

affected CFR (and FAR) sections, with the types and effective dates of the SIAPs. This amendment also identifies the airport, its location, the procedure identification and the amendment number.

The Rule

This amendment to part 97 is effective upon publication of each separate SIAP as contained in the transmittal. Some SIAP amendments may have been previously issued by the FAA in a National Flight Data Center (NFDC) Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) as an emergency action of immediate flight safety relating directly to published aeronautical charts. The circumstances which created the need for some SIAP amendments may require making them effective in less than 30 days. For the remaining SIAPs, an effective date at least 30 days after publication is provided.

Further, the SIAPs contained in this amendment are based on the criteria contained in the U.S. Standard for Terminal Instrument Procedures (TERPS). In developing these SIAPs, the TERPs criteria were applied to the conditions existing or anticipated at the affected airports. Because of the close and immediate relationship between these SIAPs and safety in air commerce, I find that notice and public procedure before adopting these SIAPs are impracticable and contrary to the public interest and, where applicable, that good cause exists for making some SIAPs effective in less than 30 days.

Conclusion

The FAA has determined that this regulation only involves an established body of technical regulations for which frequent and routine amendments are necessary to keep them operationally current. It, therefore—(1) is not a “significant rule” under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a “significant rule” under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034; February 26, 1979); and (3) does not warrant preparation of a regulatory evaluation as the anticipated impact is so minimal. For the same reason, the FAA certifies that this amendment will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 97

Air Traffic Control, Airports, Navigation (air).

Issued in Washington, DC on January 5, 2001.

L. Nicholas Lacey,
Director, Flight Standards Service.

Adoption of the Amendment

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me, part 97 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 97) is amended by establishing, amending, suspending, or revoking Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, effective at 0901 UTC on the dates specified, as follows:

PART 97—STANDARD INSTRUMENT APPROACH PROCEDURES

1. The authority citation for part 97 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40103, 40113, 40120, 44701; and 14 CFR 11.49(b)(2).

2. Part 97 is amended to read as follows:

§§ 97.23, 97.25, 97.27, 97.29, 97.31, 97.33, 97.35 [Amended]

By amending § 97.23 VOR, VOR/DME, VOR or TACAN, and VOR/DME or TACAN; § 97.25 LOC, LOC/DME, LDA, LDA/DME, SDF, SDF/DME; § 97.27 NDB, NDB/DME; § 97.29 ILS, ILS/DME, ISMLS, MLS, MLS/DME, MLS/RNAV; § 97.31 RADAR SIAPs; § 97.33 RNAV SIAPs; and § 97.35 COPTER SIAPs, identified as follows:

January 25, 2001

White Plains, NY, Westchester County, VOR/DME-A, Amdt 4

White Plains, NY, Westchester County, NDB RWY 16, Amdt 21

White Plains, NY, Westchester County, RNAV (GPS) RWY 16, Orig

White Plains, NY, Westchester County, RNAV (GPS) RWY 34, Orig

White Plains, NY, Westchester County, VOR/DME RNAV OR GPS RWY 34, Amdt 6A, CANCELLED

March 22, 2001

Ruidoso, NM, Sierra Blanca Regional, LOC/DME RWY 24, Orig-B

Victoria, TX, Victoria Regional, VOR OR GPS RWY 12L, Amdt 15

[FR Doc. 01-1091 Filed 1-11-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 97

[Docket No. 30225; Amdt. No. 2031]

Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This amendment establishes, amends, suspends, or revokes Standard Instrument Approach Procedures (SIAPs) for operations at certain airports. These regulatory actions are needed because of changes occurring in the National Airspace System, such as the commissioning of new navigational facilities, addition of new obstacles, or changes in air traffic requirements. These changes are designed to provide safe and efficient use of the navigable airspace and to promote safe flight operations under instrument flight rules at the affected airports.

DATES: An effective date for each SIAP is specified in the amendatory provisions.

Incorporation by reference—approved by the Director of the Federal Register on December 31, 1980, and reapproved as of January 1, 1982.

