22.1604 Compliance evaluation and complaint investigations and sanctions for violations.

(a) The *Secretary may* conduct compliance evaluations or investigate complaints of any contractor or subcontractor to determine if any of the requirements of the clause at 52.222-40 have been violated.

(b) *Contracting* departments and agencies *shall* cooperate with the *Secretary* and provide such information and assistance as the *Secretary may* require in the performance of the *Secretary*'s functions.

(c) If the *Secretary* determines that there has been a violation, the *Secretary may* take such actions as set forth in 29 CFR 471.14.

(d) The *Secretary may* not terminate or suspend a contract or suspend or debar a contractor if the *agency head* has provided written objections, which *must* include a statement of reasons for the objection and a finding that the contractor's performance is essential to the agency's mission, and continues to object to the imposition of such sanctions and penalties. Procedures for enforcement by the *Secretary* are set out in 29 CFR 471.10 through 29 CFR 471.16.

Parent topic: Subpart 22.16 - Notification of Employee Rights Under the National Labor Relations Act