



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE MATERIEL COMMAND
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO

JAN 14 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR ALAFMC/CC
ALHQSTAFF

FROM: AFMC/CC
4375 Chidlaw Road, Suite 1
Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433-5001

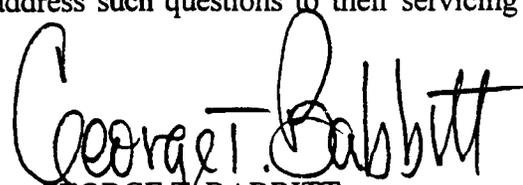
SUBJECT: Ethical Considerations Related to Outsourcing and Privatization

1. Procurements under OMB Circular A-76 and other privatization efforts must be conducted in strict conformity with the ethical rules applicable to DoD personnel. I urge all AFMC personnel involved in A-76 procurements or other privatization efforts to bear in mind the following.

a. There are several laws and regulations that restrict the disclosure of information. The Procurement Integrity Act, the Trade Secrets Act, the Joint Ethics Regulation, and the Federal Acquisition Regulation all place restrictions on the disclosure of information to anyone not authorized to receive it. AFMC personnel involved in A-76 procurements or other privatization efforts must ensure that any disclosure of information they make is in strict compliance with the law.

b. Decisions made during A-76 procurements or other privatization efforts can have a significant impact on people's lives and can be controversial. However, once these decisions have been made, whether at the base, MAJCOM, or HQ USAF level, I expect that individuals in positions of leadership in your office or organization will officially support these decisions and will refrain from taking any actions in their official capacity in opposition to such decisions (except where such actions are authorized by statute or regulation, such as in the case of a representative of a labor organization). At the same time, it must be emphasized that military members and civilian employees have the right to communicate with members of Congress in their personal capacity, and I expect this right to be fully respected. Finally, commanders should bear in mind the requirement to keep SAF/LL informed about significant local involvement with members of Congress and their staffs.

2. Request you disseminate this letter to the personnel at your office or organization who will be involved in or potentially affected by an A-76 procurement or other privatization effort. Personnel at WPAFB may address questions about this letter to the AFMC Law Office (55700 ext 314). Personnel at other AFMC bases or locations may address such questions to their servicing Staff Judge Advocate.


GEORGE T. BABBITT
General, USAF
Commander