ADDRESSES: Availability of matter incorporated by reference in the amendment is as follows:

For examination—

1. FAA Rules Docket, FAA Headquarters Building, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591;

2. The FAA Regional Office of the region in which affected airport is located; or

3. The Flight Inspection Area Office which originated the SIAP.

For Purchase—Individual SIAP copies may be obtained from:

1. FAA Public Inquiry Center (APA-200), FAA Headquarters Building, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591; or

2. The FAA Regional Office of the region in which the affected airport is located.

By Subscription—Copies of all SIAPs, mailed once every 2 weeks, are for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donald P. Pate, Flight Procedure Standards Branch (AMCAFS-420), Flight Technologies and Programs

Division, Flight Standards Service, Federal Aviation Administration, Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center, 6500 South MacArthur Blvd. Oklahoma City, OK 73169 (Mail Address: P.O. Box 25082, Oklahoma City, OK 73125) telephone: (405) 954-4164.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This amendment to part 97 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 97) establishes, amends, suspends, or revokes Standard Instrument Approach Procedures (SIAPs). The complete regulatory description on each SIAP is contained in the appropriate FAA Form 8260 and the National Flight Data Center (FDC)/Permanent (P) Notices to Airmen (NOTAM) which are incorporated by reference in the amendment under 5 U.S.C. 552(a), 1 CFR part 51, and § 97.20 of the Federal Aviation's Regulations (FAR). Materials incorporated by reference are available for examination or purchase as stated above.

The large number of SIAPs, their complex nature, and the need for a special format make their verbatim publication in the **Federal Register** expensive and impractical. Further, airmen do not use the regulatory text of the SIAPs, but refer to their graphic depiction of charts printed by publishers of aeronautical materials. Thus, the advantages of incorporation by reference are realized and publication of the complete description of each SIAP contained in FAA form documents is unnecessary. The provisions of this amendment state the affected CFR (and FAR) sections, with the types and effective dates of the SIAPs. This amendment also identifies the airport, its location, the procedure identification and the amendment number.

The Rule

This amendment to part 97 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 97) establishes, amends, suspends, or revokes SIAPs. For safety and

timeliness of change considerations, this amendment incorporates only specific changes contained in the content of the following FDC/P NOTAMs for each SIAP. The SIAP information in some previously designated FDC/Temporary (FDC/T) NOTAMs is of such duration as to be permanent. With conversion to FDC/P NOTAMs, the respective FDC/T NOTAMs have been canceled.

The FDC/P NOTAMs for the SIAPs contained in this amendment are based on the criteria contained in the U.S. Standard for Terminal Instrument Procedures (TERPS). In developing these chart changes to SIAPs by FDC/P NOTAMs, the TERPS criteria were applied to only these specific conditions existing at the affected airports. All SIAP amendments in this rule have been previously issued by the FAA in a National Flight Data Center (FDC) Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) as an emergency action of immediate flight safety relating directly to published aeronautical charts. The circumstances which created the need for all these SIAP amendments requires making them effective in less than 30 days.

Further, the SIAPs contained in this amendment are based on the criteria contained in the TERPS. Because of the close and immediate relationship between these SIAPs and safety in air commerce, I find that notice and public procedure before adopting these SIAPs are impracticable and contrary to the public interest and, where applicable, that good cause exists for making these SIAPs effective in less than 30 days.

Conclusion

The FAA has determined that this regulation only involves an established body of technical regulations for which frequent and routine amendments are necessary to keep them operationally current. It, therefore—(1) is not a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a “significant rule” under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44

FR 11034; February 26, 1979); and (3) does not warrant preparation of a regulatory evaluation as the anticipated impact is so minimal. For the same reason, the FAA certifies that this amendment will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 97

Air Traffic Control, Airports, Navigation (Air).

Issued in Washington, DC on January 5, 2001.

L. Nicholas Lacey,
Director, Flight Standards Service.

Adoption of the Amendment

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me, part 97 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 97) is amended by establishing, amending, suspending, or revoking Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, effective at 0901 UTC on the dates specified, as follows:

PART 97—STANDARD INSTRUMENT APPROACH PROCEDURES

1. The authority citation for part 97 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 40103, 40113, 40120, 44701; 49 U.S.C. 106(g); and 14 CFR 11.49(b)(2).

