

Rules and Regulations

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The Code of Federal Regulations is sold by the Superintendent of Documents.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 100

[Docket No. USCG-2025-0899]

Special Local Regulations; Recurring Marine Events, Sector St. Petersburg

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notification of enforcement of regulation.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard will enforce a special local regulation for the Gasparilla Invasion and Parade/Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla on January 31, 2026, to provide for the safety of life on navigable waterways during this event. Our regulation for recurring marine events within the Captain of the Port St. Petersburg identifies the regulated area for this event in Tampa, FL. During the enforcement periods, no person or vessel may enter, transit through, anchor in, or remain within the regulated area unless authorized by the Coast Guard Patrol Commander or a designated representative.

DATES: The regulations in 33 CFR 100.703 will be enforced for the location identified in Table 1 to § 100.703, Item 1, from 9 a.m. through 6 p.m., on January 31, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions about this notice of enforcement, call or email Lieutenant Ryan McNaughton, Sector St. Petersburg, Waterways Management Division, U.S. Coast Guard; telephone 813-918-7270, email: Ryan.A.McNaughton@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Coast Guard will enforce the special local regulation in 33 CFR 100.703 for the Gasparilla parade regulated area identified in Table 1 to § 100.703, Item 1, from 9 a.m. through 6 p.m. on January 31, 2026. This action is being taken to provide for the safety of life on

navigable waterways during this event. Our regulation for recurring marine events, Captain of the Port Sector St. Petersburg, Table 1 to § 100.703, Item 1, specifies the location of the regulated area for the Gasparilla parade, which encompasses portions of Hillsborough Bay, Seddon Channel, Sparkman Channel and Hillsborough River located in Tampa, FL. Under the provisions of 33 CFR 100.703(c), all persons and vessels are prohibited from entering the regulated area, except those persons and vessels participating in the event, unless they receive permission to do so from the Coast Guard Patrol Commander, or designated representative.

Under the provisions of 33 CFR 100.703, spectator vessels may safely transit outside the regulated area, but may not anchor, block, loiter in, impede the transit of festival participants or official patrol vessels or enter the regulated area without approval from the Coast Guard Patrol Commander or a designated representative. The Coast Guard may be assisted by other Federal, State, or local law enforcement agencies in enforcing this regulation. In addition to this notice of enforcement in the **Federal Register**, the Coast Guard will provide notice of the regulated area via Local Notice to Mariners, Marine Safety Information Bulletins, Broadcast Notice to Mariners, and on-scene designated representatives.

Courtney A. Sergent,
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port St. Petersburg.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

38 CFR Parts 3 and 21

[Docket No. VA-2021-VBA-0025]

RIN 2900-AP67

Apportionments

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This final rule amends Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) regulations to limit the circumstances in which benefits will be apportioned and to stop making need-based apportionments. Currently, in limited

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situations, VA may pay a portion of a VA beneficiary's monetary benefits directly to the beneficiary's dependent, referred to as an apportionment. To qualify, the dependent cannot reside with the beneficiary, must demonstrate financial need, and the apportionment must not cause financial hardship to the beneficiary. VA claims processors, whose expertise is in VA benefits and not in matters related to child or spousal support, decide whether to take monetary benefits from the beneficiary and reallocate the funds to dependents. VA claims processors can take this action without the consent of the beneficiary. These apportionment decisions, which can have significant financial consequences, are based on both parties' self-reported income and self-reported expenses. Unlike State courts, VA has no ability to compel evidence of income and expenses. Allegations of inadequate child or spousal support involve complex issues of family law that are best suited to the expertise and authority of State courts. VA apportionments can upset the expectations upon which a State court support award was predicated, requiring a State court to expend additional resources to revisit a prior determination. Finally, due to their intricacy, a significant amount of information is needed to adjudicate apportionment claims properly. While this information is typically available to State courts, VA must attempt to gather this information from the VA beneficiary and the beneficiary's dependent, which is unavoidably a time-consuming process. The time and effort needed to gather this information increases VA workloads and consumes resources that are better utilized to process veterans' claims. Because VA apportionment awards may conflict with the awards of better-situated State family courts, and because VA lacks the authority and expertise to make fully informed, accurate, and economically appropriate awards, VA is amending its regulations to discontinue making need-based apportionment awards. VA will continue making apportionment awards in situations when a veteran or surviving spouse is incarcerated, or when an incompetent veteran, who does not have a fiduciary, is institutionalized at government expense. VA will not discontinue any current apportionments because of this rulemaking.