

222 West 7th Avenue, No. 13,
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Robbie J. Havens, BLM Alaska State
Office, 907-271-5477.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 28, 1997, the General Services Administration filed an application to transfer jurisdiction and extend the existing land withdrawal made by Public Land Order No. 5645 for 20 years, pursuant to Section 204 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, U.S.C. 1714 (1994). The land is described as follows:

Copper River Meridian

A parcel of land located within the S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ of sec. 25, T. 27 N., R. 22 E., more particularly described as:

Beginning at the intersection of the Alaska-Canada International Boundary with the centerline of the road between Boundary, Alaska, and Dawson, Yukon, at approximate latitude 64°05.1' N., longitude 141°00' W.;

Thence South along the International Boundary 330 feet to corner No. 1;

Thence West 660 feet to corner No. 2;

Thence North 660 feet to corner No. 3;

Thence East 660 feet to corner No. 4 on the Alaska-Canada International Boundary;

Thence South on said International Boundary 330 feet to the point of beginning.

The area described contains approximately 10 acres.

The purpose of the withdrawal is to protect the Poker Creek Border Station. The withdrawal segregates the land from settlement, sale, location, or entry, under all of the general land laws, including the mining laws, as provided by Public Land Order No. 5645. No change is proposed in the purpose of the withdrawal.

For a period of 90 days from the date of publication of this notice, all persons who wish to submit comments, or desire a public meeting in connection with the proposed withdrawal extension and transfer of jurisdiction, may present their views in writing to the Alaska State Director of the Bureau of Land Management at the address indicated above.

The application will be processed in accordance with the regulations set forth in 43 CFR 2300.

Dated: September 19, 1997.

Donald W. Baggs,

*Lands and Minerals Group Supervisor,
Division of Lands, Minerals, and Resources.*
[FR Doc. 97-25418 Filed 9-24-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AZ-950-5700-77; AZA 30353]

Notice of Proposed Withdrawal and Opportunity for Public Meeting; Arizona

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, has filed an application to withdraw 7,040 acres of National Forest System land to protect the Diamond Rim Recreational Mining Collection Area. This notice closes the land for up to 2 years from location and entry under the United States mining laws. The land will remain open to all other uses which may be made of National Forest System land.

DATES: Comments should be received on or before December 24, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to the Forest Supervisor, Tonto National Forest, 2324 E. McDowell Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Karyn Harbour, Tonto National Forest, 602-225-5200, or Rod Byers, Payson Ranger District, 520-474-7900.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 13, 1997, the United States Department of Agriculture filed an application to withdraw the following described National Forest System land from location and entry under the United States mining laws, subject to valid existing rights:

Gila and Salt River Meridian

Tonto National Forest

T. 11 N., R. 11 E.,

Sec. 1;

Sec. 2;

Sec. 3;

Sec. 10;

Sec. 11;

Sec. 12;

Sec. 13;

Sec. 14;

Sec. 15, NW $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 23, N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$;

Sec. 24, N $\frac{1}{2}$.

T. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ N., R. 11 E.,

Sec. 34;

Sec. 35, W $\frac{1}{2}$, and SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 36, SW $\frac{1}{4}$.

The area described contains 7,040 acres in Gila County.

For a period of 90 days from the date of publication of this notice, all persons who wish to submit comments, suggestions, or objections in connection with the proposed withdrawal may

present their views in writing to the Forest Supervisor of the Tonto National Forest.

Notice is hereby given that a public meeting in connection with the proposed withdrawal will be held at a later date. A notice of time and place will be published in the **Federal Register** and a newspaper in the general vicinity of the lands to be withdrawn at least 30 days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The application will be processed in accordance with the regulations set forth in 43 CFR 2300.

For a period of 2 years from the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, the land will be segregated as specified above unless the application is denied or canceled or the withdrawal is approved prior to that date.

Michael A. Ferguson,

Deputy State Director, Resources Division.

[FR Doc. 97-25478 Filed 9-24-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Sunshine Act Meeting

United States Parole Commission

Record of Vote of Meeting Closure
(Public Law 94-409) (5 U.S.C. 552b)

I, Michael J. Gaines, Chairman of the United States Parole Commission, was present at a meeting of said Commission which started at approximately nine-thirty a.m. on Wednesday, September 17, 1997 at 5550 Friendship Boulevard, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815. The purpose of the meeting was to decide four appeals from the National Commissioners' decisions pursuant to 28 CFR Section 2.27. Three Commissioners were present, constituting a quorum when the vote to close the meeting was submitted.

Public announcement further describing the subject matter of the meeting and certifications of General Counsel that this meeting may be closed by vote of the Commissioners present were submitted to the Commissioners prior to the conduct of any other business. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the following Commissioners voted that the meeting be closed: Michael J. Gaines, Edward F. Reilly, Jr., and John R. Simpson.

In witness of whereof, I make this official record of the vote taken to close this meeting and authorize this record to be made available to the public.

