

**Department of
Veterans Affairs**

Memorandum

Date: Sep 09, 2021

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

Subj: Class Deviation from VA Acquisition Regulation 806.501 and 816.505(b)(8) to change the Official Title of the VA Advocate for Competition and the VA Ombudsman (VIEWS 05256506)

To: Heads of the Contracting Activities

1. Purpose. To issue a VA Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) class deviation in accordance with FAR 1.404, Class Deviations, to change the official title for two key acquisition roles, the VA Advocate for Competition and the VA Ombudsman. Class Deviation to 806.501, Requirements (VAIQ 7640739), dated December 3, 2015, is hereby rescinded.

2. Effective Date. Immediately.

3. Expiration Date. This deviation expires once incorporated into the VAAR or is otherwise rescinded.

4. Applicability. These class deviations apply to all VA contracting activities.

5. Current VAAR Policy: VAAR 806.501 and 816.505(b)(8), respectively, designate the VA Agency Advocate for Competition and the VA Ombudsman roles to the Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary (ADAS) for Procurement Policy, Systems and Oversight.

6. Need for Deviation. The agency titles for two key acquisition roles, the VA Advocate for Competition and the VA Ombudsman, are updated to reflect the current title of Associate Executive Director (AED) for Procurement Policy, Systems and Oversight.

7. Required Action. Contracting officers shall follow the policy described in the attached VAAR deviation. The responsibilities, designation, and a consolidated list of the Advocates for Competition and the Task-Order and Delivery Order Ombudsmen are available at [Advocates for Competition and Task-Order and Delivery Order Ombudsmen - Office of Acquisition and Logistics \(OAL\) \(va.gov\)](#).

8. Additional information. Submit questions or concerns regarding this deviation via email at VA.Procurement.Policy@va.gov.

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Date: 2021.09.09 14:20:13 -0400

Angela Billups, Ph.D.

Attachment

ATTACHMENT

VAAR Deviation Text

Five asterisks (*****) indicate that there are no revisions between the preceding and following sections or subparts

CLASS DEVIATION

VETERANS AFFAIRS ACQUISITION REGULATION (VAAR)

Part 806—Competition Requirements

Subpart 806.5—Advocates for Competition

806.501 Requirement.

The Associate Executive Director, Office of Procurement Policy, Systems and Oversight (AED, PPSO) is designated as the VA Advocate for Competition for the agency. The AED, PPSO may further delegate this authority to appoint an alternate agency advocate for competition and shall designate procuring activity advocates for competition, in accordance with FAR 6.501. A complete list of VA procuring activity advocates for competition can be found at [Advocates for Competition and Task-Order and Delivery Order Ombudsmen - Office of Acquisition and Logistics \(OAL\) \(va.gov\)](#).

Part 816—Types of Contracts

Subpart 816.5—Indefinite-Delivery Contracts

816.505 Ordering.

(b)(8) Task-order and delivery-order ombudsman. The task-order and delivery-order ombudsman for VA is the Associate Executive Director for Procurement Policy, Systems and Oversight. The VA Ombudsman shall review and resolve complaints from contractors concerning all task and delivery order actions. If any corrective action is needed after reviewing complaints from contractors, the VA Ombudsman shall provide a written determination of such action to the contracting officer. Contracting officers shall be notified of any complaints submitted to the VA Ombudsman.
