

**Department of Veterans Affairs**

**815.304-71**

**PART 815—CONTRACTING BY  
NEGOTIATION**

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AUTHORITY: 38 U.S.C. 8127 and 8128; 40 U.S.C. 121(c); and 48 CFR 1.301-1.304.

SOURCE: 73 FR 2717, Jan. 15, 2008, unless otherwise noted.

**Subpart 815.3—Source Selection**

**815.303 Responsibilities.**

The authority of the Secretary to appoint an individual other than the contracting officer to serve as the source selection authority for a particular acquisition or group of acquisitions is delegated to the SPE and is further delegated to the DSPE. If an HCA wishes to designate an individual other than the delegated contracting officer as the source selection authority for a particular acquisition or group of acquisitions, the HCA shall prepare a request and justification and shall submit the request through channels to the DSPE for approval.

**815.304 Evaluation factors and significant subfactors.**

(a) In an effort to assist SDVOSBs and VOSBs, contracting officers shall include evaluation factors providing additional consideration to such offerors in competitively negotiated solicitations that are not set aside for SDVOSBs or VOSBs.

(b) Additional consideration shall also be given to any offeror, regardless

of size status, that proposes to subcontract with SDVOSBs or VOSBs.

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**815.304-70 Evaluation factor commitments.**

(a) VA contracting officers shall:

(1) Include provisions in negotiated solicitations giving preference to offers received from VOSBs and additional preference to offers received from SDVOSBs;

(2) Use past performance in meeting SDVOSB subcontracting goals as a non-price evaluation factor in selecting offers for award;

(3) Use the proposed inclusion of SDVOSBs or VOSBs as subcontractors as an evaluation factor when competitively negotiating the award of contracts or task or delivery orders; and

(4) Use participation in VA's Mentor-Protégé Program as an evaluation factor when competitively negotiating the award of contracts or task or delivery orders.

(b) If an offeror proposes to use an SDVOSB or VOSB subcontractor in accordance with 852.215-70, Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned and Veteran-Owned Small Business Evaluation Factors, the contracting officer shall ensure that the offeror, if awarded the contract, actually does use the proposed subcontractor or another SDVOSB or VOSB subcontractor for that subcontract or for work of similar value.

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**815.304-71 Solicitation provision and clause.**

(a) The contracting officer shall insert the provision at 852.215-70, Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned and Veteran-Owned Small Business Evaluation Factors, in competitively negotiated solicitations that are not set aside for SDVOSBs or VOSBs.

(b) The contracting officer shall insert the clause at 852.215-71, Evaluation Factor Commitments, in solicitations and contracts that include VAAR clause 852.215-70, Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned and Veteran-Owned Small Business Evaluation Factors.

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