

## 3.301 General.

(a) Practices that eliminate competition or restrain trade usually lead to excessive prices and *may* warrant criminal, civil, or administrative action against the participants. Examples of anticompetitive practices are collusive bidding, follow-the-leader *pricing*, rotated low bids, collusive price estimating systems, and sharing of the business.

(b) *Contracting* personnel are an important potential source of investigative leads for antitrust enforcement and *should* therefore be sensitive to indications of unlawful behavior by *offerors* and contractors. Agency personnel *shall* report, in accordance with agency regulations, evidence of suspected antitrust violations in *acquisitions* for possible referral to-

(1) The Attorney General under [3.303](#); and

(2) The agency office responsible for contractor *debarment* and *suspension* under [subpart 9.4](#).

**Parent topic:** [Subpart 3.3 - Reports of Suspected Antitrust Violations](#)