

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[Docket No. USCG-2016-0088]

Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, Galveston, TX

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of deviation from drawbridge regulations.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard has issued a temporary deviation from the operating schedule that governs the Galveston Causeway Railroad Vertical Lift Bridge across the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, mile 357.2 west of Harvey Locks, at Galveston, Galveston County, Texas. The deviation is necessary to conduct maintenance on the bridge. This deviation allows the bridge to remain temporarily closed to navigation for two four-hour periods, on five consecutive days during day-light hours.

DATES: This deviation is effective from March 7 through March 11, 2016.

ADDRESSES: The docket for this deviation, [USCG-2016-0088] is available at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Type the docket number in the "SEARCH" box and click "SEARCH". Click on Open Docket Folder on the line associated with this deviation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this temporary deviation, call or email Jim Wetherington, Bridge Administration Branch, Coast Guard; telephone 504-671-2128, email james.r.wetherington@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company requested a temporary deviation from the operating schedule of the Galveston Causeway Railroad Vertical Lift Bridge across the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, mile 357.2 west of Harvey Locks, at Galveston, Galveston County, Texas. This deviation was requested to allow the bridge owner to complete cable lubing and scheduled semi-annual maintenance. This bridge is governed by 33 CFR 117.5.

This deviation allows the vertical lift bridge to remain closed to navigation from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and then again from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., daily, beginning March 7 through March 11, 2016. The bridge has a vertical clearance of 8.0 feet above mean high water, elevation 3.0 feet (NAVD88), in the closed-to-navigation position and 73 feet above mean high water in the open-to-navigation position. Navigation at the

site of the bridge consists mainly of tows with barges and some recreational pleasure craft.

Vessels able to pass through the bridge in the closed position may do so at any time and should pass at the slowest safe speed. The bridge can open in case of emergency. No alternate routes are available.

The Coast Guard will also inform the users of the waterways through our Local and Broadcast Notices to Mariners of the change in operating schedule for the bridge.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(e), the drawbridge must return to its regular operating schedule immediately at the end of the effective period of this temporary deviation. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35.

Dated: February 5, 2016.

David M. Frank,

Bridge Administrator, Eighth Coast Guard District.

[FR Doc. 2016-02777 Filed 2-10-16; 8:45 am]

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POSTAL SERVICE

39 CFR PART 955

Rules of Practice Before the Postal Service Board of Contract Appeals

AGENCY: Postal Service.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This document revises a portion of the rules of practice before the Postal Service Board of Contract Appeals to clarify that the Associate Judicial Officer is not required to serve as the Board's Vice Chairman.

DATES: *Effective:* February 11, 2016.

ADDRESSES: Correspondence regarding this document may be addressed to: Postal Service Judicial Officer Department, 2101 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 600, Arlington, VA 22201-3078.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Judicial Officer Gary E. Shapiro, (703) 812-1910.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

The Contract Disputes Act of 1978, as amended, established the Postal Service Board of Contract Appeals (PSBCA), and prescribed that its members consist of judges appointed by the Postmaster General, who shall meet the qualifications of and serve in the same manner as the members of the Civilian Board of Contract Appeals. (See 41 U.S.C. 7105(d)). The Board's current rules of practice state at 39 CFR

955.1(b)(2) that the Board consists of the Judicial Officer as Chairman, the Associate Judicial Officer as Vice Chairman, and the Judges of the Board, as appointed by the Postmaster General in accordance with the Contract Disputes Act of 1978, 41 U.S.C. 7101-7109, which reflected the Board's structure at the time the rules were implemented. While the Judicial Officer is appointed in accordance with the provisions of 39 U.S.C. 204, and serves as Chairman of the PSBCA, there is no statutory or other legal requirement that the Associate Judicial Officer serve as Vice Chairman.

B. Explanation of Changes

Accordingly, to enhance the efficiency and operational flexibility of the PSBCA, this document amends § 955.1(b)(2) by removing the statement reflecting the PSBCA's previously existing structure where the Associate Judicial Officer served as Vice Chairman of the Board, thus allowing any Judge of the Board to serve in that capacity. No other changes to the rules have been made.

List of Subjects in 39 CFR Part 955

Administrative practice and procedure, Government contracts.

Accordingly, for the reasons stated, the Postal Service hereby amends 39 CFR part 955 as follows:

PART 955—RULES OF PRACTICE BEFORE THE POSTAL SERVICE BOARD OF CONTRACT APPEALS

■ 1. The authority citation for 39 CFR part 955 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 39 U.S.C. 204, 401; 41 U.S.C. 7101-7109.

■ 2. In § 955.1, revise the first sentence of paragraph (b)(2) to read as follows:

§ 955.1 Jurisdiction, procedure, service of documents.

* * * * *

(b) * * *

(2) The Board consists of the Judicial Officer as Chairman, and the Judges of the Board, as appointed by the Postmaster General in accordance with the Contract Disputes Act of 1978, 41 U.S.C. 7101-7109. * * *

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Stanley F. Mires,

Attorney, Federal Compliance.

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