

chapter VII of title 22 of the Code of Federal Regulations to read as follows:

CHAPTER VII—OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

Charles D. Toy,

Vice President and General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 99-15502 Filed 6-17-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3210-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

28 CFR Part 92

RIN 1105-AA58

FY 1998 Police Recruitment Program

AGENCY: Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, Department of Justice.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This rule adopts without change an interim rule published by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, U.S. Department of Justice, in the **Federal Register** on September 21, 1998, which established a framework for the Police Recruitment Project, authorized by the Police Recruitment Act, Subtitle H of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. No comments were received before the comment period expired on October 21, 1998.

DATES: Final rule is effective on June 18, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Department of Justice Response Center at 1-800-421-6770 or (202) 307-1480, or Rob Chapman, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, at (202) 633-1295.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of this rule is to provide guidance to the non-profit community groups interested in applying to participate in the Police Recruitment Program. The rule addresses program purposes and goals, and project and eligibility requirements. The rule is not intended to be a comprehensive compilation of the administrative requirements of the Police Recruitment Program. Other program requirements and procedures will be formulated by the participating community organizations and police departments in light of their circumstances and needs.

The rule amends 28 CFR part 92 by designating existing §§ 92.1 through 92.6 as subpart A to read as follows: "Police Corps Eligibility and Selection Criteria." The rule further amends 28 CFR part 92 by adding subpart B to read as follows: "Police Recruitment Program Guidelines."

Overview

The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, U.S. Department of Justice, administers the Police Recruitment Program. This program is designed to develop pilot projects to meet the ongoing need for additional improvement in recruiting, selecting and retaining police officer applicants. The Police Recruitment program will make grants to a limited number of qualified community organizations to assist in meeting the cost of qualified programs designed to recruit and retain applicants to police departments.

To do this, applicants under this program are expected to utilize innovative and effective methods in meeting the program guidelines. Successful applicants will be funded for a total of up to \$500,000 for a one-year grant period only, though two additional years of no-cost extensions will be permitted.

The successful applicants funded under the Police Recruitment program will ultimately design programs to enhance opportunities and increase inroads for individuals within their local police agencies. These advances will be accomplished through a variety of methods, including, but not limited to, targeted recruitment efforts; tutorial programs to enable individuals to meet police force academic requirements and pass entrance examinations; counseling for those applicants who may encounter problems throughout the application process; and programs to aid in the retention of these applicants throughout the application and hiring process.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Director of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, in accordance with the Regulatory Flexibility Act, codified at 5 U.S.C. 605(b), has reviewed this regulation and, by approving it, certifies that this regulation will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. This Final Rule builds upon the statutory outline of a program providing federal grant assistance to programs sponsored by non-profit organizations providing recruiting and retention services to police department applicants. The award of such grants imposes no significant economic impacts on substantial numbers of small businesses or other entities.

Executive Order 12866

This regulation has been drafted and reviewed in accordance with Executive Order 12866, section 1(b), Principles of Regulation. The Office of Community

Oriented Policing Services has determined that this Final Rule is not a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866, section 3(f), Regulatory Planning and Review, and accordingly this rule has not been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget.

Executive Order 12612

This regulation will not have substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. Therefore, in accordance with Executive Order 12612, it is determined that this rule does not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995

This rule will not result in the expenditure by State, local, and tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of \$100,000,000 or more in any one year, and it will not significantly or uniquely affect small governments. Therefore, no actions were deemed necessary under the provisions of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995.

Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996

This rule is not a major rule as defined by section 804 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996. This rule will not result in an annual effect on the economy of \$100,000,000 or more; a major increase in costs or prices; or significant adverse effects on competition, employment, investment, productivity, innovation, or on the ability of United States-based companies to compete with foreign-based companies in domestic and export markets.

Paperwork Reduction Act

The interim rule is not subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act requirements because the information collected as part of the grant application process will be collected from fewer than ten respondents.

List of Subjects in 28 CFR Part 92

Law enforcement officers, Scholarships and fellowships.

Accordingly, the interim rule amending 28 CFR part 92 by redesignating existing §§ 92.1 through 92.6 as subpart A and adding subpart B, which was published in the **Federal**

Register on September 21, 1998, at 63 FR 50145, is adopted as a final rule without change.

Dated: June 1, 1999.

