

## General Services Administration

552.270-31

the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act, as amended (41 U.S.C. 423), as implemented in the Federal Acquisition Regulation, the Government, at its election, may—

(1) Reduce the monthly rental under this lease by five percent of the amount of the rental for each month of the remaining term of the lease, including any option periods, and recover five percent of the rental already paid;

(2) Reduce payments for alterations not included in monthly rental payments by five percent of the amount of the alterations agreement; or

(3) Reduce the payments for violations by a Lessor's subcontractor by an amount not to exceed the amount of profit or fee reflected in the subcontract at the time the subcontract was placed.

(b) Prior to making a determination as set forth above, the HCA or designee shall provide to the Lessor a written notice of the action being considered and the basis thereof. The Lessor shall have a period determined by the agency head or designee, but not less than 30 calendar days after receipt of such notice, to submit in person, in writing, or through a representative, information and argument in opposition to the proposed reduction. The agency head or designee may, upon good cause shown, determine to deduct less than the above amounts from payments.

(c) The rights and remedies of the Government specified herein are not exclusive, and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this lease.

(End of clause)

[76 FR 30847, May 27, 2011]

### 552.270-31 Prompt Payment.

As prescribed in 570.703, insert the following clause:

#### PROMPT PAYMENT (JUN 2011)

The Government will make payments under the terms and conditions specified in this clause. Payment shall be considered as being made on the day a check is dated or an electronic funds transfer is made. All days referred to in this clause are calendar days, unless otherwise specified.

(a) *Payment due date*—(1) *Rental payments*. Rent shall be paid monthly in arrears and will be due on the first workday of each month, and only as provided for by the lease.

(i) When the date for commencement of rent falls on the 15th day of the month or earlier, the initial monthly rental payment under this contract shall become due on the first workday of the month following the month in which the commencement of the rent is effective.

(ii) When the date for commencement of rent falls after the 15th day of the month,

the initial monthly rental payment under this contract shall become due on the first workday of the second month following the month in which the commencement of the rent is effective.

(2) *Other payments*. The due date for making payments other than rent shall be the later of the following two events:

(i) The 30th day after the designated billing office has received a proper invoice from the Contractor.

(ii) The 30th day after Government acceptance of the work or service. However, if the designated billing office fails to annotate the invoice with the actual date of receipt, the invoice payment due date shall be deemed to be the 30th day after the Contractor's invoice is dated, provided a proper invoice is received and there is no disagreement over quantity, quality, or Contractor compliance with contract requirements.

(b) *Invoice and inspection requirements for payments other than rent*. (1) The Contractor shall prepare and submit an invoice to the designated billing office after completion of the work. A proper invoice shall include the following items:

(i) Name and address of the Contractor.

(ii) Invoice date.

(iii) Lease number.

(iv) Government's order number or other authorization.

(v) Description, price, and quantity of work or services delivered.

(vi) Name and address of Contractor official to whom payment is to be sent (must be the same as that in the remittance address in the lease or the order).

(vii) Name (where practicable), title, phone number, and mailing address of person to be notified in the event of a defective invoice.

(2) The Government will inspect and determine the acceptability of the work performed or services delivered within seven days after the receipt of a proper invoice or notification of completion of the work or services unless a different period is specified at the time the order is placed. If actual acceptance occurs later, for the purpose of determining the payment due date and calculation of interest, acceptance will be deemed to occur on the last day of the seven day inspection period. If the work or service is rejected for failure to conform to the technical requirements of the contract, the seven days will be counted beginning with receipt of a new invoice or notification. In either case, the Contractor is not entitled to any payment or interest unless actual acceptance by the Government occurs.

(c) *Interest Penalty*. (1) An interest penalty shall be paid automatically by the Government, without request from the Contractor, if payment is not made by the due date.

(2) The interest penalty shall be at the rate established by the Secretary of the Treasury under Section 12 of the Contract Disputes

Act of 1978 (41 U.S.C. 611) that is in effect on the day after the due date. This rate is referred to as the "Renegotiation Board Interest Rate," and it is published in the FEDERAL REGISTER semiannually on or about January 1 and July 1. The interest penalty shall accrue daily on the payment amount approved by the Government and be compounded in 30-day increments inclusive from the first day after the due date through the payment date.

(3) Interest penalties will not continue to accrue after the filing of a claim for such penalties under the clause at 52.233-1, Disputes, or for more than one year. Interest penalties of less than \$1.00 need not be paid.

(4) Interest penalties are not required on payment delays due to disagreement between the Government and Contractor over the payment amount or other issues involving contract compliance or on amounts temporarily withheld or retained in accordance with the terms of the contract. Claims involving disputes, and any interest that may be payable, will be resolved in accordance with the clause at 52.233-1, Disputes.

(d) *Overpayments.* If the Lessor becomes aware of a duplicate payment or that the Government has otherwise overpaid on a payment, the Contractor shall—

(1) Return the overpayment amount to the payment office cited in the contract along with a description of the overpayment including the—

(i) Circumstances of the overpayment (e.g., duplicate payment, erroneous payment, liquidation errors, date(s) of overpayment);

(ii) Affected lease number;

(iii) Affected lease line item or subline item, if applicable; and

(iv) Lessor point of contact.

(2) Provide a copy of the remittance and supporting documentation to the Contracting Officer.

(End of clause)

*Alternate I (Sep 1999).* If Alternate I is used, subparagraph (a)(1) of the basic clause should be designated as paragraph (a) and subparagraph (a)(2) and paragraph (b) should be deleted. Paragraph (c) of the basic clause should be redesignated as (b).

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#### **552.270-32 Covenant Against Contingent Fees.**

As prescribed in 570.703, insert the following clause:

COVENANT AGAINST CONTINGENT FEES (JUN 2011)

(a) The Contractor warrants that no person or agency has been employed or retained to solicit or obtain this contract upon an agree-

ment or understanding for a contingent fee, except a bona fide employee or agency. For breach or violation of this warranty, the Government shall have the right to annul this contract without liability or, in its discretion, to deduct from the contract price or consideration, or otherwise recover the full amount of the contingent fee.

(b) *Bona fide agency*, as used in this clause, means an established commercial or selling agency (including licensed real estate agents or brokers), maintained by a Contractor for the purpose of securing business, that neither exerts nor proposes to exert improper influence to solicit or obtain Government contracts nor holds itself out as being able to obtain any Government contract or contracts through improper influence.

*Bona fide employee*, as used in this clause, means a person, employed by a Contractor and subject to the Contractor's supervision and control as to time, place, and manner of performance, who neither exerts nor proposes to exert improper influence to solicit or obtain Government contracts nor holds out as being able to obtain any Government contract or contracts through improper influence.

*Contingent fee*, as used in this clause, means any commission, percentage, brokerage, or other fee that is contingent upon the success that a person or concern has in securing a Government contract.

*Improper influence*, as used in this clause, means any influence that induces or tends to induce a Government employee or officer to give consideration or to act regarding a Government contract on any basis other than the merits of the matter.

(End of clause)

[76 FR 30847, May 27, 2011]

## **PART 553—FORMS**

### **Subpart 553.2—Illustrations of Forms**

AUTHORITY: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

SOURCE: 64 FR 37265, July 9, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

#### **553.300 Scope of subpart.**

Standard and GSA forms prescribed or referenced in the text of this chapter are illustrated in and made a part of the General Services Administration Acquisition Manual. The forms are not illustrated in Title 48, Chapter 5, of the Code of Federal Regulations. Copies may be obtained from the Director of the Office of GSA Acquisition Policy