

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**38 CFR Chapter I**

RIN 2900-AL15

Board of Veterans' Appeals Title Change**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs.**ACTION:** Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Board of Veterans' Appeals (Board) adjudicates appeals from denials of claims for veterans' benefits filed with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). This document amends VA regulations to reflect that the "Director of Administrative Service (014)" at the Board has been changed to the "Director, Management and Administration (01E)".

DATES: Effective Date: April 4, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven L. Keller, Senior Deputy Vice Chairman (012), Board of Veterans' Appeals, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420 (202-565-5978).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This final rule merely concerns agency management. Accordingly, we are dispensing with prior notice and comment and delayed effective date provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553.

Paperwork Reduction Act

This document contains no provisions constituting a collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520).

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs 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, 5 U.S.C. 601-612, since this final rule does not contain any substantive provisions. Therefore, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 605(b), this final rule is exempt from the regulatory flexibility analysis requirements of sections 603 and 604.

There is no Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number for this final rule.

Approved: March 25, 2002.

Anthony J. Principi,*Secretary of Veterans Affairs.*

For the reasons set out in the preamble, under 38 U.S.C. 501, 38 CFR chapter 1 is amended as set forth below:

CHAPTER I—DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

In chapter I, revise all references to "Director, Administrative Service

(014)", "Director of the Administrative Service (014)", or "Director of Administrative Service (014)" to read "Director, Management and Administration (01E)".

[FR Doc. 02-8120 Filed 4-3-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

POSTAL SERVICE**39 CFR Parts 224, 229, 233, 266, 273****Transfer of Functions From the Postal Inspection Service to the Inspector General****AGENCY:** Postal Service.**ACTION:** Final Rule.

SUMMARY: The Postal Service is amending the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the role the Inspector General plays in the audit, investigative, and oversight activity of the Postal Service. This is the first comprehensive revision of the Postal Service Inspector General regulations since the independent postal Inspector General came into existence in 1997. The intent of this revision is to remove outdated references to the Inspection Service's duties that are now the responsibility of the Office of Inspector General.

DATES: Effective April 4, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrea Bernardo, Managing Counsel, Legal Services, Office of Inspector General, 703-248-4676.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The primary responsibility of the Office of Inspector General is to conduct audits and investigations to prevent, detect, and report fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement; to promote efficiency in the programs and operations of the Postal Service; and to provide oversight of the Inspection Service. The 1996 amendments to the Inspector General Act (Act) created an independent inspector general for the Postal Service. The responsibility of serving as the inspector general was removed from the Chief Postal Inspector. The basic purpose of the Act was to strengthen audit and investigative activities in order to obtain greater efficiency and effectiveness in federal government operations. This purpose was to be achieved by consolidating audit and investigative units under a single individual reporting directly to the agency head; providing protections designed to ensure that the new offices had independence and authority to carry out their responsibilities; and by

requiring periodic reports to agency heads and Congress on their activities.

Section 2 of the Act specifically provided that the Inspector General shall audit all programs and operations of the Postal Service. With the creation of the independent postal inspector general, representatives of the Inspection Service and the Office of Inspector General met to work out the transition of selected functions from the Inspection Service to the Office of Inspector General. After several negotiation sessions, the two parties agreed to a formal designation of functions. As a result, certain activities formerly performed by the Inspection Service were now to be performed by the Office of Inspector General. References in Title 39 of the Code of Federal Regulations citing the Inspection Service as the party responsible for a variety of audit and oversight duties became outdated. This revision removes incorrect references to the Inspector Service and the Chief Postal Inspector and inserts very limited additional text. A new Part 230, Responsibilities of the Office of Inspector General, which will outline the duties of the Inspector General, will be published separately.

List of Subjects*39 CFR Part 224*

Organization and functions (Government agencies).

39 CFR Part 229

Organization and functions (Government agencies).

39 CFR Part 233

Administrative practice and procedure, Crime, Law enforcement, Penalties, Privacy.

39 CFR Part 266

Privacy.

39 CFR Part 273

Administrative practice and procedure, Claims, Fraud, Penalties.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, the Postal Service amends 39 CFR as follows:

PART 224—ORGANIZATIONS REPORTING DIRECTLY TO THE POSTMASTER GENERAL

A. Part 224 is amended as follows:

1. The authority citation for part 224 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 39 U.S.C. 203, 204, 401(2), 403, 404, 409, 1001; Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended (Pub. L. No. 95-452, as amended), 5 U.S.C. App. 3.