John Hart,

Principal Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. 99-15203 Filed 6-17-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4440-AT-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

38 CFR Part 3

RIN 2900-AJ50

Pension Benefits

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This document amends the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) adjudication regulations to reflect statutory provisions extending the date through which VA will limit the pension benefits of certain veterans and surviving spouses receiving Medicaid-covered nursing home care to \$90 per month.

DATES: *Effective Date:* August 5, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donald England, Chief, Regulations Staff, Compensation and Pension Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420, telephone (202) 273-7210.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 8003 of Pub. L. 101-508 required VA to limit the pension benefits of any veteran having neither spouse nor child and who receives Medicaid-covered nursing home care to no more than \$90 per month. This statutory provision expired September 30, 1992. Section 601 of Pub. L. 102-568 extended the expiration date of that statutory provision until September 30, 1997. In addition, it imposed a similar limitation on payment of death pension to surviving spouses who receive Medicaid-covered nursing home care and have no children. Section 12005 of Pub. L. 103-66 further extended the expiration date until September 30, 1998, for these limitations on payment of pension benefits to veterans and surviving spouses. Section 8015 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, Pub. L. 105-33, extends the expiration date until September 30, 2002. This document amends 38 CFR 3.551(i) to reflect this statutory change, which is effective August 5, 1997, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 105-33.

This final rule reflects statutory requirements. Accordingly, there is a

basis for dispensing with the prior notice and comment and delayed effective date provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552 and 553.

Because no notice of proposed rulemaking was required in connection with the adoption of this final rule, no regulatory flexibility analysis is required under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601-612). Even so, the Secretary hereby certifies that this final rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities as they are defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance program numbers are 64.104 and 64.105.

List of Subjects in 38 CFR Part 3

Administrative practice and procedure, Claims, Disability benefits, Health care, Pensions, Veterans, Vietnam.

Approved: May 11, 1999.

Togo D. West, Jr.,

Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, 38 CFR part 3 is amended as follows:

PART 3—ADJUDICATION

Subpart A—Pension, Compensation, and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation

1. The authority citation for part 3, subpart A continues to read as follows:

Authority: 38 U.S.C. 501(a), unless otherwise noted.

§ 3.551 [Amended]

2. Section 3.551(i) is amended by removing "September 30, 1998" and adding, in its place, "September 30, 2002".

[FR Doc. 99-15521 Filed 6-17-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

38 CFR Part 3

RIN 2900-AI97

Direct Service Connection (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder)

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This document amends the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) adjudication regulations concerning the type of evidence required to establish service connection for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). This amendment

implements a decision by the United States Court of Veterans Appeals (the Court) which stated that current regulations do not adequately reflect the governing statute.

DATES: *Effective Date:* March 7, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Bisset, Jr., Consultant, Regulations Staff, Compensation and Pension Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420, telephone (202) 273-7210.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: PTSD is classified by the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition (DSM-IV) as an anxiety disorder resulting from exposure to an extreme traumatic stressor involving direct personal experience of an event that involved actual or threatened death or serious injury or other threat to one's physical integrity; witnessing an event that involved death, injury, or a threat to the physical integrity of another person; or learning about unexpected or violent death, serious harm, or threat of death or injury experienced by a family member or other close associate. The person's response to the event must involve intense fear, helplessness, or horror. PTSD is characterized by persistent reexperiencing of the traumatic event, persistent avoidance of stimuli associated with the trauma and numbing of general responsiveness, and persistent symptoms of increased arousal.

VA regulations at 38 CFR 3.304(f) provide that service connection for PTSD requires medical evidence establishing a clear diagnosis of the condition, credible supporting evidence that the claimed in-service stressor actually occurred, and a link, established by medical evidence, between current symptomatology and the claimed in-service stressor. If the claimed stressor is related to combat, service department evidence that the veteran engaged in combat or that the veteran was awarded the Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, or similar combat citation will be accepted, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, as conclusive evidence of the claimed in-service stressor.

Section 1154(b) of title 38, United States Code, which is the statutory authority for § 3.304(f), provides that, where a veteran engaged in combat with the enemy, VA must accept as sufficient proof of service-connection for a claimed disease or injury satisfactory lay or other evidence of service incurrence or aggravation of such disease or injury, if consistent with the