

forth in sections 17(a) and 23(a) of the Exchange Act.

List of Subjects in 17 CFR Part 249

Reporting and recordkeeping requirements; Securities.

Text of Amendments

For reasons set forth in the preamble, title 17, chapter II of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

PART 249—FORMS, SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

■ 1. The general authority citation for part 249 continues to read, in part, as follows:

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 78a *et seq.* and 7201 *et seq.*; 12 U.S.C. 5461 *et seq.*; 18 U.S.C. 1350; Sec. 953(b) Pub. L. 111–203, 124 Stat. 1904; Sec. 102(a)(3) Pub. L. 112–106, 126 Stat. 309 (2012), Sec. 107 Pub. L. 112–106, 126 Stat. 313 (2012), Sec. 72001 Pub. L. 114–94, 129 Stat. 1312 (2015), and secs. 2 and 3 Pub. L. 116–222, 134 Stat. 1063 (2020), unless otherwise noted.

* * * * *

■ 2. Amend Part IIA of Form X–17A–5 (referenced in § 249.617) by:

■ a. On the cover page, removing “15 U.S.C. 78:f(a)” and adding in its place “15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).”

■ b. In the Liabilities sub-section of the Statement of Financial Condition, removing “E.” after “19.”

■ c. In the Ownership Equity sub-section of the Statement of Financial Condition, removing “1780” and adding in its place “1770”.

■ d. In the Ownership Equity sub-section of the Statement of Financial Condition, removing “1770” and adding in its place “1780”.

■ e. In the Ownership Equity sub-section of the Statement of Financial Condition, removing “)” after “1020”.

■ f. In the Net Income/Comprehensive Income sub-section of the Statement of Income (Loss) or Statement of Comprehensive Income, removing “4338” and adding in its place “4238”.

■ g. In the Exemptive Provision under Rule 15c3–3 sub-section, removing “If an exemption from Rule 15c3–1 is claimed” and adding in its place “If an exemption from Rule 15c3–3 is claimed”.

■ h. In the Exemptive Provision under Rule 15c3–3 sub-section, removing “\$2,500 capital category as per Rule 15c3–1” and adding in its place “Limited business (mutual funds and/or variable annuities only)”.

■ i. In the Exemptive Provision under Rule 15c3–3 sub-section, removing “(k)(2)(A)” and adding in its place “(k)(2)(i)”.

■ j. In the Exemptive Provision under Rule 15c3–3 sub-section, removing

“(k)(2)(B)” and adding in its place “(k)(2)(ii)”.

Note: Part IIA of Form X–17A–5 will not appear in the Code of Federal Regulations.

Dated: June 22, 2026.

Stephanie J. Fouse,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–12779 Filed 6–24–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

20 CFR Part 356

RIN 3220–AB89

Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment

AGENCY: Railroad Retirement Board.

ACTION: Direct final rule.

SUMMARY: The Railroad Retirement Board amends its regulations to remove provisions purporting to set and adjust civil monetary penalties assessed under the False Claims Act. The amendment also removes obsolete language relating to a one-time catch-up inflation adjustment that was completed in 2016 and changes references to the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act to refer to the Administrative False Claims Act.

DATES: This rule is effective August 10, 2026 without further action, unless adverse comment is received by July 27, 2026. If adverse comment is received, the Railroad Retirement Board will publish a timely withdrawal of the rule in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by RIN 3320–AB89, through any of the following methods:

1. Internet—Send inquiries via email to SecretarytotheBoard@rrb.gov.

2. Mail—Secretary to the Board, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 N Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611–1275. Mailed comments must be received by the close of the comment period.

Do not submit the same comment multiple times or by more than one method. Do not include any personally identifiable information (such as name, address, or other contact information) or confidential business information that you do not want publicly disclosed. All comments are public records; they are publicly displayed exactly as received, and will not be deleted, modified, or redacted. Comments may be submitted anonymously. Regardless of which method you choose, please indicate that your comments refer to RIN number 3320–AB89.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Peter J. Orlowicz, Senior Counsel,

Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, IL 60611–1275, (312) 751–4922.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As part of the implementation of the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, Public Law 104–131, the Railroad Retirement Board (Board) added Part 356 to its regulations to provide for adjustment of civil monetary penalties provided by law within the Board’s jurisdiction. At that time, based on the best information available to the Board, it was determined that adjustments should be published for penalties under the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. 3729–33. The False Claims Act provides that any person who knowingly submits, or causes to submit, false claims to the government is liable for three times the government’s damages plus a penalty that is adjusted for inflation. However, the False Claims Act is not administered by the Board. Instead, the Department of Justice has jurisdiction to set and adjust civil monetary penalties under the False Claims Act. See Table 1 to 28 CFR 85.5.

The Board has never attempted to independently impose civil penalties under the False Claims Act. Instead, the Board refers such cases to the Department of Justice through the Board’s Office of Inspector General. Following the enactment of section 701 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 (Pub. L. 114–74, sec. 701 (Nov. 2, 2015)), entitled the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015, the Board amended Part 356 to provide for inflationary adjustments to penalties under the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986 and the False Claims Act. 81 FR 26127 (May 2, 2016). After those amendments were published, the Department of Justice Civil Division contacted the Board to resolve any conflict between the Department’s jurisdiction over the False Claims Act and Part 356. After reviewing the relevant legal authorities, the Board agreed with the Department that jurisdiction to adjust civil penalties under the False Claims Act belonged to the Department and Part 356 should be amended to remove references to penalties under the False Claims Act.

