

stakeholders and help to ensure issuance of robust and reliable patents that promote and protect innovation, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO or Office) issued a revision of the Ninth Edition of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), published in February 2023 (July 2022 revision). The MPEP provides patent examiners and the public with a reference work on the practices and procedures relative to the prosecution of patent applications and other proceedings before the USPTO. The MPEP contains instructions to examiners, as well as other material in the nature of information and interpretation, and outlines the current procedures that examiners are required or authorized to follow in the normal examination of patent applications and during other Office proceedings.

ADDRESSES: The USPTO prefers that suggestions for improving the form and content of the MPEP be submitted via email to mpepfeedback@uspto.gov or via the IdeaScale® tool available at <https://uspto-mpep.ideascale.com/a/index>. Written comments may also be submitted by mail addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, marked to the attention of Editor, Manual of Patent Examining Procedure.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeanne Clark, Editor of the MPEP, at Jeanne.Clark@uspto.gov or 571-272-7714; Monique Cole Gary, Patent Examination Policy Advisor, at Monique.Cole@uspto.gov or 571-272-1463; or Kathy Mosser, Patent Examination Policy Advisor, at Kathleen.Mosser@uspto.gov or 571-272-3435.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The USPTO issued a revision to the Ninth Edition of the MPEP, published in February 2023, which provides USPTO patent examiners, applicants, attorneys, agents, representatives of applicants, and other members of the public with a reference work on the practices and procedures relative to the prosecution of patent applications before the USPTO. The MPEP contains instructions to examiners, as well as other material in the nature of information and interpretation, and outlines the current procedures that examiners are required or authorized to follow in the normal examination of patent applications and during other Office proceedings. Although the MPEP does not have the force of law or the force of the rules in 37 CFR, it “is well known to those registered to practice in the [US]PTO and reflects the presumptions under which the [US]PTO operates.” *Critikon*,

Inc. v. Becton Dickinson Vascular Access, Inc., 120 F.3d 1253, 1257 (Fed. Cir. 1997).

In the February 2023 publication of the MPEP revision, sections of chapters 100, 200, 400–1500, 1700, 1800, 2000–2200, 2400, 2500, and 2700–2900 have been updated. The updated sections have a revision indicator of [R–07.2022], meaning these sections have been updated to reflect USPTO patent practice and relevant case law as of July 31, 2022. In addition, Chapter FPC—Form Paragraphs Consolidated, the Foreword, Introduction, Subject Matter Index, and all appendices except Appendix I and Appendix P have been updated. The changes in the February 2023 publication are discussed in the Change Summary for the Ninth Edition, Revision 07.2022. The Change Summary is available in three renditions at <https://www.uspto.gov/MPEP>. Citation to a section in the current revision of the MPEP should be to “e9 r07.2022,” e.g., MPEP 2163 (e9 r07.2022).

The February 2023 publication of the revision of the Ninth Edition of the MPEP may be viewed or downloaded free of charge from the USPTO website at <https://www.uspto.gov/MPEP> and is available to search online at <https://mpep.uspto.gov>. Archived copies of each of the prior revisions and editions of the MPEP continue to be available for reference on the USPTO website at <https://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/mpep/old/index.htm>.

Katherine K. Vidal,

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2023-04345 Filed 3-2-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Proposed Additions and Deletions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Proposed additions to and deletions from the Procurement List.

SUMMARY: The Committee is proposing to add service(s) to the Procurement List that will be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and deletes product(s) and service(s) previously furnished by such agencies.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before: April 2, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, 355 E Street SW, Suite 325, Washington, DC 20024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information or to submit comments contact: Michael R. Jurkowski, Telephone: (703) 785-6404, or email CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 8503(a)(2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the proposed actions.

