
Using the Electronic Version of *Principles of Federal Appropriations Law, Volume I, 3rd Edition*

Introduction

The United States Government Accountability Office (GAO) is pleased to present an electronic version of the third edition of Volume I, *Principles of Federal Appropriations Law*, commonly referred to as the Red Book. Although hard-copies of the third edition to Volume I (which was printed in January 2004) can be ordered from the United States Government Printing Office, any annual updates to this volume as well as the companion Index and Tables of Authorities (Index/TOA) will only be available on the electronic version.

This electronic version includes Web links to many of the cited GAO decisions as well as internal links between Volume I and the Index/TOA. Not all decisions cited in the Red Book are currently available electronically, but links will be added as the database is updated.

Navigating Volume I and the Index/TOA

Volume I and the companion Index/TOA are structured to permit easy movement between each other. To use the Index/TOA in conjunction with Volume I, users should click on the bookmark in the left side bar labeled Index/TOA. Once finding a word in the index or case in the table of authorities, click on the word or case or interest and you will be taken automatically to the applicable page in Volume I where the word or case is mentioned.

Additionally, Volume I includes links to many of the cited GAO decisions. Clicking on the highlighted case in Volume I will take you to a copy of the case on GAO's Web site. We are continually updating our database and will ultimately include all GAO decisions cited in the Red Book.

Future Updates

GAO expects to issue a revised third edition of Volume II of the Red Book in 2005, at which time we will begin to work on the revision of the current Volume IV. Volume III will not be updated because it addresses functions transferred to the executive branch by the General Accounting Office Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-316). As each volume of the third edition is published, GAO will consolidate the indexes and tables of authorities. Users will need to continue to refer to the index of the second edition (found in Volume V) until this publication cycle is complete.

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