

## Office of the Secretary of Transportation

## § 89.3

Federal Government remains in effect. The DOT may conduct periodic financial and compliance audits of the recipient of credit assistance, as determined necessary by the DOT. The specific credit agreement between the recipient of credit assistance and the DOT may contain additional reporting requirements.

[65 FR 44940, July 19, 2000]

### § 80.21 Use of administrative offset.

The DOT will not apply an administrative offset to recover any losses to the Federal Government resulting from project risk the DOT has assumed under a TIFIA credit instrument. The DOT may, however, use an administrative offset in cases of fraud, misrepresentation, false claims, or similar criminal acts or acts of malfeasance or wrongdoing.

[65 FR 44940, July 19, 2000]

## PART 89—IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FEDERAL CLAIMS COLLECTION ACT

### Subpart A—General

Sec.

- 89.1 Purpose.
- 89.3 Applicability.
- 89.5 Delegations of authority.
- 89.7 Exceptions to delegated authority.
- 89.9 Redelegation.
- 89.11 Standards for exercise of delegated authority.
- 89.13 Documentary evidence of compromise.
- 89.15 Regulations, reports, and supporting documentation.

### Subpart B—Collection of Claims

- 89.21 Administrative collection.
- 89.23 Interest, late payment penalties, and collection charges.
- 89.25 Collection by administrative offset.
- 89.27 Referral for litigation.
- 89.29 Disclosure to commercial credit bureaus and consumer reporting agencies.
- 89.31 Use of professional debt collection agencies.
- 89.33 [Reserved]

### Subpart C—Referral of Debts to IRS for Tax Refund Offset

- 89.37 Applicability and scope.
- 89.39 Administrative charges.
- 89.41 Notice requirement before offset.
- 89.43 Review within the Department.
- 89.45 Department determination.

89.47 Stay of offset.

AUTHORITY: Pub. L. 89-508; Pub. L. 89-365, secs. 3, 10, 11, 13(b), 31 U.S.C. 3701-3720A; Pub. L. 98-167; Pub. L. 98-369; Pub. L. 99-578; Pub. L. 101-552, 31 U.S.C. 3711(a)(2).

SOURCE: 53 FR 51238, Dec. 21, 1988, unless otherwise noted.

## Subpart A—General

### § 89.1 Purpose.

This part implements the Federal Claims Collection Act of 1966, 31 U.S.C. 3701-3720 A, as amended primarily by the Debt Collection Act of 1982 (Pub. L. 97-365, 96 Stat. 1749) and the Debt Collection Amendments of 1986 (Pub. L. 99-578, 100 Stat. 3305). It supplements the Federal Claims Collection Standards (FCCS), 4 CFR parts 101-105, issued jointly by the Comptroller General of the United States and the Attorney General of the United States under 31 U.S.C. 3711(e)(2). Pursuant to the Federal Claims Collection Act, as amended, and the FCCS, this part sets forth procedures by which the Department of Transportation (DOT) and its operating elements (see 49 CFR 1.3) through designated officials:

- (a) Collect claims owed to the United States arising from activities under its jurisdiction;
- (b) Determine and collect interest and other charges on those claims;
- (c) Compromise claims; and
- (d) Refer unpaid claims for litigation.

### § 89.3 Applicability.

(a) The part applies to collection of all claims due the United States under the Federal Claims Collection Act of 1966 as amended by the Debt Collection Act of 1982 and the Debt Collection Amendments of 1986 (Pub. L. 99-578), arising from activities under the jurisdiction of DOT including amounts due the United States from fees, overpayments, fines, civil penalties, loans, damages, interest, and other sources.

(b) This part does not apply to collection, settlement or compromise of debts owed the United States pursuant to authority other than Title 31, Chapter 37, Subchapter II: for example, application of this part to the enforcement of contracts under 46 U.S.C. 1117, delegated to the DOT Maritime Administration, is not required.

## § 89.5

(c) Section 89.23 (interest, late payment penalties, and collection charges) and § 89.25 (collection by administrative offset) of this part do not apply to debts which other United States government agencies or state governments or units of general local government owe the Department (see 31 U.S.C. 3701(c)); however, other statutory or common law may provide legal authority. Neither does the proposed rule apply to recovery of debts owed by current or former employees of the United States governed by 5 U.S.C. 5514.

(d) Claims arising out of contracts that contain specific provisions relating to claims are governed by those specific provisions to the extent that those provisions comply with existing law and with 4 CFR chapter II.

(e) As used in this part, the terms debt and claims are interchangeable and have the meaning defined in 4 CFR 101.2(a). A debtor's liability arising out of a particular incident or adjudication exclusive of interest, administrative costs, and late payment penalties, is a single claim.

(f) Except as provided in paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) of this section the provisions of this part shall apply to the collection of all debts and claims owed to any DOT operating element. A claim arising from the assessment of civil penalty or fine is not subject to the procedures of this subpart until the claim has been reduced to a liquidated debt by a signed settlement agreement, a court order or judgment, or a final administrative determination.

### § 89.5 Delegations of authority.

The functions, powers, and duties of the Secretary of Transportation to attempt collection of claims, to compromise claims of the United States not exceeding \$100,000 (excluding interest) and to suspend and terminate action to collect such claims are delegated to:

(a) The Assistant Secretary for Administration with respect to claims arising out of the activities of, or referred to, the Office of the Secretary; and

(b) The heads of other DOT operating elements with respect to claims arising

## 49 CFR Subtitle A (10-1-01 Edition)

out of the activities of, or referred to, their organizations.

[53 FR 51238, Dec. 21, 1988, as amended at 58 FR 6898, Feb. 3, 1993]

### § 89.7 Exceptions to delegated authority.

The authority delegated under § 89.5 does not apply to any claim:

(a) As to which there is an indication of (1) fraud; (2) the presentation of a false claim; or (3) misrepresentation on the part of the debtor or any other party having an interest in the claim;

(b) Based on tax statutes; or

(c) Arising from an exception made by the General Accounting Office in the account of an accountable officer.

### § 89.9 Redelegation.

Each officer to whom authority is delegated under § 89.5 may redelegate and authorize successive redelegations of the authority within the organization under his or her jurisdiction.

### § 89.11 Standards for exercise of delegated authority.

The authority delegated under § 89.5 shall be exercised in accordance with the standards for the collection and compromise of claims and for the suspension and termination of action to collect claims promulgated by the United States General Accounting Office and the United States Department of Justice, and published at 4 CFR chapter II, as those standards may be amended.

### § 89.13 Documentary evidence of compromise.

A compromise of any claim is not final or binding on the United States unless it is in writing, signed by an officer or employee authorized to compromise that claim.

### § 89.15 Regulations, reports, and supporting documentation.

(a) Each officer to whom authority is delegated under § 89.5 may promulgate regulations for the exercise of that authority within his or her organization. These regulations shall be revised, as necessary, to conform to any amendments to this part.

(b) Each officer to whom authority is delegated under § 89.5 shall furnish the