

The physical qualification standard for drivers regarding hearing found in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(11) states that a person is physically qualified to drive a CMV if that person:

First perceives a forced whispered voice in the better ear at not less than 5 feet with or without the use of a hearing aid or, if tested by use of an audiometric device, does not have an average hearing loss in the better ear greater than 40 decibels at 500 Hz, 1,000 Hz, and 2,000 Hz with or without a hearing aid when the audiometric device is calibrated to American National Standard (formerly ASA Standard) Z24.5-1951.

49 CFR 391.41(b)(11) was adopted in 1970, with a revision in 1971 to allow drivers to be qualified under this standard while wearing a hearing aid, 35 FR 6458, 6463 (April 22, 1970) and 36 FR 12857 (July 3, 1971).

The 3 individuals listed in this notice have requested renewal of their exemptions from the hearing standard in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(11), in accordance with FMCSA procedures. Accordingly, FMCSA has evaluated these applications for renewal on their merits and decided to extend each exemption for a renewable two-year period.

## II. Request for Comments

Interested parties or organizations possessing information that would otherwise show that any, or all, of these drivers are not currently achieving the statutory level of safety should immediately notify FMCSA. The Agency will evaluate any adverse evidence submitted and, if safety is being compromised or if continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, FMCSA will take immediate steps to revoke the exemption of a driver.

## III. Basis for Renewing Exemptions

Under 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(1), an exemption may be granted for no longer than two years from its approval date and may be renewed upon application. In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, each of the twelve applicants has satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the hearing requirement (80 FR 57032; 80 FR 60747). In addition, for Commercial Driver's License (CDL) holders, the Commercial Driver's License Information System (CDLIS) and the Motor Carrier Management Information System (MCMIS) are searched for crash and violation data. For non-CDL holders, the Agency reviews the driving records from the State Driver's Licensing Agency (SDLA). These factors provide an adequate basis for predicting each driver's ability to

continue to safely operate a CMV in interstate commerce.

The 3 drivers in this notice remain in good standing with the Agency and have not exhibited any medical issues that would compromise their ability to safely operate a CMV during the previous two-year exemption period. FMCSA has concluded that renewing the exemptions for each of these applicants is likely to achieve a level of safety equal to that existing without the exemption. Therefore, FMCSA has decided to renew each exemption for a two-year period. In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, each driver has received a renewed exemption.

As of April 8, 2017, Clark Dobson (CA) has satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the hearing requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(11), from driving CMVs in interstate commerce (79 FR 9036). This driver was included in FMCSA-2013-0124. The exemption was effective on April 8, 2017, and will expire on April 8, 2019.

As of April 8, 2017, Gregory Hill (MS) has satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the hearing requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(11), from driving CMVs in interstate commerce (80 FR 18926). This driver was included in FMCSA-2013-0123. The exemption was effective on April 8, 2017, and will expire on April 8, 2019.

As of April 21, 2017, Ronald Rutter (WA) has satisfied renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the hearing requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(11), from driving CMVs in interstate commerce (81 FR 12556). This driver was included in FMCSA-2013-0123. The exemption was effective on April 21, 2017, and will expire on April 21, 2019.

## IV. Conditions and Requirements

The exemptions are extended subject to the following conditions: (1) Each driver must report any crashes or accidents as defined in 49 CFR 390.5; and (2) report all citations and convictions for disqualifying offenses under 49 CFR part 383 and 49 CFR 391 to FMCSA. In addition, the driver must also have a copy of the exemption when driving, for presentation to a duly authorized Federal, State, or local enforcement official. The driver is prohibited from operating a motorcoach or bus with passengers in interstate commerce. The exemption does not exempt the individual from meeting the applicable CDL testing requirements. Each exemption will be valid for two years unless rescinded earlier by FMCSA. The exemption will be

rescinded if: (1) The person fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the exemption; (2) the exemption has resulted in a lower level of safety than was maintained before it was granted; or (3) continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315.

## IV. Conclusion

Based upon its evaluation of the three exemption applications, FMCSA renews the exemptions of the aforementioned drivers from the hearing requirement in 49 CFR 391.41 (b)(11). In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, each exemption will be valid for two years unless revoked earlier by FMCSA.

Issued on: March 29, 2017.

Larry W. Minor,

Associate Administrator for Policy.

