



**G A O**

Accountability \* Integrity \* Reliability

**Comptroller General  
of the United States**

**United States General Accounting Office  
Washington, DC 20548**

### NOTICE

Due to the current security situation, GAO has implemented process changes that may significantly affect the filing of bid protests and related documents. Please review this notice carefully.

- ❑ As of last Friday, October 19, GAO stopped receiving deliveries from the United States Postal Service. We do not yet know when, or whether, mail that was on its way to GAO at that time will be delivered to GAO. It is also not yet clear when mail delivery to GAO will resume.
- ❑ As of yesterday, October 23, GAO has temporarily stopped accepting delivery from couriers and delivery companies (such as Federal Express). We do not yet know when we will resume accepting those deliveries.
- ❑ As of midday yesterday, October 23, the filing window at GAO's headquarters was closed. No decision has been made about when the filing window may reopen.

For all parties to protests: Until the delivery situation changes, we recommend that you rely on the use of faxes as much as possible. We also recommend that you discuss potential delivery problems with the GAO attorney responsible for the protest as well as with the other parties to the protest. Where the new limitations on delivery cause late delivery of documents, our Office will take that into account and will endeavor to accommodate the circumstances of all protest parties in this regard.

Instances may arise where, because of the current security procedures, the telephone call from GAO providing the contracting agency official notice that a protest has been filed is not made until after the 10th day after award (or the 5th day after a required debriefing), even when a protest reached GAO in a timely fashion. We request that, if that happens, the agency nonetheless impose a stay so that the delays caused by the new security procedures do not deprive protesters of meaningful relief. If problems arise in this regard, please raise them with the GAO attorney handling the case, the Assistant General Counsel, or me (my telephone number is 202/512-8219).

Your understanding and cooperation are very much appreciated.

Daniel I. Gordon  
Associate General Counsel