4. Processional Furnishings

Litters, canopies, coffins, cases, crosses, banners, and cofradia insignias carried in processions and made of wood, glass, and/or textiles.

D. Metalwork

Ritual objects for ceremonial ecclesiastical use made of gold, silver, and/or other metals, such as, monstrances, lecterns, chalices, censers, candlesticks, crucifixes, crosses, decorative plaques, tabernacles, processional banners, church bells, and cofradia insignias; and objects used to dress sculptures, including, among others, crowns, halos, and aureoles.

E. Textiles

Textiles used to perform religious services made from cotton or silk that may be embroidered with metallic and/or silk thread, brocades, prints, lace, fabrics, braids, and/or bobbin lace.

1. Religious Vestments

Garments worn by priests and/or other ecclesiastics, including cloaks, tunics, surplises, chasubles, dalmatics, albs, amices, stoles, maniples, cinctures, rochets, miters, bonnets, and humeral veils.

2. Garments To Dress Sculptures

Life-sized or miniaturized garments, including tunics, robes, dresses, jackets, capes, stoles, veils, belts, and embroidered cloths.

3. Coverings and Hangings

Altar cloths, towels, and tabernacle veils used for religious services.

F. Documents and Manuscripts

Original handwritten texts or printed texts of limited circulation, primarily on paper, parchment, or vellum, including religious texts, hymnals, and church records. Documents may contain wax, clay, or ink seals or stamps denoting an ecclesiastical institution. Documents are generally written in Spanish, but may include words from indigenous languages, such as, Nawat, Lenca, or Mayan languages.

Inapplicability of Notice and Delayed Effective Date

This amendment involves a foreign affairs function of the United States and is, therefore, being made without notice or public procedure (5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1)). For the same reason, a delayed effective date is not required under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3).

Regulatory Flexibility Act

Because no notice of proposed rulemaking is required, the provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) do not apply.

Executive Orders 12866 and 13771

CBP has determined that this document is not a regulation or rule subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12866 or Executive Order 13771 because it pertains to a foreign affairs function of the United States, as described above, and therefore is specifically exempted by section 3(d)(2) of Executive Order 12866 and section 4(a) of Executive Order 13771.

Summary

This regulation is being issued in accordance with 19 CFR 0.1(a)(1) pertaining to the Secretary of the Treasury’s authority (or that of his/her delegate) to approve regulations related to customs revenue functions.

List of Subjects in 19 CFR Part 12

Cultural property, Customs duties and inspection, Imports, Prohibited merchandise, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Amendment to CBP Regulations

For the reasons set forth above, part 12 of Title 19 of the Code of Federal Regulations (19 CFR part 12), is amended as set forth below:

PART 12—SPECIAL CLASSES OF MERCHANDISE

§ 12.104g Specific items or categories designated by agreements or emergency actions.

(a) * * *

State party

Cultural property

Decision No.

El Salvador

Archaeological material representing El Salvador’s Pre-Hispanic cultures ranging in date from approximately 8000 B.C. through A.D. 1550 and ecclesiastical ethnological material from the Colonial period through the first half of the twentieth century ranging in date from approximately A.D. 1525 to 1950.

Dated: March 6, 2020.

Mark A. Morgan

Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

Approved:

Timothy E. Skud,
Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

[FR Doc. 2020–05694 Filed 3–16–20; 11:15 am]

BILLING CODE 9111–14–P

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

29 CFR Part 1601

RIN 3046–AB17

2020 Adjustment of the Penalty for Violation of Notice Posting Requirements


ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015, which further amended the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990, this final rule adjusts for inflation the civil monetary penalty for violation of the notice-posting requirements in Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Genetic Information Non-Discrimination Act.

DATES: This final rule is effective March 18, 2020.
I. Background

Under section 711 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which is incorporated by reference in section 105 of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and section 207 of the Genetic Information Non-Discrimination Act (GINA), and 29 CFR 1601.30(a), every employer, employment agency, labor organization, and joint labor-management committee controlling an apprenticeship or other training program covered by Title VII, ADA, or GINA must post notices describing the pertinent provisions of Title VII, ADA, or GINA. Such notices must be posted in prominent and accessible places where notices to employees, applicants, and members are customarily maintained. On average, the EEOC issues fewer than 60 posting notice violations annually.


The Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015 (2015 Act), Public Law 114–74, Sec. 701(b), 129 Stat. 599, further amended the FCPIA Act, to require each federal agency, not later than July 1, 2016, and not later than January 15 of every year thereafter, to issue regulations adjusting for inflation the maximum civil penalty that may be imposed pursuant to each agency’s statutes. The EEOC’s initial adjustment made pursuant to the 2015 Act was published in the Federal Register on June 2, 2016, at 81 FR 35269 and raised the maximum penalty per violation from $210 to $525. The EEOC’s second adjustment made pursuant to the 2015 Act was published in the Federal Register on January 31, 2017, at 82 FR 8812 and raised the maximum penalty per violation from $525 to $534. EEOC’s third adjustment made pursuant to the 2015 Act was published in the Federal Register on January 18, 2018 at 83 FR 2537 and raised the maximum penalty per violation from $534 to $545. EEOC’s most recent adjustment made pursuant to the 2015 Act was published in the Federal Register March 21, 2019 at 84 FR 10410 and raised the maximum penalty per violation from $545 to $559.

The purpose of the annual adjustment for inflation is to maintain the remedial impact of civil monetary penalties and promote compliance with the law. These periodic adjustments to the penalty are to be calculated pursuant to the inflation adjustment formula provided in section 5(b) of the 2015 Act and, in accordance with section 6 of the 2015 Act, the adjusted penalty will apply only to penalties assessed after the effective date of the adjustment. Generally, the periodic inflation adjustment to a civil monetary penalty under the 2015 Act will be based on the percentage change between the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI–U) for the month of October preceding the date of adjustment and the prior year’s October CPI–U.

II. Calculation

The adjustment set forth in this final rule was calculated by comparing the CPI–U for October 2019 with the CPI–U for October 2018, resulting in an inflation adjustment factor of 1.01764. The first step of the calculation is to multiply the inflation adjustment factor (1.01764) by the most recent civil penalty amount ($559) to calculate the inflation-adjusted penalty level ($568,86076). The second step is to round this inflation-adjusted penalty to the nearest dollar ($569). Accordingly, the Commission is now adjusting the maximum penalty per violation specified in 29 CFR 1601.30(a) from $559 to $569.

III. Regulatory Procedures

Administrative Procedure Act

The Administrative Procedure Act (APA) provides an exception to the notice and comment procedures where an agency finds good cause for dispensing with such procedures, on the basis that they are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest. The Commission finds that under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(3)(B) good cause exists to not utilize notice of proposed rulemaking and public comment procedures for this rule because this adjustment of the civil monetary penalty is required by the 2015 Act, the formula for calculating the adjustment to the penalty is prescribed by statute, and the Commission has no discretion in determining the amount of the published adjustment. Accordingly, the Commission is issuing this revised regulation as a final rule without notice and comment.

Executive Orders 13563, 12866, and 13771

Pursuant to Executive Order 12866, the EEOC has coordinated with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866, the EEOC and OMB have determined that this final rule will not have an annual effect on the economy of $100 million or more, or adversely affect in a material way the economy, a sector of the economy, productivity, competition, jobs, the environment, public health or safety, or state, local, or tribal governments or communities. The great majority of employers and entities covered by these regulations comply with the posting requirement, and, as a result, the aggregate economic impact of these revised regulations will be minimal, affecting only those limited few who fail to post required notices in violation of the regulation and statute. This rule is not an Executive Order 13771 regulatory action because the rule is not significant under Executive Order 12866.

Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35) (PRA) applies to rulemakings in which an agency creates a new paperwork burden on regulated entities or modifies an existing burden. This final rule contains no new information collection requirements, and therefore, will create no new paperwork burdens or modifications to existing burdens that are subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget under the PRA.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601–612) only requires a regulatory flexibility analysis when notice and comment is required by the Administrative Procedure Act or some other statute. As stated above, notice and comment is not required for this
rule. For that reason, the requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act do not apply.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995

This final rule will not result in the expenditure by State, local, or tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of $100 million or more in any one year, and it will not significantly or uniquely affect small governments. Therefore, no actions were deemed necessary under the provisions of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995.

