

## **Federal Acquisition Institute Acquisition Learning Seminar**

### **“Deal or No Deal – Contract Administration”**

October 25, 2007

Speaker Biographies

#### **Joni E. Dowling**

Ms. Joni E. Dowling is the Director for Head of Contracting Activities Desk Officer Acquisition Support division within the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer (OCPO). In this position, she leads a cadre of acquisition experts who provides an operational link between OCPO and Component's contracting activities.

Prior to joining DHS, Ms Dowling served with the Defense Acquisition University as the Program Director for Services Acquisition, under the Curricula Development and Support Center for Contracting. Ms. Dowling was responsible for developing course material specific to services acquisition, serves as an adjunct professor for the University and supported the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology & Logistics community and its Military Departments. She acted as an advisor for mission-focused acquisition planning, execution, and assessment phases, specific to performance work statements, source selections, and contract management.

In addition to these assignments, she served as a procurement expert for the Department of the Army's Inspector General team conducting investigations into matters for the Secretary of the Army, a Procurement Analyst for the Missile Defense Agency and advisory member of the Contract Policy and Review Committee on matters pertaining to contracting and acquisition management, and as a Contracting Officer for the Pentagon Renovation Office providing contracting support for design-build construction, information technology and administrative support services requirements.

Ms. Dowling began her career with the Department of Navy where she served various procurement-related positions which included systems acquisition programs for the Naval Sea Systems Command, Washington, DC and the Naval Air Systems Command, Patuxent River, Maryland; facility support at the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California; base support at the Naval Operations Base in Norfolk, Virginia; and logistics procurement at the Naval Support Activity, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania.

Ms. Dowling holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from St Leo University, a Master Degree in Public Administration from Florida Institute of Technology, and is currently pursuing a Doctoral degree in Organization and Management.

## **Anthony Palladino**

Mr. Palladino has served as the Director of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Office of Dispute Resolution for Acquisition (ODRA) since December, 1997. In this capacity, he exercises the ODRA's statutory authority to adjudicate all bid protests, contract disputes and OMB Circular A-76 contests on behalf of the FAA Administrator, and provides alternative dispute resolution (ADR) services to the parties in such matters. Prior to joining the FAA, Mr. Palladino had been in private practice for 17 years, specializing in litigation and ADR of public contract, construction and private commercial disputes. Prior to entering private practice, he served as a law clerk for the Honorable Frank Q. Nebeker of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals from 1980 to 1981; and as a law clerk at the National Labor Relations Board, Division of Administrative Law Judges in 1979 and 1980.

Mr. Palladino graduated from Mercyhurst College (B.A., Presidential Scholar, 1974) and from the Antioch College School of Law (J.D. 1980). He is admitted to the Bars of the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia.

Mr. Palladino has been a member of the Federal Interagency ADR Working Group (IADRWG) Steering Committee since 1998. Mr. Palladino served as the Steering Committee Chair in 2005 and 2006. He has chaired the IADRWG Contracts and Procurement Section since June of 2000. With the assistance of OMB's Office of Federal Procurement Policy, the Section has developed an annual recognition program for excellence in federal and private sector procurement ADR programs. The Section currently co-sponsors, with the American Bar Association, a popular series of free procurement ADR workshops for government and private practitioners.

From 1988 to 1990, Mr. Palladino served as the Chair of the Government Contracts Committee of the United States Claims Court Bar Association, and as Editor of the Association's Annual Case Review. From 1999 to 2005, Mr. Palladino served on the Advisory Council of the United States Court of Federal Claims. He also has been an active member of the American Bar Association's Public Contract Law Section, serving as a committee chair from 1994 through 1996, and as a committee vice chair from 1992 to 1994. In 2002, Mr. Palladino served as a member of the Section's Task Force on Dispute Avoidance and Early Resolution.

Mr. Palladino is a frequent lecturer and has authored articles, and prepared course materials for the American Bar Association and other professional groups and associations. Most recently, Mr. Palladino co-authored "*Acquisition ADR at the Federal Aviation Administration*," which appears as a chapter in the Federal Administrative Dispute Resolution Deskbook, published by the American Bar Association Section of Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice. His E-mail address is:

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## **Nydia Coleman**

Ms Coleman serves as the Chief, in the Office of Contracts, Library of Congress. She has held this position since October 2004. Ms Coleman previous positions include Director, Procurement Management Division, General Services Administration, Public Buildings Service, National Capital Region, Washington, D.C; Chief, Office of Contracts, Federal Communications Commission; Chief, Office of Contracts, Federal Communications Commission; Chief, Office of Procurement, Administrative Services, District of Columbia Government; Procurement Analyst, Department of Justice Contract Specialist, Department of the Navy.

Ms Coleman earned her Bachelor of Science from St. Augustine's College, Raleigh, North Carolina, Bachelor of Science (Biology Education), Summa Cum Laude, 1972 and her Masters in Science Administration (Procurement and Contracting), from George Washington University, Washington, D. C., 1982. She is also a Certified Professional Contracts Manager (NCMA) since 1999.

She holds the treasurer position at Holy Comforter Episcopal Church in Washington, D.C and is President of the Gamma Chapter, Iota Phi Lambda.

## **Cherie Smith**

Ms. Smith is the Army's Project Director for the General Fund Enterprise Business System (GFEBS), under the Program Executive Office for Enterprise Information Systems (PEO EIS). No photo available Ms. Smith is responsible for the life cycle management of the GFEBS program. The GFEBS COTS shall be certified by the Joint Financial Management Improvement Program (JFMIP). GFEBS will fulfill the requirements of the Federal Financial Management Improvement Act (FFMIA). GFEBS shall be capable of supporting DoD with accurate, reliable, and timely financial information, in peacetime and in war. The resulting system shall provide web-based, online, real-time transaction and information capability and be accessible to all Army organizations worldwide. Ms. Smith has twenty-five years of government experience in all levels of information technology management and development. She has served as Technical Project Manager on ACAT IA program, was the PEO STAMIS Senior Liaison Officer in the Pentagon, managed special projects, established functional and project management offices, and served as an acquisition oversight manager on top priority DoD and Army information technology acquisitions. She began her career in the Army developing scientific software applications at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and Fort Sam Houston. Ms. Smith was a member of the USAR from 1977 -1979 and served on active duty from 1979 – 1984. After serving in the Army Ms. Smith became a government employee working in the VIABLE Project Office responsible for overseeing major baseline changes to the project. Ms. Smith served as a technical representative two years with the Army Science Board supporting Training and Object Force Panels.

Ms. Smith earned her Bachelor Degree in Business from National-Louis University. She graduated from the Defense Acquisition University's Advanced Program Management Course and National Defense University's Information Resource Management College for Advanced Management.

She is a member of the original Army Acquisition Corps and is Level III certified in both Communications-Computer Systems and Program Management.