

Make Releases Work for You in Government Contracting

Michelle E. Litteken of **PilieroMazza PLLC** writes that releases have proven to be the double-edged sword of government contracting.

“In some cases, a release can prevent a contractor from successfully submitting a request for equitable adjustment or a claim to the Government,” she explains. “At the same time, a prime contractor can use releases to its advantage—requiring a subcontractor to sign releases during performance and at contract closeout. These releases can be used to easily defeat subsequent subcontractor claims if a dispute arises. Contractors should be familiar with releases in both contexts and use this knowledge to make releases work to their advantage.”

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