MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Forward Pricing Rates

By the attached memorandum dated November 16, 2011, the Director of Defense Pricing asserted that when DCMA is the cognizant administration office, its Corporate Administrative Contracting Officers (CACOs) and Divisional Administrative Contracting Officers (DACOs) are responsible for issuing Forward Pricing Rate Agreements (FPRAs) and Forward Pricing Rate Recommendations (FPRRs). The memorandum provides a DCMA website which identifies the responsible CACO or DACO office, by company name.

The Director of Defense Pricing also stated that, when available, DCMA will use DCAA forward pricing rate audit recommendations as the basis for the FPRRs provided to contracting officers. DCMA’s FPRAs should be used when they exist. However, when no FPRAs are available, pre-negotiation objectives should be established based upon DCMA’s FPRRs. Contracting officers may deviate from FPRAs or FPRRs during negotiations, if there are valid reasons for doing so. In such cases, contracting officers are expected to discuss such exceptions with the cognizant DCMA CACO or DACO and document the rationale for the exceptions in the business clearance memorandum. Accordingly, I am requesting that you advise contracting personnel under your cognizance of the aforementioned policies regarding the forward pricing rate process.

My point of contact for this matter is Mr. Clarence Belton. He can be reached at clarence.belton@navy.mil or (703) 693-4006.

[Signature]
Althea H. Coetzee
RDML, SC, USN
Executive Director
DASN (AP)

Attachment:
As stated

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DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Forward Pricing Rates

In my January 4, 2011, memo on aligning the Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA) and the Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA) processes, I indicated how the various oversight duties and responsibilities are distributed between DCMA and DCAA. One role I discussed is the forward pricing rate process. Specifically, DCMA’s Corporate Administrative Contracting Officers (CACOs) and Divisional Administrative Contracting Officers (DACOs) are responsible for issuing Forward Pricing Rate Agreements (FPRAs) and Forward Pricing Rate Recommendations (FPRRs) in those cases where DCMA is the cognizant administration office. To improve coordination, here is the DCMA web link to identify the responsible CACO or DACO office, shown by the company name:


I also mentioned DCMA will use, when available, DCAA forward pricing rate audit recommendations as a basis for the FPRRs provided to our contracting officers. Contracting officers should use DCMA FPRAs when they exist. Absent FPRAs, contracting officers should use DCMA FPRRs to establish pre-negotiation objectives. During negotiations, contracting officers may deviate from FPRAs/FPRRs when there are solid reasons for doing so. For example, a contracting officer may, as a result of more current data, determine the contractor’s FPRRs/FPRAs do not accurately reflect the amount of direct labor hours proposed for a current action, thus making the allocation base too low or too high. However, I expect contracting officers to discuss such exceptions with the DCMA CACO or DACO, as the case may be, and to document the rationale for their exceptions in their business clearance or negotiation memorandum.

My point of contact for this memorandum is Ms. Lesa Scott, who can be reached at 703-602-0293 or via e-mail at Lesa.Scott@osd.mil.

[Signature]
Shay D. Assad
Director, Defense Pricing