

the purpose of release or transfer to a community corrections center has \$10 cash. This provision does not apply to aliens being released for the purpose of deportation, exclusion, or removal, or to aliens detained or serving 60 days or less in contract facilities.

[FR Doc. 03-14379 Filed 6-6-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Bureau of Prisons

28 CFR Part 571

[BOP-1108-I]

RIN 1120-AB21

Clarifying of Release Gratuities— Release Transportation Regulations to More Closely Conform to Statutory Provisions

AGENCY: Bureau of Prisons, Justice.

ACTION: Interim final rule.

SUMMARY: This document makes a minor clarifying change to the Bureau of Prisons (Bureau) regulations on release gratuities, transportation, and clothing. The amendment will clarify that the Bureau is authorized, upon an inmate's release, to provide transportation to an inmate's place of conviction or his/her legal residence only within the United States, under 18 U.S.C. 3624(d)(3). We intend this clarification to remove the misunderstanding that the Bureau is authorized to provide transportation outside the United States.

DATES: This rule is effective on June 9, 2003. Please send comments on this rulemaking by August 8, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Rules Unit, Office of General Counsel, Bureau of Prisons, 320 First Street, NW., Washington, DC 20534.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sarah Qureshi, Office of General Counsel, Bureau of Prisons, phone (202)307-2105.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

What Change Are We Making?

28 CFR 571.22, the current rule on release gratuities, states in paragraph (c) that "[t]ransportation will be provided to an inmate's place of conviction, his legal residence within the United States, or to other such place as authorized and approved."

However, 18 U.S.C. 3624(d)(3) allows only for "transportation to the place of the prisoner's conviction, to the prisoner's bona fide residence within the United States, or to such other place

within the United States as may be authorized by the Director."

This clarification will revise the rule only to the extent that our rule appears to conflict with the Bureau's statutory authority, and to correct any misunderstanding that we may transport inmates outside the United States upon their release.

The new rule text of 28 CFR 571.22(c) correctly states that "[t]ransportation will be provided to an inmate's place of conviction or legal residence within the United States or its territories."

Why Are We Making This Change as an Interim Final Rule?

The Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553) allows exceptions to notice-and-comment rulemaking for "(A) interpretive rules, general statements of policy, or rules of agency organization, procedure, or practice; or (B) when the agency for good cause finds . . . that notice and public procedure thereon are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest."

This rulemaking is exempt from normal notice-and-comment procedures because it is a minor clarification of currently existing Bureau policy. We are modifying our rule to directly mirror the language of the statute authorizing us to transport inmates, upon their release, only to areas within the United States.

Because this change is interpretive in nature, reflects current Bureau policy, and is a minor clarification of current agency procedure and practice, we find that normal notice-and-comment rulemaking is unnecessary. We are, however, allowing the public to comment on this rule change by publishing it as an interim final rule.

The Bureau notes that it published a notice of proposed rulemaking to amend its regulations on release gratuities with respect to deportable aliens (28 CFR 571, subpart C) on October 4, 1999 (64 FR 53872) (BOP 1097).

Although this interim rule (BOP 1108I) amends regulations in the same part of the Code of Federal Regulations as were proposed to be amended by BOP 1097, it makes no changes to what was proposed by BOP 1097.

Where to Send Comments

You can send written comments on this rule to the Rules Unit, Office of General Counsel, Bureau of Prisons, 320 First Street, NW., Washington, DC 20534.

We will consider comments received during the comment period before taking final action. We will try to consider comments received after the end of the comment period. In light of

comments received, we may change the rule.

We do not plan to have oral hearings on this rule. All the comments received remain on file for public inspection at the above address.

Executive Order 12866

This regulation has been drafted and reviewed in accordance with Executive Order 12866, "Regulatory Planning and Review", section 1(b), Principles of Regulation. The Director of the Bureau of Prisons has determined that this rule is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866, section 3(f), and accordingly this rule has not been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget.

Executive Order 13132

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, under Executive Order 13132, we determine that this rule does not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Director of the Bureau of Prisons, under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 605(b)), reviewed this regulation and by approving it certifies that it will not have a significant economic impact upon a substantial number of small entities for the following reasons: This rule pertains to the correctional management of offenders committed to the custody of the Attorney General or the Director of the Bureau of Prisons, and its economic impact is limited to the Bureau's appropriated funds.

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.

List of Subjects in 28 CFR Part 571

Prisoners.

