

SUBCHAPTER VI—PROPERTY
MANAGEMENT

§ 781. Authority over the General Accounting Office Building

(a) The Comptroller General shall have exclusive custody and control over the building located at 441 G Street, N.W., in the District of Columbia, that is generally known as the General Accounting Office Building,¹ including operation, maintenance, protection, alteration, repair, and assignment of space therein. Such custody and control shall also extend to any machinery, equipment, spare parts and tools located in and usable for the operation and maintenance of the General Accounting Office Building.¹ For the purposes of securing approval of any prospectus detailing proposed alterations of the General Accounting Office Building,¹ as required by section 3307 of title 40, the Comptroller General shall perform the functions assigned to the Administrator of General Services by that section.

(b) Upon request of the Comptroller General, the Administrator of General Services shall provide, to the extent resources are available, any necessary services for the protection of the property and persons in the General Accounting Office Building,¹ including the provision of special police, responding to and investigating incidents, and the monitoring of the perimeter security system. Such services may be provided with or without reimbursement as the Comptroller General and the Administrator may agree.

(c)(1) The Comptroller General is authorized to enter into agreements or contracts to acquire property or services on such terms and conditions and in such a manner as he deems necessary and without regard to section 6101(b) to (d) of title 41; except that the Comptroller General may not acquire real property unless specifically authorized by law. In exercising the authority granted by this section, the Comptroller General shall obtain full and open competition in accordance with the principles and purposes of the Competition in Contracting Act of 1984.

(2) To the extent that funds are otherwise available for obligation, agreements or contracts for utility services may be made for periods not exceeding 10 years.

(3) The Comptroller General may make advance, progress, and other payments which relate to agreements or contracts entered into under authority of this section, without regard to the provisions of section 3324(a) and (b) of this title.

(Added Pub. L. 100-545, §1, Oct. 28, 1988, 102 Stat. 2727; amended Pub. L. 107-217, §3(h)(1), Aug. 21, 2002, 116 Stat. 1299; Pub. L. 111-350, §5(h)(3), Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 3849.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Competition in Contracting Act of 1984, referred to in subsec. (c)(1), is title VII of Pub. L. 98-369, div. B, July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 1175. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 1984 Act note set out under section 101 of Title 41, Public Contracts, and Tables.

¹ See Change of Name note below.

AMENDMENTS

2011—Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 111-350 substituted “section 6101(b) to (d) of title 41” for “section 3709 of the Revised Statutes (41 U.S.C. 5)”.

2002—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 107-217 substituted “section 3307 of title 40” for “section 7 of the Public Buildings Act of 1959, as amended (40 U.S.C. 606)”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

CHANGE OF NAME

General Accounting Office redesignated Government Accountability Office. See section 8 of Pub. L. 108-271, set out as a note under section 702 of this title.

SOURCE OF FUNDS USED FOR PAYMENT OF SALARIES
AND EXPENSES OF TINY FINDINGS CHILD DEVELOPMENT
CENTER

Pub. L. 116-136, div. B, title IX, §19009, Mar. 27, 2020, 134 Stat. 579, as amended by Pub. L. 116-260, div. O, title XI, §1101(b)(3), Dec. 27, 2020, 134 Stat. 2157, provided that:

“(a) REIMBURSEMENTS.—During the period beginning on the date of enactment of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 [Dec. 27, 2020] and ending on the termination date of the public health emergency declared pursuant to section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d) resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government Accountability Office shall reimburse the Tiny Findings Child Development Center for expenses, due to measures taken in the Capitol complex to combat coronavirus, as calculated under subsection (b) and from amounts in the appropriations account ‘Government Accountability Office—Salaries and Expenses’.

“(b) AMOUNT.—The amount of the reimbursement under this section for each month of the period described in subsection (a) shall be equal to the difference between—

“(1) the lesser of—

“(A) the amount of the operating costs (including payroll, general, and administrative expenses) of the Center for such month; or

“(B) \$162,500; and

“(2) the amount of tuition payments collected by the Center for such month.”

[For definition of “coronavirus” as used in section 19009 of Pub. L. 116-136, set out above, see section 23005 of Pub. L. 116-136, set out as a note under section 162b of Title 2, The Congress.]

§ 782. Leasing of space in the General Accounting Office Building

The Comptroller General is authorized to lease or otherwise provide space and services within the General Accounting Office Building¹ to persons, both public and private, or to any department, agency or instrumentality of the United States Government upon such terms and conditions as the Comptroller General deems necessary to protect the public interest. The Comptroller General shall establish a rental rate for such leased space equivalent to the prevailing commercial rate for comparable space devoted to a similar purpose in the vicinity of the General Accounting Office Building.¹ Additionally, the Comptroller General may make available, on occasion, or may lease at such rates and on such other terms and conditions as the Comptroller General deems to be in the public interest, auditoriums, meeting rooms, and lobbies of the General Accounting Office Building¹ to persons, firms, or organizations engaged in cul-

¹ See Change of Name note below.

tural, educational, or recreational activities (as defined in section 3306(a) of title 40). The Comptroller General will consult with the Administrator of General Services and will give priority to Federal agencies in filling available space within the General Accounting Office Building.¹ Payments for space or services may be made in advance or by way of reimbursement and shall be deposited to a special account and shall be available for expenditure for operation, maintenance, protection, alteration, or repair of the General Accounting Office Building¹ in such amounts as are specified in annual appropriation Acts without regard to fiscal year limitations.

