

**PART 515—CUBAN ASSETS
CONTROL REGULATIONS**

**Subpart A—Relation of This Part to Other
Laws and Regulations**

Sec.

515.101 Relation of this part to other laws and regulations.

Subpart B—Prohibitions

515.201 Transactions involving designated foreign countries or their nationals; effective date.

515.202 Transactions with respect to securities registered or inscribed in the name of a designated national.

515.203 Effect of transfers violating the provisions of this part.

515.204 Importation of and dealings in certain merchandise.

515.205 Holding of certain types of blocked property in interest-bearing accounts.

515.206 Exempt transactions.

515.207 Entry of vessels engaged in trade with Cuba.

515.208 Restrictions on loans, credits and other financing.

515.209 Restrictions on direct financial transactions with certain entities and subentities.

515.210 Restrictions on lodging, paying for lodging, or making reservations at certain properties in Cuba.

Subpart C—General Definitions

515.301 Foreign country.

515.302 National.

515.303 Nationals of more than one foreign country.

515.305 Designated national.

515.306 Specially designated national.

515.307 Unblocked national.

515.308 Person.

515.309 Transactions.

515.310 Transfer.

515.311 Property; property interests.

515.312 Interest.

515.313 Property subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

515.314 Banking institution.

515.316 License.

515.317 General license.

515.318 Specific license.

515.319 Blocked account.

515.320 Domestic bank.

515.321 United States; continental United States.

515.322 Authorized trade territory; member of the authorized trade territory.

515.323 Occupied area.

515.325 National securities exchange.

515.326 Custody of safe deposit boxes.

515.327 Blocked estate of a decedent.

515.329 Person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States; person subject to U.S. jurisdiction.

515.330 Person within the United States.

515.331 Merchandise.

515.332 Information and informational materials.

515.333 Depository institution.

515.334 United States national.

515.335 Permanent resident alien.

515.336 Confiscated.

515.337 Prohibited officials of the Government of Cuba.

515.338 Prohibited members of the Cuban Communist Party.

515.339 Close relative.

515.340 Independent private sector entrepreneur.

Subpart D—Interpretations

515.401 Reference to amended sections.

515.402 Effect of amendment of sections of this part or of other orders, etc.

515.403 Termination and acquisition of the interest of a designated national.

515.404 Transactions between principal and agent.

515.405 Exportation of securities, currency, checks, drafts and promissory notes.

515.406 Drafts under irrevocable letters of credit; documentary drafts.

515.407 Administration of blocked estates of decedents.

515.408 Access to certain safe deposit boxes prohibited.

515.409 Certain payments to a designated foreign country and nationals through third countries.

515.410 Dealing abroad in Cuban-origin commodities.

515.411–515.413 [Reserved]

515.415 Travel to Cuba; transportation of certain Cuban nationals.

515.416–515.419 [Reserved]

515.420 Travel to Cuba.

515.421 Transactions ordinarily incident to a licensed transaction.

Subpart E—Licenses, Authorizations, and Statements of Licensing Policy

515.501 General and specific licensing procedures.

515.502 Effect of subsequent license or authorization.

515.503 Exclusion from licenses and authorizations.

515.504 Certain judicial proceedings with respect to property of designated nationals.

515.505 Certain Cuban nationals unblocked.

515.506–515.507 [Reserved]

515.508 Payments to blocked accounts in domestic banks.

515.509 Entries in certain accounts for normal service charges.

515.510 Payments to the United States, States and political subdivisions.

515.511 Transactions by certain business enterprises.

515.512 Provision of certain legal services authorized.

515.513 Purchase and sale of certain securities.

515.514 Payment of dividends and interest on and redemption and collection of securities.

515.515 Transfers of securities to blocked accounts in domestic banks.

515.516 Voting and soliciting of proxies on securities.

515.517 Access to safe deposit boxes under certain conditions.

515.518 [Reserved]

515.519 Limited payments from accounts of United States citizens abroad.

515.520 Payments from accounts of United States citizens in employ of United States in foreign countries and certain other persons.

515.521 U.S. assets of certain Cuban corporations.

515.522 [Reserved]

515.523 Transactions incident to the administration of decedents' estates.

515.524 Payment from, and transactions in the administration of certain trusts and estates.

515.525 Certain transfers as a consequence of the existence or change of marital status authorized.

515.526 Transactions involving blocked life insurance policies.

515.527 Certain transactions with respect to United States intellectual property.

515.528 Certain transactions with respect to blocked foreign intellectual property.

515.529 Powers of attorney.

515.530 Exportation of powers of attorney or instructions relating to certain types of transactions.

515.532 Completion of certain securities transactions.

515.533 Exportations from the United States to Cuba; reexports to Cuba; importation and servicing or repair of certain items previously exported or reexported to Cuba.

