



Department of Defense

PRESS RELEASE

Date: March 14, 2020

Releasability: Approved for Public Release

At 4:20 AM EST this morning, Armed Services and Foreign Affairs Chairman PresentSale released an official probe into DoD Directive 008-2020. He expressed his worry that this directive violated 10 USC §2304 which covers government acquisition and contract bids. However, Chairman PresentSale missed an important item within 10 USC §2304:

(2) In determining the competitive procedure appropriate under the circumstances, the head of an agency-

(A) shall solicit sealed bids if-

(i) time permits the solicitation, submission, and evaluation of sealed bids;

The Department of Defense wanted to mobilize the 74th Wing of the United States Air Force as soon as possible. We felt that a contract bid would only delay the process to the point where the objective of the 74th Wing would be out of our reach.

Another key item is that the total price of each F-16V Block 70 was misrepresented in the directive. Although it was originally stated that the price of each aircraft would total \$121,000,000, what was not accounted for was that price included both armament and training costs, both of which we do not need. In actuality, the total price of each aircraft will total \$68,750,000 per unit. This is a significant decrease in cost which will hopefully ease the minds of members of the public and Members of Congress.

I would like to thank Chairman PresentSale for bringing this matter to the forefront of our attention. We may not have caught this error if it was not for your attentiveness and diligence, which are both unparalleled.

I have been asked to appear in front of the Armed Services and Foreign Affairs Committee to speak on this directive, and I am more than willing to do so. I will be more than happy to explain the thinking behind this directive and answer any questions Members of the committee may have.

Marcus Russell

Marcus Russell (r/thehoodiegamer)
Deputy Secretary of Defense and Homeland Security

For all inquiries please contact:

1400 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1400
(703) 571-3343