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BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-1999-5748; FMCSA-1999-6156; FMCSA-2001-11426; FMCSA-2003-16564; FMCSA-2005-22194; FMCSA-2005-23099; FMCSA-2006-23773; FMCSA-2006-24015; FMCSA-2006-24783; FMCSA-2007-0017; FMCSA-2007-0071; FMCSA-2007-29010; FMCSA-2008-0021; FMCSA-2009-0011; FMCSA-2009-0291; FMCSA-2010-0050; FMCSA-2010-0082; FMCSA-2011-0379; FMCSA-2012-0040; FMCSA-2012-0104; FMCSA-2012-0106; FMCSA-2013-0166; FMCSA-2013-0174; FMCSA-2014-0002; FMCSA-2014-0003; FMCSA-2014-0004; FMCSA-2014-0005; FMCSA-2014-0006]

### Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Vision

**AGENCY:** Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of final disposition.

**SUMMARY:** FMCSA announces its decision to renew exemptions for 88 individuals from the vision requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) for interstate commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers. The exemptions enable these individuals to continue to operate CMVs in interstate commerce without meeting the vision requirement in one eye.

**DATES:** Each group of renewed exemptions was effective on the dates stated in the discussions below and will expire on the dates stated in the discussions below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Christine A. Hydock, Chief, Medical

Programs Division, 202-366-4001, [fmcsamedical@dot.gov](mailto:fmcsamedical@dot.gov), FMCSA, Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W64-224, Washington, DC 20590-0001. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. If you have questions regarding viewing or submitting material to the docket, contact Docket Services, telephone (202) 366-9826.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Electronic Access

You may see all the comments online through the Federal Document Management System (FDMS) at: <http://www.regulations.gov>.

*Docket:* For access to the docket to read background documents or comments, go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and/or Room W12-140 on the ground level of the West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

*Privacy Act:* In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to <http://www.regulations.gov>, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at <http://www.dot.gov/privacy>.

##### II. Background

On December 29, 2016, FMCSA published a notice announcing its decision to renew exemptions for 88 individuals from the vision requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10) to operate a CMV in interstate commerce and requested comments from the public (81 FR 96196). The public comment period ended on January 30, 2017, and two comments were received.

As stated in the previous notice, FMCSA has evaluated the eligibility of these applicants and determined that renewing these exemptions would achieve a level of safety equivalent to or greater than the level that would be achieved by complying with the current regulation 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10).

The physical qualification standard for drivers regarding vision found in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10) states that a person is physically qualified to driver a CMV if that person:

Has distant visual acuity of at least 20/40 (Snellen) in each eye without corrective lenses or visual acuity separately corrected to 20/40 (Snellen) or better with corrective lenses, distant binocular acuity of a least 20/

40 (Snellen) in both eyes with or without corrective lenses, field of vision of at least 70° in the horizontal meridian in each eye, and the ability to recognize the colors of traffic signals and devices showing red, green, and amber.

##### III. Discussion of Comments

FMCSA received two comments in this preceding. Amy Schindler stated that she believes granting these exemptions are potentially unsafe. As discussed in section II of this notice, FMCSA has evaluated the eligibility of these applicants and determined that renewing these exemptions would achieve a level of safety equivalent to or greater than the level that would be achieved by complying with the current regulation 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10). Whitney-Rose Levis is in favor of granting the exemptions, but states that the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations should be updated to allow monocular drivers to operate without having to renew an exemption.

##### VI. Conclusion

As of July 8, 2016, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, the following 40 individuals have satisfied the conditions for obtaining a renewed exemption from the vision requirements (64 FR 40404; 64 FR 66962; 66 FR 63289; 67 FR 10471; 67 FR 19798; 68 FR 64944; 69 FR 19611; 70 FR 57353; 70 FR 67776; 70 FR 72689; 71 FR 26602; 72 FR 58362; 72 FR 64273; 72 FR 67340; 72 FR 67344; 73 FR 1395; 73 FR 6242; 73 FR 15254; 73 FR 15567; 73 FR 16950; 73 FR 27015; 73 FR 27017; 74 FR 62632; 74 FR 65842; 74 FR 65845; 75 FR 9477; 75 FR 9482; 75 FR 14656; 75 FR 19674; 75 FR 20881; 75 FR 27621; 75 FR 28684; 76 FR 70215; 77 FR 7233; 77 FR 10606; 77 FR 13689; 77 FR 17115; 77 FR 23799; 77 FR 23800; 77 FR 27847; 77 FR 27849; 77 FR 33558; 77 FR 38386; 78 FR 62935; 78 FR 64280; 78 FR 76395; 79 FR 1908; 79 FR 10606; 79 FR 14328; 79 FR 14331; 79 FR 14333; 79 FR 14571; 79 FR 17641; 79 FR 18390; 79 FR 18392; 79 FR 22000; 79 FR 22003; 79 FR 23797; 79 FR 27365; 79 FR 27681; 79 FR 28588; 79 FR 29495; 79 FR 29498; 79 FR 38649);