515.534 Negotiation of, and entry into, contingent contracts relating to transactions prohibited by this part.

515.535 Exchange of certain securities.

515.536 Certain transactions with respect to merchandise affected by § 515.204.

515.540 [Reserved]

515.542 Mail and telecommunications-related transactions.

515.543 Proof of origin.

515.544 Certain gifts sent to the United States.

515.545 Transactions related to information and informational materials.

515.546 Accounts of Cuban sole proprietorships.

515.547 Certain transactions related to medical research and Cuban-origin pharmaceuticals; research samples.

515.548 Overflight payments, emergency landings, and air ambulance services authorized.

515.549 Bank accounts and other property of non-Cuban citizens who were in Cuba on or after July 8, 1963.

515.550 Certain vessel transactions authorized.

515.551 Joint bank accounts.

515.552 Proceeds of insurance policies.

515.553 Bank accounts of official representatives in Cuba of foreign governments.

515.554 Transfers of abandoned property under State laws.

515.555 Assets of Cuban firms wholly or substantially owned by U.S. citizens.

515.556 [Reserved]

515.557 Accounts of Cuban partnerships.

515.558 Bunkering of Cuban vessels and fueling of Cuban aircraft by American-owned or controlled foreign firms.

515.559 Certain export and import transactions by U.S.-owned or -controlled foreign firms.

515.560 Travel-related transactions to, from, and within Cuba by persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction.

515.561 Family visits.

515.562 Official business of the U.S. government, foreign governments, and certain intergovernmental organizations.

515.563 Journalistic activities in Cuba.

515.564 Professional research and professional meetings in Cuba.

515.565 Educational activities.

515.566 Religious activities in Cuba.

515.567 Public performances, clinics, workshops, athletic and other competitions, and exhibitions.

515.568 [Reserved]

515.569 Foreign passengers' baggage.

515.570 Remittances.

515.571 Certain transactions incident to travel to, from, and within the United States by Cuban nationals.

515.572 Provision of travel, carrier, other transportation-related, and remittance forwarding services.

515.573 Physical presence and business presence in Cuba authorized; Cuban news bureaus.

515.574 Support for the Cuban people.

515.575 Humanitarian projects.

515.576 Activities of private foundations or research or educational institutes.

515.577 Authorized transactions necessary and ordinarily incident to publishing.

515.578 Exportation, reexportation, and importation of certain internet-based services; importation of software.

§515.101

515.579 Funds transfers for third-country official missions and certain intergovernmental organizations.

515.580 Global insurance policies covering individuals traveling to Cuba.

515.581 Transactions related to conferences in third countries.

515.582 Importation of certain goods and services produced by independent Cuban entrepreneurs.

515.583 Provision of certain goods and services to Cuban nationals sequestered aboard vessels in U.S. ports.

515.584 Certain financial transactions involving Cuba.

515.585 Certain transactions in third countries.

515.586 Cuban official missions in the United States.

515.587 Remittances from Cuban nationals to persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction.

515.588 Certain Cuban legal services authorized.

515.589 Authorization of emergency medical services.

515.590 Certain grants, scholarships, and awards.

515.591 Services related to infrastructure.

Subpart F—Reports

515.601 Records and reports.

Subpart G—Penalties

515.701 Penalties.

Subpart H—Procedures

515.801 Procedures.

515.802 Delegation by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Subpart I—Miscellaneous Provisions

515.901 Paperwork Reduction Act notice.

AUTHORITY: 22 U.S.C. 2370(a), 6001–6010, 7201–7211; 31 U.S.C. 321(b); 50 U.S.C. 4301–4341; Pub. L. 101–410, 104 Stat. 890 (28 U.S.C. 2461 note); 22 U.S.C. 6021–6091; Pub. L. 105–277, 112 Stat. 2681; Pub. L. 111–8, 123 Stat. 524; Pub. L. 111–117, 123 Stat. 3034; E.O. 9989, 13 FR 4891, 3 CFR, 1943–1948 Comp., p. 748; Proc. 3447, 27 FR 1085, 3 CFR, 1959–1963 Comp., p. 157; E.O. 12854, 58 FR 36587, 3 CFR, 1993 Comp., p. 614.

