

Department of Justice

§ 11.5

§ 11.3 Compliance with existing laws.

The procurement of the services of private attorneys for debt collection shall be accomplished in accordance with the competitive procurement procedures mandated by Federal law, and set forth in the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, 41 U.S.C. 251 *et seq.* Best efforts shall be made to encourage extensive participation by law firms owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals in the competition for award of these contracts in the pilot districts. Such efforts shall include, at minimum, publication of the requirement for these services in the Commerce Business Daily and in a selection of pertinent legal publications likely to reach socially and economically disadvantaged firms, as well as sending written notice of the requirements to bar associations that have a significant socially and economically disadvantaged membership in the pilot districts. These special recruitment efforts will not authorize or permit preferential consideration to any bidders in selection for award of these contracts. The Department's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization shall also make its resources available to assist in encouraging broad participation in this competition.

Subpart B—Administration of Debt Collection

SOURCE: Order No. 1625-92, 57 FR 44107, Sept. 24, 1992, unless otherwise noted.

§ 11.4 Purpose and scope.

(a) *Purpose.* The purpose of this subpart is to implement 5 U.S.C. 5514 and 31 U.S.C. 3716, which authorize the collection by salary or administrative offset of debts owed by persons, organizations, or entities to the federal government. Generally, however, a debt may not be collected by such means if it has been outstanding for more than ten years after the agency's right to collect the debt first accrued. This subpart is consistent with the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) regulations on salary offset, codified at 5 CFR part 550, subpart K, and with regulations on administrative offset con-

tained within the Federal Claims Collection Standards (FCCS), 31 CFR part 901.

(b) *Scope.* (1) This subpart establishes Departmental procedures for the collection of certain debts owed the government.

(2) This subpart applies to collections by the Department from:

(i) Federal employees who are indebted to the Department;

(ii) Employees of the Department who are indebted to other agencies; and

(iii) Other persons, organizations, or entities that are indebted to the Department.

(3) This subpart does not apply:

(i) To debts or claims arising under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. *et seq.*), the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 301 *et seq.*), or the tariff laws of the United States;

(ii) To a situation to which the Contract Disputes Act (41 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*) applies; or

(iii) In the case where collection of a debt is explicitly provided for or prohibited by another statute. The provisions of § 11.8 of this subpart do not apply to salary offset to recover travel advances under 5 U.S.C. 5705 or employee training expenses under 5 U.S.C. 4108.

(4) Nothing in this subpart precludes the compromise, suspension, or termination of collection actions where appropriate under the FCCS.

(5) This subpart does not govern debt collection procedures implemented by other agencies.

[Order No. 1625-92, 57 FR 44107, Sept. 24, 1992, as amended by Order No. 3089-2009, 74 FR 35117, July 20, 2009]

§ 11.5 Delegation of authority.

Authority to conduct the following activities is hereby delegated to heads of Department organizations with respect to debts arising in their respective organizations:

(a) Initiate and effectuate the administrative collection process.

(b) Accept or reject compromise offers and suspend or terminate collection actions where the claim does not exceed \$100,000 or such higher amount as the Attorney General may from