Dated: September 19, 1997.

Michael J. Gaines,

Chairman, U.S. Parole Commission.

[FR Doc. 97-25691 Filed 9-23-97; 3:58 pm]

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OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Office of Federal Procurement Policy

Policy Letter on Procurement System Education, Training and Experience Requirements for Acquisition Personnel

AGENCY: Executive Office of the President, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP).

ACTION: OFPP is issuing a Policy Letter on "Procurement System Education, Training and Experience Requirements for Acquisition Personnel."

SUMMARY: Section 37(b)(3) of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act, as amended, 41 U.S.C. § 401, *et seq.*, requires the Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy to issue policies to promote uniform implementation of a program to provide for improvements in the quality of the Government's acquisition workforce, with due regard for differences in program requirements among agencies that may be appropriate and warranted in view of the agency mission. To the extent practicable, the policies set forth in this Policy Letter are comparable to those established for acquisition personnel in the Department of Defense (DOD) who are subject to the Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act (Chapter 87 of title 10, United States Code).

Pursuant to Section 37 of the OFPP Act, the Administrator established a working group consisting of Senior Procurement Executives of the major civilian agencies to make recommendations concerning a program to improve the quality of the non-DOD acquisition workforce. The policies and procedures set forth in this Policy Letter represent the culmination of that effort.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard C. Loeb, Executive Secretary, Office of Federal Procurement Policy (telephone: 202-395-3254). The address is Office of Federal Procurement Policy, 725 17th Street, NW, Room 9001, Washington, DC 20503. To obtain a copy of this Policy Letter, please call the Executive Office of the President's Publication Office at (202) 395-7332.

Dated: September 12, 1997.

Steven Kelman,

Administrator.

Policy Letter No. 97-01

To the Heads of Civilian Executive Departments and Agencies

Subject: Procurement System Education, Training and Experience Requirements for Acquisition Personnel

1. Purpose

The purpose of this Letter is to implement Section 37 of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act, as amended (hereafter referred to as the Act).

2. Authority

These policies and procedures are issued pursuant to Section 37(b)(3) of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) Act, as amended, (41 U.S.C. 401 *et seq.*), which directs the Administrator, Office of Federal Procurement Policy, to issue policies to promote uniform implementation of Section 37 of the Act by executive agencies, with due regard for differences in program requirements among agencies that may be appropriate and warranted in view of the agency mission.

3. Background

Beginning with the report of the Commission on Government Procurement in 1972, every major study of the Federal acquisition process has recommended improvements in the management of the acquisition workforce, because "people are the most critical part of any effective procurement process". Subsequently, Congress directed every Federal department and agency to develop and maintain a procurement career management program to ensure an adequate professional workforce (section 16(4) of the Act). In Section 6(d)(5) of the Act, Congress further directed the OFPP Administrator, through the Federal Acquisition Institute (FAI), to foster and promote the development of a professional acquisition workforce Government-wide. Pursuant to these statutory mandates, OFPP Policy Letter 92-3 (implemented in section 1.603-1 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation) establishes Government-wide policies and standards for skill-based training in performing contracting duties and tasks. In 1990 Congress passed the Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act (DAWIA) which established education, training and experience requirements for entry and advancement

in the acquisition career field within the Department of Defense (DOD). In 1996, Congress amended the OFPP Act to establish comparable education, training, and experience requirements for civilian agencies.

4. Applicability

This Letter applies to all executive agencies, except those subject to the Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act (chapter 87 of title 10, United States Code).

5. Responsibility for Acquisition Career Management Programs

Subject to the authority, direction, and control of the head of an executive agency, the Senior Procurement Executive of the agency shall carry out all powers, functions, and duties of the head of the agency with respect to implementation of this Letter. The Senior Procurement Executive shall ensure that the policies of the head of the agency, established in accordance with this Letter, are implemented throughout the agency.

6. Establishment of Agency-wide Policies and Procedures

Agency heads, after consultation with the OFPP Administrator, shall establish department or agency-wide policies and procedures pursuant to the provisions of the Act. The Senior Procurement Executive of each affected agency shall advise the Administrator, within 180 days from the date of this Letter, on agency plans for issuing such policies and procedures for the effective management (including accessions, education, training and career development) of the acquisition workforce. Agency heads, unless otherwise advised by the OFPP Administrator within thirty (30) days after such notification, shall proceed with planned implementation activities. To the maximum extent practicable, these acquisition workforce policies and procedures shall be uniform in their implementation throughout the agency. The head of each department and agency shall issue such policies and procedures by May 1, 1998.

7. Workforce Coverage

For purposes of this Letter, the acquisition workforce of an agency includes:

a. All positions in the General Schedule (GS-1102) Contracting Series and non-DOD uniformed personnel in comparable positions.

b. All Contracting Officers regardless of General Schedule series with authority to obligate funds above the micropurchase threshold.