SOURCE: 28 FR 6974, July 9, 1963, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—Relation of This Part to Other Laws and Regulations

§515.101 Relation of this part to other laws and regulations.

(a) This part is separate from, and independent of, the other parts of this

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

chapter with the exception of part 501 of this chapter, the recordkeeping and reporting requirements and license application and other procedures of which apply to this part. No license or authorization contained in or issued pursuant to one of those parts, or any other provision of law, authorizes any transaction prohibited by this part.

(b) No license or authorization contained in or issued pursuant to this part shall be deemed to authorize any transaction prohibited by any law other than the Trading With the Enemy Act, 50 U.S.C. 4301–4341, the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, 22 U.S.C. 2370, or any proclamation, order, regulation or license issued pursuant thereto.

[50 FR 27437, July 3, 1985, as amended at 62 FR 45106, Aug. 25, 1997; 85 FR 60070, Sept. 24, 2020]

Subpart B—Prohibitions

§515.201 Transactions involving designated foreign countries or their nationals; effective date.

(a) All of the following transactions are prohibited, except as specifically authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury (or any person, agency, or instrumentality designated by him) by means of regulations, rulings, instructions, licenses, or otherwise, if either such transactions are by, or on behalf of, or pursuant to the direction of a foreign country designated under this part, or any national thereof, or such transactions involve property in which a foreign country designated under this part, or any national thereof, has at any time on or since the effective date of this section had any interest of any nature whatsoever, direct or indirect:

(1) All transfers of credit and all payments between, by, through, or to any banking institution or banking institutions wheresoever located, with respect to any property subject to the jurisdiction of the United States or by any person (including a banking institution) subject to the jurisdiction of the United States;

(2) All transactions in foreign exchange by any person within the United States; and

(3) The exportation or withdrawal from the United States of gold or silver

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.203**

coin or bullion, currency or securities, or the earmarking of any such property, by any person within the United States.

(b) All of the following transactions are prohibited, except as specifically authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury (or any person, agency, or instrumentality designated by him) by means of regulations, rulings, instructions, licenses, or otherwise, if such transactions involve property in which any foreign country designated under this part, or any national thereof, has at any time on or since the effective date of this section had any interest of any nature whatsoever, direct or indirect:

(1) All dealings in, including, without limitation, transfers, withdrawals, or exportations of, any property or evidences of indebtedness or evidences of ownership of property by any person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States; and

(2) All transfers outside the United States with regard to any property or property interest subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

(c) Any transaction for the purpose or which has the effect of evading or avoiding any of the prohibitions set forth in paragraph (a) or (b) of this section is hereby prohibited.

(d) For the purposes of this part, the term *foreign country designated under this part* and the term *designated foreign country* mean Cuba and the term *effective date* and the term *effective date of this section* mean with respect to Cuba, or any national thereof, 12:01 a.m., e.s.t., July 8, 1963.

(e) When a transaction results in the blocking of funds at a banking institution pursuant to this section and a party to the transaction believes the funds have been blocked due to mistaken identity, that party may seek to have such funds unblocked pursuant to the administrative procedures set forth in § 501.806 of this chapter.

[28 FR 6974, July 9, 1963, as amended at 62 FR 45106, Aug. 25, 1997]

§ 515.202 Transactions with respect to securities registered or inscribed in the name of a designated national.

Unless authorized by a license expressly referring to this section, the

acquisition, transfer (including the transfer on the books of any issuer or agent thereof), disposition, transportation, importation, exportation, or withdrawal of, or the endorsement or guaranty of signatures on or otherwise dealing in any security (or evidence thereof) registered or inscribed in the name of any designated national is prohibited irrespective of the fact that at any time (either prior to, on, or subsequent to the "effective date") the registered or inscribed owner thereof may have, or appears to have, assigned, transferred or otherwise disposed of any such security.

§ 515.203 Effect of transfers violating the provisions of this part.

(a) Any transfer after the "effective date" which is in violation of any provision of this part or of any regulation, ruling, instruction, license, or other direction or authorization thereunder and involves any property in which a designated national has or has had an interest since such "effective date" is null and void and shall not be the basis for the assertion or recognition of any interest in or right, remedy, power or privilege with respect to such property.

(b) No transfer before the "effective date" shall be the basis for the assertion or recognition of any right, remedy, power, or privilege with respect to, or interest in, any property in which a designated national has or has had an interest since the "effective date" unless the person with whom such property is held or maintained had written notice of the transfer or by any written evidence had recognized such transfer prior to such "effective date."

