DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

8 CFR Part 214

Nonimmigrant Classes

CFR Correction

In Title 8 of the Code of Federal Regulations, revised as of January 1, 2012, in §214.2, make the following corrections:

a. On page 289, restate paragraph (h)(2)(v);

b. On page 310, following paragraph (h)(9)(i)(B), restate paragraphs (h)(9)(i)(A) and (B); and

c. On page 311, revise the third sentence of paragraph (b)(11)(i)(A).

§214.2 Special requirements for admission, extension, and maintenance of status.

(h) * * * *

(2) * * *

(v) H–2A Petitions. Special criteria for admission, extension, and maintenance of status apply to H–2A petitions and are specified in paragraph (h)(5) of this section. The other provisions of §214.2(b) apply to H–2A only to the extent that they do not conflict with the special agricultural provisions in paragraph (h)(5) of this section.

(ii) Recording the validity of petitions. Procedures for recording the validity period of petitions are:

(A) If a new H petition is approved before the date the petitioner indicates that the services or training will begin, the approved petition and approval notice shall show the actual dates requested by the petitioner as the validity period, not to exceed the limits specified by paragraph (h)(5)(iii) of this section or other Service policy.

(B) If a new H petition is approved after the date the petitioner indicates that the services or training will begin, the approved petition and approval notice shall show a validity period commencing with the date of approval and ending with the date requested by the petitioner, as long as that date does not exceed either the limits specified by paragraph (h)(5)(iii) of this section or other Service policy.

* * * *

(11) * * *

(i) * * *

(A) * * * If the petitioner no longer employs the beneficiary, the petitioner shall send a letter explaining the

change(s) to the director who approved the petition. * * * *

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[FR Doc. 2012–31272 Filed 12–27–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 1505–01–D

BUROE OF CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION

12 CFR Part 1074

[Docket No. CFPB–2012–0051]

Procedure Relating to Rulemaking

AGENCY: Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection (Bureau) is adopting a procedural rule (Final Rule) that specifies how the Bureau issues rules and when rules are considered issued.

DATES: The Final Rule is effective on December 28, 2012.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background and Summary

The Final Rule specifies how the Bureau issues rules and when rules are considered issued. In the future, the Bureau may issue further rules on procedures for rulemaking.

Part 1074.1 establishes that the Bureau’s rules are deemed issued upon the earlier of: (1) When the final rule is posted on the Bureau’s Web site, or (2) when the final rule is published in the Federal Register. The Bureau’s Web site is www.consumerfinance.gov.

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Dodd-Frank Act)1 and other statutes authorize the Bureau to issue rules. Ordinarily, a rule may be considered issued at least when the rulemaking document containing the final rule has been placed on public inspection by the Office of the Federal Register or published in the Federal Register. However, an agency may treat other events as constituting the issuance of a rule.2 The key prerequisite for issuing a

1 Public Law 111–203.

rule appears to be providing public notice of the rule’s content. It is beneficial for regulated entities to know what constitutes issuance of an agency’s rules. Pursuant to a commitment to using modern technology to facilitate the Bureau’s performance of its functions, the Bureau regularly posts final rules on its Web site. Typically on the same day, the Bureau will submit the document to the Office of the Federal Register. After a period of time that depends on the length of the document and other factors, the Office of the Federal Register will then make the document available for public inspection and then publish it in the Federal Register. The Bureau does not believe that delaying issuance until the rule is published in the Federal Register is necessary or in the public interest. Accordingly, today’s rule provides that when a final rule is posted on the Bureau’s Web site before it is published in the Federal Register, the posting on the Web site shall constitute the official issuance of the rule.

Clarifying what constitutes issuance of a rule is beneficial because in some cases the date of issuance of a rule has legal consequences. For example, under section 1400(c)(3) of the Dodd-Frank Act, certain provisions of title XIV will go into effect on the date that is 18 months after the designated transfer date, unless relevant regulations are “issued” by that date. Given the Bureau’s practice of posting rules on its Web site before the Office of the Federal Register makes the rules available for public inspection or publishes the rules in the Federal Register, uncertainty could arise regarding the date on which such rules were issued. The Final Rule eliminates uncertainty by clarifying when the Bureau’s rules are deemed issued.

The Bureau generally intends to issue rules by posting them on its Web site, but, as a precaution, the Final Rule provides that a rule will be considered issued upon publication in the Federal Register if by inadvertence or for some other reason the rule is not posted on the Web site or is published in the Federal Register before it is posted on the Web site.

II. Legal Authority and Effective Date

Section 1022(b) of the Dodd-Frank Act authorizes the Bureau to prescribe rules as may be necessary and appropriate to enable the Bureau to administer and carry out the purposes and objectives of the Federal consumer financial laws, and to prevent evasions of those laws. In addition, section 1012(a) of the Dodd-Frank Act authorizes the Bureau “to establish the general policies of the Bureau with respect to all executive and administrative functions, including—(1) the establishment of rules for conducting the general business of the Bureau, in a manner not inconsistent with this title * * * *.”

The Final Rule is procedural and not substantive and, thus, is not subject to the 30-day delay in effective date required by 5 U.S.C. 553(d). The Bureau is making the Final Rule effective immediately upon publication in the Federal Register.

III. Section 1022(b)(2) of the Dodd-Frank Act

In developing the Final Rule, the Bureau has considered the potential benefits, costs, and impacts, and the Bureau has consulted or offered to consult with the prudential regulators and the Federal Trade Commission, including with regard to consistency with any prudential, market, or systemic objectives administered by such agencies. Certainty about the timing of issuance of the Bureau’s rules will likely benefit consumers and covered persons. The Bureau is not aware of costs to consumers or covered persons, including the potential reduction of access by consumers to consumer financial products or services, that can be predicted to result from treating rules as issued when the Bureau has posted them on its Web site. Further, the Bureau is not aware of any unique impact the Final Rule might have on insured depository institutions or insured credit unions with total assets of $10 billion or less as described in section 1026(a) of the Dodd-Frank Act, or on rural consumers.

IV. Regulatory Requirements

The Final Rule relates solely to agency procedure and practice and, thus, is not subject to the notice and comment requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 553(b). Because no notice of proposed rulemaking is required, this rule does not require an initial or a final regulatory flexibility analysis pursuant to the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA), 5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.

List of Subjects in 12 CFR Part 1074

Administrative practice and procedure.

Authority and Issuance

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, the Bureau adds part 1074 to Chapter X in Title 12 of the Code of Federal Regulations to read as follows:

PART 1074—PROCEDURE RELATING TO RULEMAKING

Sec. 1074.1 Date of issuance of Bureau rules.


§ 1074.1 Date of issuance of Bureau rules.

A final Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection (Bureau) rule is deemed issued upon the earlier of the following: (a) When the final rule is posted on the Bureau’s Web site; or (b) When the final rule is published in the Federal Register.


Richard Cordray, Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

[FR Doc. 2012–11310 Filed 12–27–12; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4810–AM–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

12 CFR Parts 19 and 109

[Docket ID OCC–2012–0011]

RIN 1557–AD61

Rules of Practice and Procedure; Rules of Practice and Procedure in Adjudicatory Proceedings; Civil Money Penalty Inflation Adjustments

AGENCY: Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Treasury.