Guy M. Alloway (OR)  
Roger E. Anderson (TX)  
Alan A. Andrews (NE)  
William C. Christy (FL)  
David F. Cialdea (MA)  
Gerard J. Cormier (MA)  
Travis C. Denzler (MN)  
Barent H. Eliason (MO)  
Sean O. Feeny (FL)  
Paul W. Fetting (SD)  
Hector O. Flores (MD)  
Brian R. Gallagher (TX)  
Todd C. Grider (IN)  
Jimmy G. Hall (NC)

Taras G. Hamilton (TX)  
Donald W. Holt (MA)  
William D. Jackson (MN)  
Darryl J. Johnson (MN)  
Gregory R. Johnson (SC)  
Glenn K. Johnson, Jr. (NC)  
John Lucas (NC)  
Albert E. Malley (MN)  
Steven Martin (IL)  
Charles E. Meis (TX)  
Carlos A. Mendez-Castellon (VA)  
Michael R. Moore (MD)  
Charles R. Morris, Jr. (OH)  
Hassan Ourahou (KY)  
James M. Nohl (MN)  
Enoc Ramos III (TX)  
Jamey D. Reed (OK)  
Christopher A. Reineck (OH)  
James T. Rohr (MN)  
Joe Sanchez (TX)  
James S. Seeno (NV)  
Steven S. Smith, Jr. (PA)  
Thomas L. Tveit (SD)  
Kevin R. White (NC)  
Richard W. Wylie (CT)  
Steven E. Young (MO)

The drivers were included in one of the following docket Nos: FMCSA-1999-5748; FMCSA-2001-11426; FMCSA-2005-22194; FMCSA-2007-0017; FMCSA-2007-0071; FMCSA-2007-29019; FMCSA-2008-0021; FMCSA-2009-0291; FMCSA-2010-0050; FMCSA-2012-0040; FMCSA-2012-0104; FMCSA-2013-0166; FMCSA-2013-0174; FMCSA-2014-0002; FMCSA-2014-0003; FMCSA-2014-0004; FMCSA-2014-0005. Their exemptions are effective as of July 8, 2016, and will expire on July 8, 2018.

As of July 12, 2016, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, the following 7 individuals have satisfied the conditions for obtaining a renewed exemption from the vision requirements (71 FR 4194; 71 FR 13450; 73 FR 15255; 75 FR 9481; 75 FR 20882; 75 FR 22178; 75 FR 25917; 75 FR 25918; 75 FR 39729; 77 FR 15184; 77 FR 27847; 77 FR 27850; 77 FR 36338; 77 FR 38386; 79 FR 35220);

Walter M. Brown (SC)  
Chadwick S. Chambers (AL)  
William C. Dempsey, Jr. (MA)  
Miguel H. Espinoza (CA)  
Ricky P. Hastings (TX)  
Leland B. Moss (VT)  
Markus Perkins (LA)

The drivers were included in one of the following docket Nos: FMCSA-2005-23099; FMCSA-2009-0011; FMCSA-2010-0082; FMCSA-2011-0379; FMCSA-2012-0104. Their exemptions are effective as of July 12, 2016, and will expire on July 12, 2018.

As of July 20, 2016, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, the following 17 individuals have satisfied

the conditions for obtaining a renewed exemption from the vision requirements (64 FR 5948; 65 FR 159; 67 FR 10471; 67 FR 10475; 67 FR 19798; 68 FR 74699; 69 FR 8260; 69 FR 10503; 69 FR 19611; 70 FR 57353; 70 FR 72689; 71 FR 6824; 71 FR 6828; 71 FR 6829; 71 FR 14567; 71 FR 19604; 71 FR 26602; 71 FR 30229; 71 FR 32183; 71 FR 41310; 73 FR 11989; 73 FR 15567; 73 FR 27017; 73 FR 27018; 73 FR 28187; 73 FR 36955; 75 FR 36778; 75 FR 36779; 77 FR 38384; 79 FR 35212; 79 FR 35218; 79 FR 47175):