(c) Unless otherwise provided, an appropriate license or other authorization issued by or pursuant to the direction or authorization of the Secretary of the Treasury before, during or after a transfer shall validate such transfer or render it enforceable to the same extent as it would be valid or enforceable but for the provisions of section 5(b) of the Trading With the Enemy Act, as amended, and this part and any ruling, order, regulation, direction or instruction issued hereunder.

§ 515.204

(d) Transfers of property which otherwise would be null and void, or unenforceable by virtue of the provisions of this section shall not be deemed to be null and void, or unenforceable pursuant to such provisions, as to any person with whom such property was held or maintained (and as to such person only) in cases in which such person is able to establish each of the following:

(1) Such transfer did not represent a willful violation of the provisions of this part by the person with whom such property was held or maintained;

(2) The person with whom such property was held or maintained did not have reasonable cause to know or suspect, in view of all the facts and circumstances known or available to such person, that such transfer required a license or authorization by or pursuant to the provisions of this part and was not so licensed or authorized or if a license or authorization did purport to cover the transfer, that such license or authorization had been obtained by misrepresentation or the withholding of material facts or was otherwise fraudulently obtained; and

(3) Promptly upon discovery that:

(i) Such transfer was in violation of the provisions of this part or any regulation, ruling, instruction, license or other direction or authorization thereunder, or

(ii) Such transfer was not licensed or authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury, or

(iii) If a license did purport to cover the transfer, such license had been obtained by misrepresentation or the withholding of material facts or was otherwise fraudulently obtained;

the person with whom such property was held or maintained filed with the Treasury Department, Washington, D.C., a report in triplicate setting forth in full the circumstances relating to such transfer. The filing of a report in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph shall not be deemed to be compliance or evidence of compliance with paragraphs (d) (1) and (2) of this section.

(e) Unless licensed or authorized by § 515.504 or otherwise licensed or authorized pursuant to this chapter any attachment, judgment, decree, lien, execution, garnishment, or other judi-

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

cial process is null and void with respect to any property in which on or since the "effective date" there existed the interest of a designated foreign country or national thereof.

(f) For the purpose of this section the term *property* includes gold, silver, bullion, currency, coin, credit, securities (as that term is defined in section 2(1) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended), bills of exchange, notes, drafts, acceptances, checks, letters of credit, book credits, debts, claims, contracts, negotiable documents of title, mortgages, liens, annuities, insurance policies, options and futures in commodities, and evidences of any of the foregoing. The term *property* shall not, except to the extent indicated, be deemed to include chattels or real property.

[28 FR 6974, July 9, 1963, as amended at 28 FR 7941, Aug. 3, 1963]

§ 515.204 Importation of and dealings in certain merchandise.

(a) Except as specifically authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury (or any person, agency, or instrumentality designated by him) by means of regulations, rulings, instructions, licenses, or otherwise, no person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States may purchase, transport, import, or otherwise deal in or engage in any transaction with respect to any merchandise outside the United States if such merchandise:

- (1) Is of Cuban origin; or
- (2) Is or has been located in or transported from or through Cuba; or
- (3) Is made or derived in whole or in part of any article which is the growth, produce or manufacture of Cuba.

(b) [Reserved]

§ 515.205 Holding of certain types of blocked property in interest-bearing accounts.

(a) Except as provided by paragraphs (d), (e) and (f) of this section, or as authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury or his delegate by specific license, any person holding any property included in paragraph (h) of this section is prohibited from holding, withholding, using, transferring, engaging in any transactions involving, or exercising any right, power, or privilege

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.205**

with respect to any such property, unless it is held in an interest-bearing account in a domestic bank.

(b) Any person presently holding property subject to the provisions of paragraph (a) of this section which, as of the effective date of this section, is not being held in accordance with the provisions of that paragraph shall transfer such property to or hold such property or cause such property to be held in an interest-bearing account in any domestic bank within 30 days of the effective date of this section.