Congressional Review Act

The Congressional Review Act (CRA) requires that before a rule may take effect, the agency promulgating the rule must submit a rule report, which includes a copy of the rule, to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. EEOC will submit a report containing this rule and other required information to the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Comptroller General of the United States prior to the effective date of the rule. Under the CRA, a major rule cannot take effect until 60 days after it is published in the Federal Register. This action is not a “major rule” as defined by the CRA at 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

List of Subjects in 29 CFR Part 1601

Administrative practice and procedure.


Janet L. Dhillon,
Chair, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Accordingly, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission amends 29 CFR part 1601 as follows:

PART 1601—PROCEDURAL REGULATIONS

1. The authority citation for part 1601 continues to read as follows:


2. Section 1601.30 is amended by revising paragraph (b) to read as follows:

§1601.30 Notices to be posted.

(b) Section 711(b) of Title VII and the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act, as amended, make failure to comply with this section punishable by a fine of not more than $569 for each separate offense.

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

29 CFR Parts 4022 and 4044


AGENCY: Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This final rule amends the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation’s regulations on Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans and Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans to prescribe certain interest assumptions under the benefit payments regulation for plans with valuation dates in April 2020 and interest assumptions under the asset allocation regulation for plans with valuation dates in the second quarter of 2020. These interest assumptions are used for valuing benefits and paying certain benefits under terminating single-employer plans covered by the pension insurance system administered by PBGC.

DATES: Effective April 1, 2020.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Gregory Katz (katz.gregory@pbgc.gov), Attorney, Regulatory Affairs Division, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street NW, Washington, DC 20005, 202–326–4400, ext. 3829. (TTY users may call the Federal relay service toll free at 1–800–877–8339 and ask to be connected to 202–326–4400, ext. 3829.)


Lump Sum Interest Assumption

PBGC uses the interest assumptions in appendix B to part 4022 (“Lump Sum Interest Rates for PBGC Payments”) to determine whether a benefit is payable as a lump sum and to determine the amount to pay as a lump sum. Because some private-sector pension plans use these interest rates to determine lump sum amounts payable to plan participants (if the resulting lump sum is larger than the amount required under section 417(e)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and section 205(g)(3) of ERISA), these rates are also provided in appendix C to part 4022 (“Lump Sum Interest Rates for Private-Sector Payments”).

This final rule updates appendices B and C of the benefit payments regulation to provide the rates for April 2020 measurement dates.

The April 2020 lump sum interest assumptions will be 0.00 percent for the period during which a benefit is (or is assumed to be) in pay status and 4.00 percent during any years preceding the benefit’s placement in pay status. In comparison with the interest assumptions in effect for March 2020, these assumptions represent no change in the immediate rate and are otherwise unchanged.

Valuation/Asset Allocation Interest Assumptions

PBGC uses the interest assumptions in appendix B to part 4044 (“Interest Rates Used to Value Benefits”) to value benefits for allocation purposes under section 4044 of ERISA, and some private-sector pension plans use them to determine benefit liabilities reportable under section 4044 of ERISA and for other purposes. The second quarter 2020 interest assumptions will be 2.11 percent for the first 20 years following the valuation date and 1.92 percent thereafter. In comparison with the interest assumptions in effect for the first quarter of 2020, these interest assumptions represent a decrease of 5 years in the select period (the period during which the select rate (the initial rate) applies), a decrease of 0.01 percent in the select rate, and a decrease of 0.34 percent in the ultimate rate (the final rate).

Need for Immediate Guidance

PBGC updates appendix B of the asset allocation regulation each quarter and appendices B and C of the benefit payments regulation each month. PBGC has determined that notice and public comment on this amendment are impracticable and contrary to the public interest. This finding is based on the need to issue new interest assumptions promptly so that they are available to value benefits and, for plans that rely on these rates are also provided in appendix C to part 4022 (“Lump Sum Interest Rates for Private-Sector Payments”).

[FR Doc. 2020–05225 Filed 3–17–20; 8:45 am]