(Added Pub. L. 100-545, §1, Oct. 28, 1988, 102 Stat. 2728; amended Pub. L. 103-272, §4(f)(1)(D), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1362; Pub. L. 107-217, §3(h)(2), Aug. 21, 2002, 116 Stat. 1299.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2002—Pub. L. 107-217 substituted “(as defined in section 3306(a) of title 40)” for “(as defined in section 105 of the Public Buildings Cooperative Use Act of 1976 (40 U.S.C. 612a))”.

1994—Pub. L. 103-272 substituted “612a))” for “612a).”

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

CHANGE OF NAME

General Accounting Office redesignated Government Accountability Office. See section 8 of Pub. L. 108-271, set out as a note under section 702 of this title.

PAYMENTS OF REIMBURSEMENTS INCIDENT TO OPERATION OF GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE BUILDING

Pub. L. 101-520, title II, Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 2275, as amended by Pub. L. 108-271, §8(b), July 7, 2004, 118 Stat. 814, provided in part that “notwithstanding the provisions of section 782 of title 31, United States Code, hereinafter any payments of reimbursements received incident to the operation of the General Accounting Office Building shall be credited to the appropriation currently available to the Government Accountability Office and remain available until expended, and not more than \$5,915,000 of such funds shall be available for use in fiscal year 1991”.

§ 783. Rules and regulations

(a) The Comptroller General is authorized to make all needful rules and regulations for the Government of the General Accounting Office Building,¹ and to annex to such rules and regulations such reasonable penalties, within the limits prescribed in subsection (b), as will ensure their enforcement. Such rules and regulations shall be posted and kept posted in a conspicuous place on such Federal property.

(b) Whoever shall violate any rule or regulation promulgated pursuant to subsection (a) shall be fined not more than \$500 or imprisoned not more than 6 months, or both.

(Added Pub. L. 100-545, §1, Oct. 28, 1988, 102 Stat. 2728.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

CHANGE OF NAME

General Accounting Office redesignated Government Accountability Office. See section 8 of Pub. L. 108-271, set out as a note under section 702 of this title.

¹ See Change of Name note below.

SUBCHAPTER VII—CENTER FOR AUDIT EXCELLENCE

§ 791. Center for Audit Excellence

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Comptroller General shall establish, maintain, and operate a center within the Government Accountability Office to be known as the “Center for Audit Excellence” (hereafter in this subchapter referred to as the “Center”).

(b) PURPOSE AND ACTIVITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Center shall build institutional auditing capacity and promote good governance by providing affordable, relevant, and high-quality training, technical assistance, and products and services to qualified personnel and entities of governments (including the Federal Government, State and local governments, tribal governments, and governments of foreign nations), international organizations, and other private organizations.

(2) DETERMINATION OF QUALIFIED PERSONNEL AND ENTITIES.—Personnel and entities shall be considered qualified for purposes of receiving training, technical assistance, and products or services from the Center under paragraph (1) in accordance with such criteria as the Comptroller General may establish and publish.

(c) FEES.—

(1) PERMITTING CHARGING OF FEES.—The Comptroller General may establish, charge, and collect fees (on a reimbursable or advance basis) for the training, technical assistance, and products and services provided by the Center under this subchapter.

(2) DEPOSIT INTO SEPARATE ACCOUNT.—The Comptroller General shall deposit all fees collected under paragraph (1) into the Center for Audit Excellence Account established under section 792.

(d) GIFTS OF PROPERTY AND SERVICES.—The Comptroller General may accept and use conditional or non-conditional gifts of property (both real and personal) and services (including services of guest lecturers) to support the operation of the Center, except that the Comptroller General may not accept or use such a gift if the Comptroller General determines that the acceptance or use of the gift would compromise or appear to compromise the integrity of the Government Accountability Office.

(e) SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING PERSONNEL.—It is the sense of Congress that the Center should be staffed primarily by personnel of the Government Accountability Office who are not otherwise engaged in carrying out other duties of the Office under this chapter, so as to ensure that the operation of the Center will not detract from or impact the oversight and audit work of the Office.

(Added Pub. L. 113-235, div. H, title I, §1401(a)(1), Dec. 16, 2014, 128 Stat. 2539.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

APPROVAL OF BUSINESS PLAN

Pub. L. 113-235, div. H, title I, §1401(b), Dec. 16, 2014, 128 Stat. 2541, provided that: “The Comptroller General may not begin operating the Center for Audit Excel-