(c) Any person holding any checks or drafts subject to the provisions of § 515.201 is authorized and directed, wherever possible consistent with state law (except as otherwise specifically provided in paragraph (c)(3) of this section), to negotiate or present for collection or payment such instruments and credit the proceeds to interest-bearing accounts. Any transaction by any person incident to the negotiation, processing, presentation, collection or payment of such instruments and deposit of the proceeds into an interest-bearing account is hereby authorized: *Provided that:*

(1) The transaction does not represent, directly or indirectly, a transfer of the interest of a designated national to any other country or person;

(2) The proceeds are held in a blocked account indicating the designated national who is the payee or owner of the instrument; and,

(3) In the case of a blocked check or draft which has been purchased by the maker/drawer from the drawee bank (e.g., cashier's check, money order, or traveler's check) or which is drawn against a presently existing account, such bank, on presentation of the instrument in accordance with the provisions of this section, shall either:

(i) Pay the instrument (subject to paragraphs (c)(1) and (2) of this section) or

(ii) Credit a blocked account on its books with the amount payable on the instrument.

In either event, the blocked account shall be identified as resulting from the proceeds of a blocked check or draft, and the identification shall include a reference to the names of both

the maker and payee of the instrument.

(d) Property subject to the provisions of paragraph (a) or (b) of this section, held by a person claiming a set-off against such property, is exempt from the provisions of paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of this section to the extent of the set-off: *Provided however,* That interest shall be due from 30 days after the effective date of this section if it should ultimately be determined that the claim to a set-off is without merit.

(e) Property subject to the provisions of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section, held in a customer's account by a registered broker/dealer in securities, may continue to be held for the customer by the broker/dealer provided interest is credited to the account on any balance not invested in securities in accordance with § 515.513. The interest paid on such accounts by a broker/dealer who does not elect to hold such property for a customer's account in a domestic bank shall not be less than the maximum rate payable on the shortest time deposit available in any domestic bank in the jurisdiction in which the broker/dealer holds the account.

(f) Property subject to the provisions of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section, held by a state agency charged with the custody of abandoned or unclaimed property under § 515.554 may continue to be held by the agency provided interest is credited to the blocked account in which the property is held by the agency, or the property is held by the agency in a blocked account in a domestic bank. The interest credited to such accounts by an agency which does not elect to hold such property in a domestic bank shall not be less than the maximum rate payable on the shortest time deposit available in any domestic bank in the state.

(g) For purposes of this section, the term *interest-bearing account* means a blocked account earning interest at no less than the maximum rate payable on the shortest time deposit in the domestic bank where the account is held: *Provided however,* That such an account may include six-month Treasury bills or insured certificates, with a maturity not exceeding six-months, appropriate to the amounts involved.

§515.206

(h) The following types of property are subject to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section:

(1) Any currency, bank deposit and bank accounts subject to the provisions of §515.201;

(2) Any property subject to the provisions of §515.201 which consists, in whole or in part, of undisputed and either liquidated or matured debts, claims, obligations or other evidence of indebtedness, to the extent of any amount that is undisputed and liquidated or matured; and

(3) Any proceeds resulting from the payment of an obligation under paragraph (c) of this section.

(i) For purposes of this section, the term *domestic bank* includes any FSLIC-insured institution (as defined in 12 CFR 561.1).

(j) For the purposes of this section the term *person* includes the United States Government or any agency or instrumentality thereof, except where the agency or instrumentality submits to the Office of Foreign Assets Control an opinion of its General Counsel that either:

(1) It lacks statutory authority to comply with this section, or

(2) The requirements of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section are inconsistent with the statutory program under which it operates.

[44 FR 11770, Mar. 2, 1979]

§515.206 Exempt transactions.

(a) *Information and informational materials.* (1) The importation from any country and the exportation to any country of information or informational materials as defined in §515.332, whether commercial or otherwise, regardless of format or medium of transmission, are exempt from the prohibitions and regulations of this part except for payments owed to Cuba for telecommunications services between Cuba and the United States, which are subject to the provisions of §515.542.

(2) This section does not authorize transactions related to information or informational materials not fully created and in existence at the date of the transaction, or to the substantive or artistic alteration or enhancement of information or informational materials, or to the provision of marketing

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

and business consulting services by a person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States. Such prohibited transactions include, without limitation, payment of advances for information or informational materials not yet created and completed, provision of services to market, produce or co-produce, create or assist in the creation of information or informational materials, and payment of royalties to a designated national with respect to income received for enhancements or alterations made by persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States to information or informational materials imported from a designated national.

(3) This section does not authorize transactions incident to the transmission of restricted technical data as defined in the Export Administration Regulations, 15 CFR parts 730-774, or to the exportation of goods for use in the transmission of any data. The exportation of such goods to designated foreign countries is prohibited, as provided in §515.201 of this part and §785.1 of the Export Administration Regulations.

