

manufacturers mark all explosive materials manufactured with specific information, including the name of manufacturer, and the location, date, and shift of manufacture. Generally, licensees and permittees must record the manufacturer's marks of identification on all explosives they receive. These requirements help ensure that explosive materials can be effectively traced for criminal enforcement purposes, i.e., the explosives can be tracked through the records kept by licensees and permittees. This process often provides valuable information in explosion and bombing investigations and is useful for inspection purposes in verifying inventory and proper conduct of business practices. However, the regulations do not require that imported explosive materials be marked. Therefore, we are requesting information and comments from interested persons on the desirability and feasibility of marking imported explosive materials.

Although ATF is soliciting comments on the following specific questions, we are also requesting any relevant information on the subject. 1. Should explosive materials imported into the United States contain identification markings?

2. Should all imported explosive materials be marked, or should certain classes of explosive materials, such as low explosives, be exempt? If you believe certain classes of explosives should be exempt from marking, please provide the reason(s) why such an exemption is consistent with public safety.

3. What identification marks, if any, are currently being placed on imported explosive materials?

4. What information should appear on imported explosive materials? ATF believes that the name and address of the importer, the name of the country in which the explosive materials were manufactured, and the date that the explosive materials were manufactured would be sufficient.

5. Assuming that any required identification marks must be placed on each cartridge, bag, or other immediate container of explosive materials that are imported, as well as on any outside container used for their packaging, is it feasible for a U.S. importer to place the required marks on foreign explosive materials?

6. How many importers would be affected by a requirement to place identification markings on foreign explosive materials?

7. Of those importers that would be affected by such a requirement, how

many would be considered a "small business concern" as provided in the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631, *et seq.*)?

8. What would be the cost burden imposed on importers for purchasing or leasing equipment for marking foreign explosive materials, including installation and operation?

9. What would the cost be for importers to contract with a foreign manufacturer to place the required marks on explosive materials on behalf of the importer?

Executive Order 12866

It has been determined that this advance notice is not a significant regulatory action as defined by Executive Order 12866. Accordingly, this advance notice is not subject to the analysis required by this Executive Order.

Public Participation

We are requesting comments on the petition from all interested persons. We are specifically requesting comments on the clarity of this advance notice and how it may be made easier to understand.

Comments received on or before the closing date will be carefully considered. Comments received after that date will be given the same consideration if it is practical to do so, but assurance of consideration cannot be given except as to comments received on or before the closing date.

ATF will not recognize any material in comments as confidential. Comments may be disclosed to the public. Any material that the commenter considers to be confidential or inappropriate for disclosure to the public should not be included in the comment. The name of the person submitting a comment is not exempt from disclosure.

You may submit written comments by facsimile transmission to (202) 927-8602. Facsimile comments must:

- Be legible;
- Reference this notice number;
- Be 8½" × 11" in size;
- Contain a legible written signature; and
- Be not more than three pages long.

We will not acknowledge receipt of facsimile transmissions. We will treat facsimile transmissions as originals.

Disclosure

Copies of the petition, this advance notice, and the comments received will be available for public inspection during normal business hours at: ATF Public Reading Room, Room 6480, 650 Massachusetts Avenue NW., Washington, DC.

Drafting Information

The author of this document is James P. Ficareta, Regulations Division, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

List of Subjects in Part 55

Administrative practice and procedure, Authority delegations, Customs duties and inspection, Explosives, Hazardous materials, Imports, Penalties, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Safety, Security measures, Seizures and forfeitures, Transportation, and Warehouses.

Authority and Issuance. This notice is issued under the authority of 18 U.S.C. 846 and 847.

Signed: September 8, 2000.

Bradley A. Buckles,
Director.

Approved: October 11, 2000.

John P. Simpson,

Deputy Assistant Secretary, Regulatory, Tariff and Trade Enforcement.

[FR Doc. 00-28979 Filed 11-9-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-31-P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Bureau of Prisons

28 CFR Part 552

[BOP-1107-P]

RIN 1120-AB06

Suicide Prevention Program

AGENCY: Bureau of Prisons, Justice.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Bureau of Prisons proposes to revise its regulations on the suicide prevention program for clarity and to remove agency management procedures which do not need to be stated in regulations. We intend the revised regulations to provide for the health and safety of inmates.