2. Part 97 is amended to read as follows:

§§ 97.23, 97.25, 97.27, 97.29, 97.31, 97.33. [Amended]

By amending: § 97.23 VOR, VOR/DME, VOR or TACAN, and VOR/DME or TACAN; § 97.25 LOC, LOC/DME, LDA, LDA/DME, SDF, SDF/DME; § 97.27 NDB, NDB/DME; § 97.29 ILS, ILS/DME, ISMLS, MLS/DME, MLS/RNAV; § 97.31 RADAR SIAPs; § 97.33 RNAV SIAPs; and § COPTER SIAPs, Identified as follows:

* * * *Effective Upon Publication*

FDC date	State	City	Airport	FDC number	SIAP
12/25/00	NJ	Newark	Newark Intl	FDC 0/5494	ILS/DME RWY 22L ORIG
12/29/00	TX	Brownfield	Terry County	FDC 0/5625	GPS RWY 2 AMDT 1
12/29/00	TX	Brownfield	Terry County	FDC 0/5624	NDB RWY 2 AMDT 2
12/29/00	TX	Carrizo Springs	Dimmit County	FDC 0/5628	NDB RWY 31 AMDT 3
12/28/00	WI	Rice Lake	Rice Lake Regional-Carl's Field	FDC 0/5594	VOR RWY 1 ORIG
12/28/00	WI	Rice Lake	Rice Lake Regional-Carl's Field	FDC 0/5593	VOR/DME RWY 19 ORIG
12/28/00	WI	Wautoma	Wautoma Muni	FDC 0/5590	GPS RWY 31 ORIG
12/27/00	IN	Portland	Portland Muni	FDC 0/5575	GPS RWY 27 ORIG
12/27/00	IN	Portland	Portland Muni	FDC 0/5573	NDB RWY 27 AMDT 7
12/27/00	IN	Portland	Portland Muni	FDC 0/5572	NDB OR GPS RWY 9 AMDT 2
12/20/00	OH	Columbus	Rickenbacker Intl	FDC 0/5434	ILS RWY 23L ORIG-B
12/20/00	IL	Dekalb	Dekalb Taylor Muni	FDC 0/5425	LOC/DME RWY 2 ORIG
12/20/00	IL	Dekalb	Dekalb Taylor Muni	FDC 0/5424	VOR/DME OR GPS RWY 27 AMDT 5A
12/20/00	IL	Dekalb	Dekalb Taylor Muni	FDC 0/5423	GPS RWY 9 AMDT 5A

FDC date	State	City	Airport	FDC number	SIAP
12/20/00	IL	Dekalb	Dekalb Taylor Muni	FDC 0/5422	NDB RWY 27 AMDT 1
12/28/00	TN	Memphis	Memphis Intl	FDC 0/5584	ILS RWY 18R AMDT 12B
12/21/00	FL	Fort Lauderdale	Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood Intl	FDC 0/5471	ILS RWY 27R AMDT 6
12/21/00	FL	Fort Lauderdale	Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood Intl	FDC 0/5470	LOC RWY 94 AMDT 4
12/21/00	NC	Fayetteville	Fayetteville Rgnl/Grannis Field	FDC 0/5456	ILS RWY 4 AMDT 14A
12/21/00	NC	Fayetteville	Fayetteville Rgnl/Grannis Field	FDC 0/5452	NDB OR GPS RWY 4 AMDT 14A
12/21/00	NC	Fayetteville	Fayetteville Rgnl/Grannis Field	FDC 0/5451	VOR RWY 4 AMDT 15A
12/21/00	NC	Fayetteville	Fayetteville Rgnl/Grannis Field	FDC 0/5450	VOR OR GPS RWY 28 AMDT 7A
12/21/00	NC	Fayetteville	Fayetteville Rgnl/Grannis Field	FDC 0/5449	LOC BC RWY 22 AMDT 5B
12/20/00	WA	Renton	Renton Muni	FDC 0/5407	GPS RWY 15 ORIG
12/20/00	WA	Arlington	Arlington Muni	FDC 0/5409	LOC RWY 34 AMDT 4A
12/20/00	WA	Arlington	Arlington Muni	FDC 0/5408	NDB OR GPS RWY 34 AMDT 3

