- (3) Obtain assurances from each consumer reporting agency that they are complying with all laws of the United States relating to providing consumer credit information.
- (d) The Commission shall ensure that information disclosed to the consumer reporting agency is limited to—
- (1) Information necessary to establish the identity of the individual, including name, address, and taxpayer identification number;
- (2) The amount, status, and history of the claim; and
- (3) The agency or program under which the claim arose.
- (e) All accounts in excess of \$100 that have been delinquent more than 31 days will normally be referred to a consumer reporting agency.
- (f) Under the same provisions as described in paragraph (b) of this section, the Commission may disclose to a credit reporting agency, information relating to a debtor other than a natural person. Such commercial debt accounts are not covered by the Privacy Act. Moreover, commercial debt accounts are subject to the Commission's rules concerning debt obligation, including part 1 rules related to auction debt, and the agreements of the parties.

§ 1.1919 Contracting for collection services.

- (a) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (b) of this section, the Commission may contract with private collection contractors, as defined in 31 U.S.C. 3701(f), to recover delinquent debts. In that regard, the Commission:
- (1) Retains the authority to resolve disputes, compromise debts, suspend or terminate collection activity, and refer debts for litigation;
- (2) Restricts the private collection contractor from offering, as an incentive for payment, the opportunity to pay the debt less the private collection contractor's fee unless the Commission has granted such authority prior to the offer;
- (3) Specifically requires, as a term of its contract with the private collection contractor, that the private collection contractor is subject to the Privacy Act of 1974 to the extent specified in 5 U.S.C. 552a(m), and to applicable Federal and state laws and regulations per-

- taining to debt collection practices, including but not limited to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. 1692; and
- (4) The private collection contractor is required to account for all amounts collected.
- (b) Although the Commission will use government-wide debt collection contracts to obtain debt collection services provided by private collection contractors, the Commission may refer debts to private collection contractors pursuant to a contract between the Commission and the private collection contractor in those situations where the Commission is not required to transfer debt to the Secretary of the Treasury for debt collection.
- (c) Agencies may fund private collection contractor in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 3718(d), or as otherwise permitted by law.
- (d) The Commission may enter into contracts for locating and recovering assets of the United States, such as unclaimed assets, but it will first establish procedures that are acceptable to Treasury before entering into contracts to recover assets of the United States held by a state government or a financial institution.
- (e) The Commission may enter into contracts for debtor asset and income search reports. In accordance with 31 U.S.C. 3718(d), such contracts may provide that the fee a contractor charges the Commission for such services may be payable from the amounts recovered, unless otherwise prohibited by statute. In that regard, fees for those services will be added to the amount collected and are part of the administrative collection costs passed on to the debtor. See §1.1940.

§§ 1.1920-1.1924 [Reserved]

SALARY OFFSET-INDIVIDUAL DEBT

§1.1925 Purpose.

Sections 1.1925 through 1.1939 apply to individuals who are employees of the Commission and provides the standards to be followed by the Commission in implementing 5 U.S.C. 5514; sec. 8(1) of E.O. 11609 (3 CFR, 1971–1975 Comp., p.586); redesignated in sec. 2–1 of E.O. 12107 (3 CFR, 1978 Comp., p.264) to recover a debt from the pay account of a