(4) This section does not authorize transactions related to travel to Cuba when such travel is not otherwise authorized under §515.545.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (a): See §515.545 for general licenses authorizing certain travel-related and other transactions that are directly incident to the export, import, or transmission of informational materials and certain transactions related to the creation, dissemination, or artistic or other substantive alteration or enhancement of informational materials.

(b) *Donation of food.* The prohibitions contained in this part do not apply to transactions incident to the donation of food to nongovernmental organizations or individuals in Cuba.

[54 FR 5233, Feb. 2, 1989, as amended at 60 FR 39256, Aug. 2, 1995; 64 FR 25812, May 13, 1999; 81 FR 4584, Jan. 27, 2016]

§515.207 Entry of vessels engaged in trade with Cuba.

Except as specifically authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury (or any person, agency or instrumentality designated by him), by means of regulations, rulings, instructions, licenses or otherwise,

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.209**

(a) No vessel that enters a port or place in Cuba to engage in the trade of goods or the purchase or provision of services, may enter a U.S. port for the purpose of loading or unloading freight for a period of 180 days from the date the vessel departed from a port or place in Cuba; and

(b) No vessel carrying goods or passengers to or from Cuba or carrying goods in which Cuba or a Cuban national has an interest may enter a U.S. port with such goods or passengers on board.

NOTE TO § 515.207: For the waiver of the prohibitions contained in this section for vessels engaged in certain trade and travel with Cuba, see § 515.550.

[58 FR 34710, June 29, 1993, as amended at 66 FR 36687, July 12, 2001; 80 FR 2292, Jan. 16, 2015; 80 FR 56918, Sept. 21, 2015]

§ 515.208 Restrictions on loans, credits and other financing.

No United States national, permanent resident alien, or United States agency may knowingly make a loan, extend credit or provide other financing for the purpose of financing transactions involving confiscated property the claim to which is owned by a United States national, except for financing by a United States national owning such a claim for a transaction permitted under United States law.

[61 FR 37386, July 18, 1996]

§ 515.209 Restrictions on direct financial transactions with certain entities and subentities.

(a) Except as otherwise authorized pursuant to this part, no person subject to U.S. jurisdiction may engage in a direct financial transaction with any person that the Secretary of State has identified as an entity or subentity that is under the control of, or acts for or on behalf of, the Cuban military, intelligence, or security services or personnel and with which direct financial transactions would disproportionately benefit such services or personnel at the expense of the Cuban people or private enterprise in Cuba. For purposes of this prohibition, a person engages in a direct financial transaction by acting as the originator on a transfer of funds whose ultimate beneficiary is an entity or subentity on the State Department's

List of Restricted Entities and Subentities Associated with Cuba ("Cuba Restricted List") or as the ultimate beneficiary on a transfer of funds whose originator is an entity or subentity on the Cuba Restricted List, including a transaction by wire transfer, credit card, check, or payment of cash. This prohibition does not apply to certain transactions set forth in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (a): The names of entities and subentities that the Secretary of State has identified as meeting the criteria set forth in this section are published in the **FEDERAL REGISTER** and incorporated into the Cuba Restricted List. Entities or subentities that are owned or controlled by another entity or subentity on this list are not treated as restricted unless also specified by name on the Cuba Restricted List. The Cuba Restricted List is maintained by the State Department and will be published in the **FEDERAL REGISTER**. It is also accessible through the following page on the State Department's website: <https://www.state.gov/cuba-sanctions/cuba-restricted-list/>".

(b) The prohibition in paragraph (a) of this section does not apply to any travel-related transactions, including those that involve direct financial transactions with an entity or subentity on the Cuba Restricted List, provided those travel-related transactions were initiated prior to the date that entity or subentity was added to the Cuba Restricted List as published in the **FEDERAL REGISTER**.

(c) The prohibition in paragraph (a) of this section does not apply to any transactions related to commercial engagements that involve direct financial transactions with an entity or subentity on the Cuba Restricted List, provided those commercial engagements were in place prior to the date that entity or subentity was added to the Cuba Restricted List as published in the **FEDERAL REGISTER**.

NOTE 1 TO § 515.209: This section does not prohibit a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction from participating in an indirect financial transaction, such as those authorized pursuant to § 515.584(d) relating to funds transfers or § 515.584(g) relating to U.S. dollar monetary instruments, where the person does not act as the originator or beneficiary on a transfer of funds.