Harley G. Lappin,

Director, Bureau of Prisons.

■ Under the rulemaking authority vested in the Attorney General in 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and delegated to the Director, Bureau of Prisons, we amend part 551 in subchapter C of 28 CFR, chapter V as set forth below.

SUBCHAPTER D—COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AND RELEASE

PART 571—RELEASE FROM CUSTODY

■ 1. The authority citation for 28 CFR part 571 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 301; 18 U.S.C. 3565; 3568–3569 (Repealed in part as to offenses committed on or after November 1, 1987), 3582, 3621, 3622, 3624, 4001, 4042, 4081, 4082 (Repealed in part as to offenses committed on or after November 1, 1987), 4161–4166 and 4201–4218 (Repealed as to offenses committed on or after November 1, 1987), 5006–5024 (Repealed October 12, 1984, as to offenses committed after that date), 5031–5042; 28 U.S.C. 509, 510; U.S. Const., Art. II, Sec. 2; 28 CFR 0.95–0.99, 1.1–1.10.

■ 2. In § 571.22, revise paragraph (c) to read as follows:

§ 571.22 Release clothing and transportation.

* * * * *

(c) Transportation will be provided to an inmate's place of conviction or to his/her legal residence within the United States or its territories.

[FR Doc. 03–14380 Filed 6–6–03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[CGD08–03–018]

RIN 1625–AA09

Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Alabama River at Coy, AL

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is changing the existing drawbridge operation regulation for the draw of the railroad swing bridge across the Alabama River at Coy, Wilcox County, Alabama. The change will reduce the advance notification requirement for opening the bridge from 48 hours to 24 hours.

DATES: This rule is effective June 9, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Documents referred to in this rule are available for inspection or copying at the office of the Eighth Coast Guard District, Bridge Administration Branch, 501 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130–3396, between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is (504) 589–2965.

The Bridge Administration Branch maintains the public docket for this rulemaking.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. David Frank, Bridge Administration Branch, at (504) 589–2965.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Good Cause for Not Publishing an NPRM

We did not publish a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) for this regulation. Under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), the Coast Guard finds good cause exists for not publishing an NPRM. Public comment is not necessary since the proposed change reduces the burden to the public and is being made at the request of the drawbridge owner, the only party that could reasonably object to the change.

Good Cause for Making Rule Effective in Less Than 30 Days

Under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the Coast Guard finds good cause exists for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register** for the same reasons stated in the preceding paragraph.

Background and Purpose

The Alabama & Gulf Coast Railway, the owners of the bridge, have requested a modification in the drawbridge operation of the swing bridge across the Alabama River, mile 105.3, at Coy. Presently, the draw of the bridge opens on signal if at least 48-hours notice is given in accordance with 33 CFR 117.101(a). The owner of the bridge has requested a change to allow for the bridge to be opened on signal if at least 24 hours notice is given to lessen the burden on the mariner while still allowing the owner to make reasonable preparations to open the bridge.

The regulation at 33 CFR 117.101(a) currently refers to the bridge as the “Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad bridge.” Due to a change in ownership, the bridge is now called the “Alabama & Gulf Coast Railway Drawbridge.” This final rule reflects that name change.

Regulatory Evaluation

This rule is not a “significant regulatory action” under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, and does not require an assessment of potential costs and benefits under section 6(a)(3) of that Order. The Office of Management and Budget has not reviewed it under that Order. It is not “significant” under the regulatory policies and procedures of the Department of Homeland Security.

This rule improves service to waterways users and will not have a negative impact on them.

Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601–612), we have considered whether this rule would have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The term “small entities” comprises small businesses, not-for-profit organizations that are independently owned and operated and are not dominant in their fields, and governmental jurisdictions with populations of less than 50,000.

The Coast Guard certifies under 5 U.S.C. 605(b) that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

This rule will have no negative impact on any small entities because the modification to the regulation improves service to the waterway users.

Assistance for Small Entities

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–121), we want to assist small entities in understanding this rule so that they can better evaluate its effects on them and participate in the rulemaking process.

Small businesses may send comments on the actions of Federal employees who enforce, or otherwise determine compliance with, Federal regulations to the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman and the Regional Small Business Regulatory Fairness Boards. The Ombudsman evaluates these actions annually and rates each agency's responsiveness to small business. If you wish to comment on actions by employees of the Coast Guard, call 1–888–REG–FAIR (1–888–734–3247).