

Date: July 12, 2019

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

Subj: Class Deviation from VA Acquisition Regulation 801.690-3, 801.690-4, 801.690-6 and 801.690-7 (VIEWS 01271727)

To: Veterans Affairs (VA) Heads of Contracting Activities (HCA)

**1. Purpose.** To issue a class deviation from VA Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) 801.690-3, 801.690-4, 801.690-6 and 801.690-7 to change the authority to appoint and terminate Contracting Officers.

**2. VAAR Section Impacted.** VAAR Sections 801.690-3, 801.690-4, 801.690-6 and 801.690-7.

**3. Effective Date.** Immediately.

**4. Expiration Date.** This deviation expires once incorporated into the Veterans Affairs Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) or the Veterans Affairs Acquisition Manual (VAAM) or otherwise rescinded

**5. Applicability.** This deviation applies to all VA contracting activities.

**6. Background.**

**a. Current VAAR Policy:** VAAR 801.690-3, 801.690-4, 801.690-6 and 801.690-7 read as follows:

**801.690-3 Responsibilities under the COCP.** “DSPE. The DSPE is responsible for the following: Appointing and terminating Level II warrant and Level III (Senior Limited and Unlimited) warrant contracting officers.”

**801.690-4 Selection.** “The HCA may appoint Level I warrant contracting officers or submit written requests to the DSPE for appointment of Level II warrant or Level III (Senior Limited or Unlimited) warrant contracting officers. A VA official one level above the HCA may submit a written request to the DSPE for the appointment of an HCA as a contracting officer.”

**801.690-6 Appointment.** “(a) Only the DSPE (for Level II and Level III (Senior Limited or Unlimited)) warrants and the respective HCA (for Level I warrants) may sign the Certificate of Appointment as Contracting Officer. HCAs are authorized to grant Micro-purchase Level and Level I warrant contracting authority up to the thresholds specified for these authorities at 801.690-2(c). The HCA may recommend a candidate to the DSPE for appointment as a Level II warrant or Level III warrant contracting officer.

Only the DSPE may grant Level II warrant, Level III (Senior Limited or Unlimited) warrant, and Multi-VISN authority. (b) All Certificates of Appointment as Contracting Officers and other written documents must clearly state any limitations or restrictions on the authority. (c) The Privacy Act of 1974 applies to the information collected during contracting officer selection and appointment.”

**801.690-7 Termination.** “The DSPE (for all warrant levels) or HCA (for Micro-purchase Level and Level I warrants) may revoke or rescind the appointment of a contracting officer at any time. HCAs may submit a recommendation to revoke or rescind the appointment of a contracting officer’s Level II warrant or Level III (Senior Limited or Unlimited) warrant to the DSPE.”

**b. Need for Deviation.** The deviation is required to authorize and identify the Senior Procurement Executive (SPE) as the individual with the grant and terminate warrant authority. The deviation also further delegates the SPE’s authority to the HCAs and others as deemed appropriate.

**c. New Policy.** VAAR Sections 801.690-3 and 801.690-4 are removed and sections are reserved. VAAR Section 801.690-6 and 801.690-7 reads as follows:

**801.690-3 Reserved.**

**801.690-4 Reserved.**

**801.690-6 Appointment and Termination.** The Senior Procurement Executive is granted the authority to appoint and terminate Contracting Officers. The authority is further delegated to the Heads of the Contracting Activities (HCA) and others as appropriate. All delegations of authority will be made in writing.

**801.690-7 Reserved.**

**7. Additional information.** Direct questions or concerns regarding this deviation to the Office of Acquisition and Logistics (003A), Procurement Policy and Warrant Management Service (003A2A) via email at [va.procurement.policy@va.gov](mailto:va.procurement.policy@va.gov) or (202) 632-5288.

/s/

Angela Billups, Ph.D.

Attachment: Class Deviation from VAAR 801.690-3, 801.690-4, 801.690.6 and 801.690-7, Appointment and Termination of Contracting Officers

## Attachment

### **Class Deviation from VAAR 801.690-3, 801.690-4, 801.690-6 and 801.690-7, Appointment and Termination of Contracting Officer Authority**

#### **PART 801 – Department of Veterans Affairs Acquisition Regulation System**

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**801.690-3 Reserved.**

**801.690-4 Reserved.**

**801.690-6 Appointment and Termination.** The Senior Procurement Executive is granted the authority to appoint and terminate Contracting Officers. The authority is further delegated to the Heads of the Contracting Activities (HCA) and others as appropriate. All delegations of authority will be made in writing.

**801.690-7 Reserved.**

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