Additions

If the Committee approves the proposed additions, the entities of the Federal Government identified in this notice will be required to procure the service(s) listed below from nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

The following service(s) are proposed for addition to the Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agencies listed:

Service(s)

Service Type: Warehouse Services
Mandatory for: Naval Air War Center Air Division, Naval Air Systems Command, Granite City, IL
Designated Source of Supply: Professional Contract Services, Inc., Austin, TX
Contracting Activity: DEPT OF THE NAVY, NAVAL AIR WARFARE CENTER AIR DIV

Deletions

The following product(s) and service(s) are proposed for deletion from the Procurement List:

Product(s)

NSN(s)—Product Name(s):
7520-01-058-9976—Pen, Ballpoint, Stick, Hexagonal Barrel, Green, Medium Point
7510-00-161-6211—Cup, Supply, Self-Stacking, Clear
Designated Source of Supply: Alphapointe, Kansas City, MO
Contracting Activity: GSA/FAS ADMIN SVCS ACQUISITION BR (2, NEW YORK, NY
NSN(s)—Product Name(s): 4820-00-052-4651—Valve, Ball, Piping
Designated Source of Supply: The Opportunity Center Easter Seal Facility—The Ala ES Soc, Inc., Anniston, AL
Contracting Activity: DLA LAND AND MARITIME, COLUMBUS, OH
NSN(s)—Product Name(s): 8340-00-262-2397—Cover, Tent
Designated Source of Supply: APEX, Inc., Anadarko, OK
Contracting Activity: DLA TROOP SUPPORT, PHILADELPHIA, PA
NSN(s)—Product Name(s): 6645-01-467-8479—Clock, Wall, Black Custom Logo,

22" Diameter
Designated Source of Supply: Chicago
 Lighthouse Industries, Chicago, IL
Contracting Activity: GSA/FAS ADMIN
 SVCS ACQUISITION BR (2, NEW YORK,
 NY

NSN(s)—Product Name(s): 7520-01-455-
 7233—Pen, Ballpoint, Stick Type,
 Recycled, Green Ink, Medium Point
Designated Source of Supply: West Texas
 Lighthouse for the Blind, San Angelo, TX
Contracting Activity: GSA/FAS ADMIN
 SVCS ACQUISITION BR (2, NEW YORK,
 NY

NSN(s)—Product Name(s): 7520-01-451-
 9180—Pen, Ballpoint, Retractable,
 Essential LVX, Red, Medium Point
 7520-01-451-9181—Pen, Ballpoint,
 Retractable, Essential LVX, Blue,
 Medium Point
Designated Source of Supply: Industries for
 the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc.,
 West Allis, WI
Contracting Activity: GSA/FAS ADMIN
 SVCS ACQUISITION BR (2, NEW YORK,
 NY

NSN(s)—Product Name(s): 7520-01-492-
 8463—Pen, Retractable, Neon, LVX Ink
 Gripper, Black, Fine point
 7520-01-492-8464—Pen, Retractable,
 Neon, LVX Ink Gripper, Black, Medium
 point
Designated Source of Supply: MidWest
 Enterprises for the Blind, Inc.,
 Kalamazoo, MI
Contracting Activity: GSA/FAS ADMIN
 SVCS ACQUISITION BR (2, NEW YORK,
 NY

NSN(s)—Product Name(s): 2540-00-737-
 3311—Cushion, Seat Back
Designated Source of Supply: APEX, Inc.,
 Anadarko, OK
Contracting Activity: DLA LAND AND
 MARITIME, COLUMBUS, OH

Service(s)
Service Type: Parts Machining Service
Mandatory for: Arizona Industries for the
 Blind, 515 N 51st Ave. #130, Phoenix,
 AZ

Designated Source of Supply: Arizona
 Industries for the Blind, Phoenix, AZ
Contracting Activity: DEFENSE LOGISTICS
 AGENCY, DLA TROP SUPPORT C&E
 HARDWARE

Service Type: Parts Machining Service
Mandatory for: The Lighthouse for the Blind,
 Inc., 2601 South Plum, Seattle, WA

Designated Source of Supply: The Lighthouse
 for the Blind, Inc. (Seattle Lighthouse),
 Seattle, WA
Contracting Activity: DEFENSE LOGISTICS
 AGENCY, DLA TROP SUPPORT C&E
 HARDWARE

Service Type: Parts Machining Service
Mandatory for: WISCRAFT, Inc., 5316 West
 State Street, Milwaukee, WI

Designated Source of Supply: Wiscraft, Inc.,
 Milwaukee, WI
Contracting Activity: DEFENSE LOGISTICS
 AGENCY, DLA TROP SUPPORT C&E
 HARDWARE

Service Type: Parts Machining
Mandatory for: DLA Wide (Off-Site—515 N
 51st Ave. #130, Phoenix, AZ)