Delmas C. Bergdoll (WV)  
Kenneth J. Bernard (LA)  
Harvis P. Cosby (MD)  
Daniel R. Franks (OH)  
Walter D. Hague, Jr. (VA)  
William G. Hix (AR)  
Timothy B. Hummel (KY)  
Clarence H. Jacobsma (IN)  
Charles E. Johnston (MO)  
Aaron C. Lougher (OR)  
William F. Mack (WA)  
Patrick E. Martin (WA)  
Leland K. McAlhaney (IN)  
Ronald M. Price (MD)  
Scott D. Russell (WI)  
Alton M. Rutherford (FL)  
Sandra J. Sperling (WA)

The drivers were included in one of the following docket Nos: FMCSA–1999–6156; FMCSA–2001–11426; FMCSA–2003–16564; FMCSA–2005–22194; FMCSA–2006–23773; FMCSA–2006–24015; FMCSA–2006–24783; FMCSA–2008–0021; FMCSA–2014–0006. Their exemptions are effective as of July 20, 2016, and will expire on July 20, 2018. As of July 22, 2016, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, the following 15 individuals have satisfied the conditions for obtaining a renewed exemption from the vision requirements (79 FR 35212; 79 FR 47175):

Abdulahi Abukar (KY)  
Gregory K. Banister (SC)  
Amanuel W. Behon (WA)  
Kenneth W. Bos (MN)  
Brian L. Elliot (MO)  
Bradley C. Hansell (OR)  
Samuel L. Klaphake (MN)  
Timothy L. Klose (PA)  
Phillip E. Mason (MO)  
Kenneth A. Orrino (WA)  
Ruel W. Smith (SD)  
Loren Smith (SD)  
Seth D. Sweeten (ID)  
Ronald L. Weiss (MN)  
John T. White, Jr. (NC)

The drivers were included in docket No. FMCSA–2014–0006. Their exemptions are effective as of July 22, 2016, and will expire on July 22, 2018.

As of July 30, 2016, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, the following 9 individuals have satisfied

the conditions for obtaining a renewed exemption from the vision requirements (71 FR 32183; 71 FR 41310; 73 FR 36955; 75 FR 25917; 75 FR 36779; 75 FR 39729; 77 FR 33017; 77 FR 36338; 77 FR 38384; 77 FR 44708; 79 FR 37843; 79 FR 38661):

Dale W. Coblentz (MT)  
Lester M. Ellingson, Jr.  
Damon G. Gallardo (CA)  
Daniel L. Grover (KS)  
James E. Modaffari (OR)  
Larry A. Nienhaus (MI)  
Gregory A. Reinert (MN)  
Scott J. Schlenker (WA)  
Joseph B. Shaw, Jr. (VA)

The drivers were included in one of the following docket Nos: FMCSA–2006–24783; FMCSA–2010–0082; FMCSA–2012–0106. Their exemptions are effective as of July 30, 2016, and will expire on July 30, 2018.

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315, each exemption will be valid for two years from the effective date unless revoked earlier by FMCSA. The exemption will be revoked if the following occurs: (1) The person fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the exemption; (2) the exemption has resulted in a lower level of safety than was maintained prior to being granted; or (3) continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136 and 31315.

Issued on: March 29, 2017.

**Larry W. Minor,**

*Associate Administrator for Policy.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0521]

### Agency Information Collection Activity: Compliance Inspection Report

**AGENCY:** Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) or 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension, of a currently approved

collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice.

VA Forms 26–1820, 26–8497 and 26–8497a are used by Lenders to obtain specific information concerning a veteran's credit history in order to properly underwrite the veteran's loan. The data collected on the forms is used to ensure that applications for VA-guaranteed loans are underwritten in a reasonable and prudent manner.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before June 5, 2017.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information through Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov) or to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20M33), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420 or email to [nancy.kessinger@va.gov](mailto:nancy.kessinger@va.gov). Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0521” in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through the FDMS.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 632–8924 or FAX (202) 632–8925.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA of 1995, Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, VBA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VBA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VBA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

**Authority:** Public Law 104–13; 44 U.S.C. 3501–21.

**Title:** Compliance Inspection Report (VA Form 26–1820, VA Form 26–8497, VA Form 26–8497a).

**OMB Control Number:** 2900–0521.

**Type of Review:** Extension of an approved collection.

**Abstract:** Lenders must obtain specific information concerning a veteran's