MEMORANDUM FOR BUREAU CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICERS

FROM: IRIS B. COOPER, SENIOR PROCUREMENT EXECUTIVE, OFFICE OF THE PROCUREMENT EXECUTIVE

SUBJECT: Class Deviation—FAR Subpart 13.5—Test Program for Certain Commercial Items.

Purpose: This class deviation is issued in accordance with FAR 1.404 to implement section 815 of the National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2015 (Public Law 113-291) (hereinafter “Act”). Section 815 of the Act makes permanent the authority to issue solicitations under subpart 13.5—Test Program for Certain Commercial Items.

Effective Date: Upon issuance

Expiration Date: Until superseded, incorporated in the FAR or otherwise rescinded.

Background: This authority was first established by the Clinger-Cohen Act of 1996 and has received finite extensions ever since and was set to expire on January 1, 2015. However, Section 815 of the Act makes permanent the authority to use simplified acquisition procedures for certain commercial items. The below language is from Section 815 of the Act.

SEC. 815. PERMANENT AUTHORITY FOR USE OF SIMPLIFIED ACQUISITION PROCEDURES FOR CERTAIN COMMERCIAL ITEMS.


An expedited FAR case is being processed to delete the date of expiration for this test program at FAR 13.500(d). The Chair of the Civilian Agency Acquisition Council (CAAC) issued a memorandum dated December 29, 2014 (i.e. CAAC Letter 2015-01), authorizing civilian agencies, inclusive of Treasury to issue a class deviation pending the aforementioned FAR change. Therefore, the Senior Procurement Executive has determined that the issuance of this class deviation is authorized and is necessary to implement section 815 of the Act.

Required Bureau Action: When using the authority under subpart 13.5, Contracting Officers shall use the attached class deviation.

Additional Information: My point of contact for this AB is Mr. Thomas O’Linn, who may be reached at thomas.olinn@treasury.gov or OfficeoftheProcurementExecutive@treasury.gov.
Attachment A—
Acquisition Bulletin No. 15-01—
Class Deviation (Deviation No. 2015-00001)

Subpart 13.5—Test Program for Certain Commercial Items

13.500 General.

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(d) The authority to issue solicitations under this subpart expires on January 1, 2015. Contracting officers may award contracts after the expiration of this authority for solicitations issued before the expiration of the authority.

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