Designated Source of Supply: Arizona
 Industries for the Blind, Phoenix, AZ
Contracting Activity: DEFENSE LOGISTICS
 AGENCY, DLA TROOP SUPPORT CE
 HARDWARE

Service Type: Parts Machining
Mandatory for: DLA Wide (Off-Site—2601
 South Plum St., Seattle, WA)
Designated Source of Supply: The Lighthouse
 for the Blind, Inc. (Seattle Lighthouse),
 Seattle, WA

Contracting Activity: DEFENSE LOGISTICS
 AGENCY, DLA TROOP SUPPORT CE
 HARDWARE

Service Type: Parts Machining
Mandatory for: DLA Wide (Off-Site—5316
 West State St., Milwaukee, WI)
Designated Source of Supply: Wiscraft, Inc.,
 Milwaukee, WI

Contracting Activity: DEFENSE LOGISTICS
 AGENCY, DLA TROOP SUPPORT CE
 HARDWARE

Service Type: Sourcing, Warehousing,
 Assembly and Kitting
Mandatory for: Montana Army National
 Guard, 1956 MT Majo Street, Fort
 Harrison, MT

Designated Source of Supply: Industries for
 the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc.,
 West Allis, WI
Contracting Activity: DEPT OF THE ARMY,
 W7NK USPFO ACTIVITY MT ARNG

Service Type: Janitorial/Custodial
Mandatory for: North Dakota Maintenance
 Office & Bismarck Warehouse, Bismarck
 ND

Designated Source of Supply: Pride, Inc.,
 Bismarck, ND
Contracting Activity: ENERGY,
 DEPARTMENT OF, WESTERN-UPPER
 GREAT PLAINS REGION

Service Type: Janitorial/Custodial
Mandatory for: North Dakota Maintenance
 Office, 707 North Bismarck Expressway,
 Bismarck, ND

Designated Source of Supply: Pride, Inc.,
 Bismarck, ND
Contracting Activity: ENERGY,
 DEPARTMENT OF, WESTERN-UPPER
 GREAT PLAINS REGION

Service Type: Janitorial/Custodial
Mandatory for: Bureau of Land Management,
 Farmington District Office, 6251 College
 Boulevard, Farmington, NM

Designated Source of Supply: Presbyterian
 Medical Services, Santa Fe, NM
Contracting Activity: BUREAU OF LAND
 MANAGEMENT, NM—NEW MEXICO
 STATE OFFICE

Michael R. Jurkowski,

Acting Director, Business Operations.

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BILLING CODE 6353-01-P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Additions and Deletions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From
 People Who Are Blind or Severely
 Disabled.

ACTION: Deletions from the Procurement
 List.

SUMMARY: This action deletes product(s)
 and service(s) from the Procurement List
 that were furnished by nonprofit
 agencies employing persons who are
 blind or have other severe disabilities.

DATES: *Date added to and deleted from
 the Procurement List:* April 02, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase
 from People Who Are Blind or Severely
 Disabled, 355 E Street SW, Suite 325,
 Washington, DC 20024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
 Michael R. Jurkowski, Telephone: (703)
 785-6404, or email [CMTEFedReg@
 AbilityOne.gov](mailto:CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Deletions

On 12/9/2022 and 12/16/2023, the
 Committee for Purchase From People
 Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled
 published notice of proposed deletions
 from the Procurement List. This notice
 is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C.
 8503(a)(2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3.

After consideration of the relevant
 matter presented, the Committee has
 determined that the product(s) and
 service(s) listed below are no longer
 suitable for procurement by the Federal
 Government under 41 U.S.C. 8501-8506
 and 41 CFR 51-2.4.

Regulatory Flexibility Act Certification

I certify that the following action will
 not have a significant impact on a
 substantial number of small entities.
 The major factors considered for this
 certification were:

1. The action will not result in
 additional reporting, recordkeeping or
 other compliance requirements for small
 entities.

2. The action may result in
 authorizing small entities to furnish the
 product(s) and service(s) to the
 Government.

3. There are no known regulatory
 alternatives which would accomplish
 the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-
 O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 8501-8506) in
 connection with the product(s) and
 service(s) deleted from the Procurement
 List.