NOTE 2 TO § 515.209: A transaction relating to the collection, forwarding, or receipt of

§515.210

remittances involving an entity or subtentity identified on the Cuba Restricted List is not authorized as a transaction ordinarily incident to a licensed transaction where the terms of the applicable general or specific license expressly exclude any such transactions. *See* §§515.570, 515.572(a)(3), and 515.587.

[82 FR 51999, Nov. 9, 2017, as amended at 84 FR 47122, Sept. 9, 2019; 85 FR 60070, Sept. 24, 2020; 85 FR 67989, Oct. 27, 2020; 89 FR 46324, May 29, 2024]

§515.210 Restrictions on lodging, paying for lodging, or making reservations at certain properties in Cuba.

(a) Except as otherwise authorized pursuant to this part, no person subject to U.S. jurisdiction may lodge, pay for lodging, or otherwise make any reservation for or on behalf of a third party to lodge, at any property in Cuba that the Secretary of State has identified as a property that is owned or controlled by the Cuban government, a prohibited official of the Government of Cuba, as defined in §515.337, a prohibited member of the Cuban Communist Party, as defined in §515.338, a close relative, as defined in §515.339, of a prohibited official of the Government of Cuba, or a close relative of a prohibited member of the Cuban Communist Party. Such properties are identified on the State Department's Cuba Prohibited Accommodations List (CPA List). This prohibition does not apply to certain transactions set forth in paragraph (b) of this section.

NOTE 1 TO PARAGRAPH (a): The names, addresses, or other identifying details, as relevant, of properties that the Secretary of State has identified as meeting the criteria set forth in this section are incorporated in the CPA List as published in the FEDERAL REGISTER. The CPA List is also accessible through the following page on the State Department's website: www.state.gov/cuba-sanctions/cuba-prohibited-accommodations.

(b) The prohibition in paragraph (a) of this section does not apply to lodging-related transactions initiated prior to the date that the property was added to the CPA List as published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

[85 FR 60070, Sept. 24, 2020]

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

Subpart C—General Definitions

§515.301 Foreign country.

The term *foreign country* also includes, but not by way of limitation:

(a) The state and the government of any such territory on or after the "effective date" as well as any political subdivision, agency, or instrumentality thereof or any territory, dependency, colony, protectorate, mandate, dominion, possession or place subject to the jurisdiction thereof,

(b) Any other government (including any political subdivision, agency, or instrumentality thereof) to the extent and only to the extent that such government exercises or claims to exercise control, authority, jurisdiction or sovereignty over territory which on the "effective date" constituted such foreign country,

(c) Any person to the extent that such person is, or has been, or to the extent that there is reasonable cause to believe that such person is, or has been, since the "effective date," acting or purporting to act directly or indirectly for the benefit or on behalf of any of the foregoing, and

(d) Any territory which on or since the "effective date" is controlled or occupied by the military, naval or police forces or other authority of such foreign country.

§515.302 National.

(a) The term *national* when used with respect to a country shall include:

(1) A subject or citizen of that country or any person who has been domiciled in or a permanent resident of that country at any time on or since the "effective date," except persons who were permanent residents of or domiciled in that country in the service of the U.S. Government and persons whose transactions in that country were authorized by the Office of Foreign Assets Control.

(2) Any partnership, association, corporation, or other organization that, on or since the effective date:

(i) Was or has been organized under the laws of that country;

(ii) Had or has had its principal place of business in that country; or

(iii) Was or has been controlled by, or a substantial part of the stocks, share,

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.306**

bonds, debentures, notes, drafts, or other securities or obligations of which was or has been controlled by, directly or indirectly, that country and/or one or more nationals thereof.

(3) Any organization's office or other sub-unit that is located within that country.

(4) Any person to the extent that such person, on or since the "effective date" was or has been acting or purporting to act directly or indirectly for the benefit or on behalf of any national of that country.

(5) Any other person who there is reasonable cause to believe is a "national" as defined in this section.

(b) Persons who travel in Cuba do not become nationals of Cuba solely because of such travel.

(c) The Secretary of the Treasury retains full power to determine that any person is or shall be deemed to be a "national" within the meaning of this section, and to specify the foreign country of which such person is or shall be deemed to be a national.

[28 FR 6974, July 9, 1963, as amended at 50 FR 27437, July 3, 1985; 64 FR 25812, May 13, 1999; 68 FR 14144, Mar. 24, 2003]

§ 515.303 Nationals of more than one foreign country.

