procurements.

6. Authority. [E.O. 14275](#), [OMB Memorandum M-25-26](#), [48 C.F.R. Subpart 1.4](#) and [RFO FAR 1.304](#).

7. Effective Date. This class deviation is effective November 3, 2025, and remains in effect until rescinded or incorporated into the FAR.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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