DATES: Comments due by January 12, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Rules Unit, Office of General Counsel, Bureau of Prisons, HOLC Room 754, 320 First Street, NW., Washington, DC 20534.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sarah Qureshi, Office of General Counsel, Bureau of Prisons, phone (202) 514-6655.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Bureau of Prisons (Bureau) proposes to revise its regulations on the suicide prevention program (28 CFR part 552,

subpart E). Current regulations on this subject were published in the **Federal Register** on April 24, 1990 (55 FR 17355).

What Change Is the Bureau Making?

We are revising the regulations generally for clarity and to remove procedures relating to agency management. The revised regulations more clearly describe for the inmate how we identify and protect inmates at risk for suicide.

Why Is the Bureau Making This Change?

We are making this change to conform to the plain language initiative. Procedures relating to agency management are exempt from the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553). Removing these procedures from the regulations allows us to speak more directly to inmates.

Revised § 552.40 more precisely states the purpose of our suicide prevention program and summarizes how we place inmates in and remove them from the program. Former §§ 552.41 through 552.43 are combined in a new § 552.41 which details the specific procedures we use to identify, refer, assess, and treat potentially suicidal inmates.

We combined provisions for the conditions of a suicide watch in former §§ 552.44, 552.46, and 552.48 in the new § 552.42. The revised regulations are more objective based. For example, the revised regulations require that rooms designated for housing an inmate on suicide watch must allow staff to maintain adequate control of the inmate without compromising the ability to observe and protect the inmate.

Previously, the regulations relied upon a more prescriptive approach of describing the location of the room (“ . . . a non-administrative detention/segregation cell ordinarily in the health services area”). This prescriptive approach does not take into account recent developments in correctional facility design and construction, and has become unnecessarily restrictive.

Former §§ 552.45 and 552.49 addressed agency management procedures, and former § 552.47 affirms that a previously imposed sanction remains in effect for an inmate when that inmate is removed from a suicide watch. Because our regulations on inmate discipline sufficiently support that statement, we removed these three sections.

Who Does This Change Affect?

This regulation generally affects inmates in Bureau institutions.

How Can I Comment on the Proposed Change?

If you want to comment on this proposed rulemaking, you can submit data, views, or arguments in writing to the Rules Unit, Office of General Counsel, Bureau of Prisons, 320 First Street, NW., HOLC Room 754, Washington, DC 20534.

We will consider comments we receive during the comment period before we take final action. We will try to consider comments we receive after the comment period ends if we can.

All comments received remain on file for public inspection at the above address. We may change the proposed rule in light of the comments received. We do not expect to hold oral hearings on this rulemaking.

Executive Order 12866

This rule falls within a category of actions that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has determined not to constitute “significant regulatory actions” under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866 and, accordingly, it was not reviewed by OMB.

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.

Plain Language Instructions

We want to make Bureau documents easier to read and understand. If you can suggest how to improve the clarity of these regulations, call or write Sarah Qureshi at the telephone number or address listed above.

List of Subjects in 28 CFR Part 552

Prisoners.

Kathleen Hawk Sawyer,
Director, Bureau of Prisons.

Accordingly, 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 propose to amend 28 CFR part 552, chapter V, subchapter C, as follows.

SUBCHAPTER C—INSTITUTIONAL MANAGEMENT

PART 552—CUSTODY

1. The authority citation for 28 CFR part 552 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 301; 18 U.S.C. 3621, 3622, 3624, 4001, 4042, 4081, 4082 (Repealed in part as to offenses committed on or after November 1, 1987), 5006–5024 (Repealed October 12, 1984, as to offenses committed after that date), 5039; 28 U.S.C. 509, 510; 28 CFR 0.95–0.99.

2. Revise subpart E to read as follows:

Subpart E—Suicide Prevention Program

Sec.
552.40 Purpose and scope.
552.41 Program procedures.
552.42 Suicide watch conditions.

Subpart E—Suicide Prevention Program

§ 552.40 Purpose and scope.

The Bureau of Prisons (Bureau) operates a suicide prevention program in order to assist staff in identifying and managing potentially suicidal inmates.

When staff identify an inmate as being at risk for suicide, staff will place the inmate on suicide watch. Based upon clinical findings, staff will either terminate the suicide watch when the inmate is no longer at imminent risk for suicide or arrange for the inmate's transfer to a medical referral center or contract health care facility.

§ 552.41 Program procedures.

(a) *Program Coordinator.* Each institution must have a Program Coordinator for the institution's suicide prevention program.

(b) *Training.* The Program Coordinator is responsible for ensuring that appropriate training is available to staff and to inmates selected as inmate observers.