[FR Doc. 01-1092 Filed 1-11-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

20 CFR Parts 401, 402 and 403

RIN 0960-AE95

Testimony by Employees and the Production of Records and Information in Legal Proceedings

AGENCY: Social Security Administration.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Social Security Administration (SSA) is implementing procedures governing testimony by SSA employees and the production of official records and information in legal proceedings to which SSA is not a party. This rule provides procedures, requirements, and information on how SSA will handle these matters and expressly prohibits any production or testimony except as approved by the Commissioner of Social Security or as Federal law otherwise provides. This rule conserves and ensures more efficient use of SSA's resources in meeting the Agency's mission, promotes consistency in decisionmaking, minimizes the possibility of involving SSA in issues not related to its mission, maintains SSA's impartiality, protects sensitive and confidential information and the deliberative processes of SSA, and enhances SSA's ability to respond efficiently to requests for records, information, or testimony in a legal proceeding.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 12, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brad Howard, Attorney, Office of General Law, Office of the General Counsel, Room 617 Altmeyer Building, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401, (410) 966-1817, for information about this rule. For information on eligibility or claiming

benefits, call our national toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213 or TTY 1-800-325-0778.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On May 10, 2000, SSA published in the **Federal Register** a notice of proposed rulemaking proposing to establish procedures governing testimony by SSA employees and the production of official records and information in legal proceedings to which SSA is not a party (65 FR 30037-30043). Prior to March 31, 1995, SSA was part of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and followed the DHHS regulations at 45 CFR part 2 regarding these matters. The Social Security Independence and Program Improvements Act of 1994 (SSIPIA), Pub. L. 103-296, established SSA as an independent agency in the executive branch of the Federal Government effective March 31, 1995, and vested general regulatory authority in the Commissioner of Social Security (the Commissioner). Under sec. 106(b) of the SSIPIA, DHHS regulations in effect immediately before March 31, 1995, that relate to functions vested in the Commissioner by reason of SSA's independence, continue to apply to SSA until the Commissioner modifies, suspends, terminates, or repeals them. This rule establishes a new Part 403 of our regulations, which sets forth the SSA rules for responding to requests for information, records, or testimony in legal proceedings. The DHHS regulations at 45 CFR part 2 will no longer apply to SSA.

This rule, issued under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 301, is similar to rules issued by numerous Government agencies and departments. Section 301 of Title 5, the "housekeeping statute," authorizes the head of an executive agency to issue "regulations for the government of his department, the conduct of its employees, the distribution and

performance of its business and the custody, use, and preservation of its records, papers, and property." In *United States ex rel. Touhy v. Ragen*, 340 U.S. 462 (1951), the Supreme Court upheld the authority of Federal agencies to establish procedures pursuant to § 301 similar to those established here. Federal courts have consistently held that a person seeking testimony or records from an agency must comply with the agency's "Touhy regulation" before seeking judicial enforcement of a subpoena. In addition, under § 702(a)(5) of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 902(a)(5), the Commissioner has authority to promulgate regulations necessary to the efficient administration of SSA functions.

In the notice of proposed rulemaking published in the **Federal Register** on May 10, 2000, SSA requested comments by July 10, 2000. SSA received three comments on the proposed rule.

One commenter raised several issues concerning health and safety in Social Security offices. He essentially recommended that we revise the rule to allow testimony from employees in every case involving the health and safety of our employees. We share the commenter's general concerns about the importance of workplace safety. However, we are not adopting his recommendation because we believe that the rule addresses his concerns.

The commenter first noted that United States Attorneys' Offices may decline prosecution in situations where an employee is threatened or assaulted at work. In such situations, the employee often files charges with the local police and the matter proceeds in state court. He recommended that we clarify that testimony of the employee and employee-witnesses requires no prior approval in such cases. However, section 403.115(b)(7) renders the procedural requirements established in this rule inapplicable to state or local law enforcement proceedings related to threats or acts against SSA or its