(B) Committed on or after August 15, 2011, not more than the greater of $1,025,000 or triple the monetary gain to such person for each such violation; and
(ii) For all other violations:
(A) Committed between November 27, 1996 and October 22, 2000, not more than the greater of $110,000 or triple the monetary gain to such person for each such violation;
(B) Committed between October 23, 2000 and October 22, 2004, not more than the greater of $120,000 or triple the monetary gain to such person for each such violation;
(C) Committed between October 23, 2004 and October 22, 2008, not more than the greater of $130,000 or triple the monetary gain to such person for each such violation; and
(D) Committed on or after October 23, 2008, not more than the greater of $140,000 or triple the monetary gain to such person for each such violation.

Issued in Washington, DC, on October 18, 2012, by the Commission.

Sauntia S. Warfield,
Assistant Secretary of the Commission.

Note: The following appendix will not appear in the Code of Federal Regulations.

Appendix to Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties for Inflation—Commission Voting Summary and Statements of Commissioners

Appendix 1—Commission Voting Summary

On this matter, Chairman Gensler and Commissioners Sommers, Chilton, O’Malia and Wetjen voted in the affirmative; no Commissioner voted in the negative.

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Billings Code 6351–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

36 CFR Part 230

RIN 0596–AC84

Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program; Approval of Information Collection Request

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule; notice of approval of Information Collection Request (ICR).

SUMMARY: The final rule entitled Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program was published on October 20, 2011. The Office of Management and Budget approved and cleared the associated information collection requirements (ICR) on August 22, 2012. This document announces approval of the ICR.

DATES: The ICR associated with the final rule published in the Federal Register on October 20, 2011, at 76 FR 65121, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved and cleared the associated Information Collection Requirements on August 22, 2012, under OMB Control Number 0596–0227.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Scott Stewart, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, State and Private Forestry, Cooperative Forestry, 202–205–1618. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.


Harris D. Sherman,
Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment.

BILLING CODE 3410–11–P

POSTAL SERVICE

39 CFR Part 966

Rules of Practice in Proceedings Relative to Administrative Offsets Initiated Against Former Employees of the Postal Service

AGENCY: Postal Service.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This document revises the rules of practice of the Judicial Officer in proceedings relative to administrative offsets initiated against former employees of the Postal Service. These revisions update the rules to reflect changes in the Postal Service’s debt collection regulations and procedures, eliminate outdated provisions, and conform the rules to the Judicial Officer’s existing practice.

DATES: Effective date: November 26, 2012.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
A. Executive Summary

The rules of practice in proceedings relative to administrative offsets initiated against former employees of the Postal Service are set forth in 39 CFR part 966. The Postal Service is concurrently revising its regulations pertaining to collecting debts from former employees contained in the Postal Service Employment and Labor Relations Manual (ELM). These ELM revisions conform existing Postal Service regulations to the requirements of the Debt Collection Act. The revisions in this document will bring 39 CFR part 966 into accord with the Postal Service’s revised regulations for collecting debts from former employees by administrative offset. In addition, minor changes will be made to eliminate outdated provisions and conform these rules to the existing practice of the Judicial Officer.

The Postal Service published these proposed changes to 39 CFR part 966 on September 4, 2012 (77 FR 53830–34). No comments were received. The final version of the rule is, accordingly unmodified, with the exception of minor changes to § 966.9, intended to be clarifying only.

B. Summary of Changes

Changes to § 966.2(a) cross reference the Postal Service’s new ELM provisions pertaining to administrative offsets and also clarify that such offsets are taken pursuant to the statutory authority of 31 U.S.C. 3716. Changes to § 966.2(b) clarify that the regulations contained in 39 CFR part 966 are intended to be consistent with the Federal Claims Collection Standards promulgated jointly by the Department of Justice and the Treasury, found at 31 CFR parts 900–904.

Changes to § 966.3 update the definitions of part 966 to refer to the Postal Service Accounting Service Center (ASC) or successor installation instead of the area Postmaster/Installation head. The definition of “reconsideration” in paragraph (i) is thus revised to refer to action taken by the ASC. These changes accurately reflect the Postal Service’s current practices for collecting debts from former employees, as collections from former employees are normally handled through the ASC. Definitions are also updated to include the Federal Claims Collection Standards, referenced elsewhere in the revised regulations.

Changes to paragraph (j) are non-substantive and provide the parties with useful contact information.

Changes to § 966.4 revise the procedures for filing a petition for a hearing under part 966. These revisions align these regulations with the Postal Service’s revised ELM regulations pertaining to collecting debts from former employees by administrative offset, the Postal Service’s current debt collection procedures, and current practice before the Judicial Officer.