(c) *Identification of at-risk inmates.*

(1) Medical staff are to screen a newly admitted inmate for signs that the inmate is at risk for suicide. Ordinarily, this screening is to take place within twenty-four hours of the inmate's admission to the institution.

(2) Staff (whether medical or non-medical) may make an identification at any time based upon the inmate's observed behavior.

(d) *Referral.* Staff who identify an inmate to be at risk for suicide will have the inmate placed on suicide watch.

(e) *Assessment.* A psychologist will clinically assess each inmate placed on suicide watch.

(f) *Intervention.* Upon completion of the clinical assessment, the Program Coordinator or designee will determine the appropriate intervention that best meets the needs of the inmate.

§ 552.42 Suicide watch conditions.

(a) *Housing.* Each institution must have one or more rooms designated specifically for housing an inmate on suicide watch. The designated room must allow staff to maintain adequate control of the inmate without compromising the ability to observe and protect the inmate.

(b) *Observation.* (1) Staff or trained inmate observers operating in scheduled shifts are responsible for keeping the inmate under constant observation.

(2) Only the Warden may authorize the use of inmate observers.

(3) Inmate observers are considered to be on an institution work assignment when they are on their scheduled shift.

(c) *Suicide watch log.* Observers are to document significant observed behavior in a log book.

(d) *Termination.* Based upon clinical findings, the Program Coordinator or designee will:

(1) Remove the inmate from suicide watch when the inmate is no longer at imminent risk for suicide, or

(2) Arrange for the inmate's transfer to a medical referral center or contract health care facility.

[FR Doc. 00-28905 Filed 11-9-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-05-U

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

29 CFR Part 1956

[Docket No. T-034]

RIN 1218-AB98

Notice of the Submission of the New Jersey State Plan for Public Employees Only; Proposal To Grant Initial State Plan Approval; Request for Public Comment and Opportunity To Request Public Hearing

AGENCY: Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor (OSHA).

ACTION: Proposed rule: Initial State Plan approval; request for written comments; notice of opportunity to request informal public hearing.

SUMMARY: This document gives notice of the submission by the New Jersey Department of Labor of a State occupational safety and health plan, applicable only to public sector employment (employees of the State and its political subdivisions), for determination of initial approval under section 18 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (the "Act"). OSHA is seeking written public comment on whether or not initial State plan approval should be granted and offers an opportunity to interested persons to request an informal public hearing on the question of initial State plan approval.

Approval of the New Jersey Public Employee Only State plan will be contingent upon a determination that the plan meets OSHA's plan approval criteria and the availability of funding as contained in the Department of Labor's Fiscal Year 2001 budget, which is currently pending final Congressional and Executive action.

DATES: Written comments or requests for a hearing must be received by December 13, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written comments or request for a hearing should be submitted in duplicate, to the Docket Officer, Docket T-034, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N2625, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210, telephone (202) 693-2350. Comments

limited to 10 pages or fewer may also be transmitted by FAX to: (202) 693-1648, provided that the original and one copy of the comments are sent to the Docket Office immediately thereafter. Electronic comments may be submitted on the Internet at: <http://ecomments.osha.gov/>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bonnie Friedman, Director, Office of Information and Consumer Affairs, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-3637, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210; telephone (202) 693-1999.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

Section 18 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (the "Act") 29 U.S.C. 667 provides that a State which desires to assume responsibility for the development and enforcement of standards relating to any occupational safety and health issue with respect to which a Federal standard has been promulgated may submit a State plan to the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health ("Assistant Secretary") documenting in detail the proposed program. Regulations promulgated pursuant to the Act at 29 CFR part 1956 provide that a State may submit a State plan for the development and enforcement of occupational safety and health standards applicable only to employees of the State and its political subdivisions ("public employees"). Under these regulations the Assistant Secretary will approve a State plan for public employees if the plan provides for the development and enforcement of standards relating to hazards in employment covered by the plan which are or will be at least as effective in providing safe and healthful employment and places of employment for public employees as standards promulgated and enforced under section 6 of the Federal Act, giving due consideration to differences between public and private sector employment. In making this determination the Assistant Secretary will consider, among other things, the criteria and indices of effectiveness set forth in 29 CFR part 1956, Subpart B.

B. New Jersey State Plan History

In 1973, the New Jersey Department of Labor and Industry obtained OSHA approval of a State plan for the enforcement of occupational safety and health standards covering private sector workplaces as well as a program for