Because the Board agrees with the Department that jurisdiction to adjust civil penalties under the False Claims Act belongs to the Department, repeal of the relevant section of Part 356 is directed by Executive Order 14219, Ensuring Lawful Governance and Implementing the President’s “Department of Government Efficiency” Deregulatory Initiative (Feb. 19, 2025). Additionally, because the Board does

not independently impose civil penalties under the False Claims Act and the Department of Justice has existing regulations at Table 1 to 28 CFR 85.5 that implement these civil penalties, this removal will not affect any potential cases, will not modify the Board's actual practice in referring such cases to the Department of Justice, and will not increase or decrease any individual's actual liability for civil penalties under the False Claims Act. Accordingly, the Board removes 20 CFR 356.3 in its entirety.

The Board also amends 20 CFR 356.2 to update the reference to the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986. In section 5203 of the Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025, Congress made substantial amendments to the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986, including changing its short title to the Administrative False Claims Act. Public Law 118–159, sec. 5203 (Dec. 23, 2024). The Board comprehensively revised its implementing regulations for the Administrative False Claims Act in 20 CFR part 355 on June 16, 2025. 90 FR 25144 (Jun. 16, 2025). The amendment to § 356.2 aligns the civil monetary penalty inflation adjustment provision with the rest of the implementing regulations in Part 355. As stated in § 356.2(e), the Board will continue to publish the maximum penalty which may be assessed under Part 355 through a **Federal Register** notice on or before January 15 of each calendar year.

Finally, the Board amends § 356.1 to remove obsolete language that described the one-time catch-up adjustment in civil penalty amounts required by the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015. 28 U.S.C. 2461 note. This one-time adjustment was completed in May 2016 and took effect for claims or statements made on or after August 1, 2016.

This direct final rule is being issued without prior public notice or opportunity for public comments. The Board does not anticipate this rule will generate adverse comment, and the effective date of the rule is conditional on the non-receipt of adverse comments. If the Board receives significant adverse comments prior to the effective date of this direct final rule, the Board will publish a timely notification in the **Federal Register** to withdraw the rule.

Regulatory Analysis

Executive Order 12866, as Supplemented by Executive Order 13563

The Board, with the Office of Management and Budget, has determined that this is not a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866, as supplemented by Executive Order 13563. Therefore, no regulatory impact analysis is required.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Board certifies that this direct final rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities because it affects only individuals.

Paperwork Reduction Act

This direct final rule imposes no reporting or recordkeeping requirements subject to Office of Management and Budget clearance.

List of Subjects in 20 CFR Part 356

Claims, Penalties.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, the Railroad Retirement Board amends 20 CFR part 356 as follows:

PART 356—CIVIL MONETARY PENALTY INFLATION ADJUSTMENT

- 1. The authority citation for part 356 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 28 U.S.C. 2461; 31 U.S.C. 3809; sec. 5203, Pub. L. 118–159, 138 Stat. 1773.

- 2. Revise and republish § 356.1 to read as follows:

§ 356.1 Introduction.

(a) The Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act, as amended by the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015 (28 U.S.C. 2461 note), requires that civil monetary penalties be adjusted on an annual basis by the percentage by which the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the month of October preceding the adjustment exceeds the CPI-U for the month of October of the calendar year prior to the October preceding the adjustment, with final amounts rounded to the nearest dollar. That Act also required a one-time catch-up adjustment in the amount of the percentage by which the CPI-U for October 2015 exceeded the CPI-U for the month of October of the calendar year during which the amount of civil monetary penalty was established or adjusted under a provision of law other than the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act. This one-time catch-up adjustment was published in May 2016

and took effect for claims or statements made on or after August 1, 2016.

(b) Imposition of the increased civil monetary penalties are limited to actions occurring after the effective date of the increases.

(c) The ten percent cap on increases imposed by the Debt Collection Improvements Act of 1996 was eliminated in the 2015 amendments to the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act and is no longer applicable.

- 3. In § 356.2, revise the section heading to read as follows:

§ 356.2 Penalties under the Administrative False Claims Act.

§ 356.3 [Removed]

- 4. Remove § 356.3.

Dated: June 23, 2026.

By Authority of the Board.

Stephanie Hillyard,

Secretary to the Board.

[FR Doc. 2026–12805 Filed 6–24–26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Mine Safety and Health Administration

30 CFR Part 57

[Docket No. MSHA–2025–0076]

RIN 1219–AC07

Improving and Eliminating Regulations; Blacksmith Shops

AGENCY: Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), Department of Labor.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: MSHA is eliminating outdated requirements for blacksmith shops located at surface areas of underground metal and nonmetal (MNM) mines. These provisions are being removed from MSHA's regulations because blacksmith shops are no longer used by MNM mines.

DATES: *Effective date:* July 27, 2026.

ADDRESSES:

Docket: Access rulemaking documents electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov> [Docket No. MSHA–2025–0076]. Obtain a copy of rulemaking documents from the Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, MSHA, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20210, by request to (202) 693–9440. This is not a toll-free number.

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