(a) Any person who by virtue of any provision in this chapter is a national of more than one foreign country shall be deemed to be a national of each of such foreign countries.

(b) In any case in which a person is a national of two or more designated foreign countries, as defined in this chapter, a license or authorization with respect to nationals of one of such designated foreign countries shall not be deemed to apply to such person unless a license or authorization of equal or greater scope is outstanding with respect to nationals of each other designated foreign country of which such person is a national.

(c) In any case in which the combined interests of two or more designated foreign countries, as defined in this chapter, and/or nationals thereof are sufficient in the aggregate to constitute control or ownership of 25 per centum or more of the stock, shares, bonds, debentures, notes, drafts, or other securities or obligations of a partnership, as-

sociation, corporation or other organization, but such control or a substantial part of such stock, shares, bonds, debentures, notes, drafts, or other securities or obligations is not held by any one such foreign country and/or national thereof, such partnership, association, corporation or other organization shall be deemed to be a national of each of such foreign countries.

§ 515.305 Designated national.

For the purposes of this part, the term *designated national* shall mean Cuba and any national thereof including any person who is a specially designated national.

§ 515.306 Specially designated national.

(a) The term *specially designated national* shall mean:

(1) Any person who is determined by the Secretary of the Treasury to be a specially designated national,

(2) Any person who on or since the "effective date" has acted for or on behalf of the Government or authorities exercising control over a designated foreign country, or

(3) Any partnership, association, corporation or other organization which on or since the "effective date" has been owned or controlled directly or indirectly by the Government or authorities exercising control over a designated foreign country or by any specially designated national.

(b) [Reserved]

NOTE TO § 515.306: Please refer to the Office of Foreign Assets Control's Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List ("SDN List") for a non-exhaustive listing of persons determined to fall within this definition, whose property and interests in property therefore are blocked pursuant to this part. The SDN List entries for such persons include the identifier "[CUBA]." The SDN List is accessible through the following page on the Office of Foreign Assets Control's Web site: <http://www.treasury.gov/sdn>. Additional information pertaining to the SDN List can be found in appendix A to this chapter. Section 501.807 of this chapter sets forth the procedures to be followed by persons seeking administrative reconsideration of their designation or that of a vessel as blocked, or who wish to assert that the circumstances

§ 515.307

resulting in the designation are no longer applicable.

[28 FR 6974, July 9, 1963, as amended at 61 FR 32938, June 26, 1996; 62 FR 45106, Aug. 25, 1997; 76 FR 38585, June 30, 2011]

§ 515.307 Unblocked national.

Any person licensed pursuant to § 515.505 as an *unblocked national* shall, while so licensed, be regarded as a person who is not a national of any designated foreign country.

[80 FR 2292, Jan. 16, 2015]

§ 515.308 Person.

The term *person* means an individual, partnership, association, corporation, or other organization.

§ 515.309 Transactions.

The phrase *transactions which involve property in which a designated foreign country, or any national thereof, has any interest of any nature whatsoever, direct or indirect*, includes, but not by way of limitation:

(a) Any payment or transfer to such designated foreign country or national thereof,

(b) Any export or withdrawal from the United States to such designated foreign country, and

(c) Any transfer of credit, or payment of an obligation, expressed in terms of the currency of such designated foreign country.

§ 515.310 Transfer.

The term *transfer* shall mean any actual or purported act or transaction, whether or not evidenced by writing, and whether or not done or performed within the United States, the purpose, intent, or effect of which is to create, surrender, release, transfer, or alter, directly or indirectly, any right, remedy, power, privilege, or interest with respect to any property and without limitation upon the foregoing shall include the making, execution, or delivery of any assignment, power, conveyance, check, declaration, deed, deed of trust, power of attorney, power of appointment, bill of sale, mortgage, receipt, agreement, contract, certificate, gift, sale, affidavit, or statement; the appointment of any agent, trustee, or other fiduciary; the creation or trans-

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

fer of any lien; the issuance, docketing, filing, or the levy of or under any judgment, decree, attachment, execution, or other judicial or administrative process or order, or the service of any garnishment; the acquisition of any interest of any nature whatsoever by reason of a judgment or decree of any foreign country; the fulfillment of any condition, or the exercise of any power of appointment, power of attorney, or other power.

§ 515.311 Property; property interests.

(a) Except as defined in § 515.203(f) for the purposes of that section the terms *property* and *property interest* or *property interests* shall include, but not by way of limitation, money, checks, drafts, bullion, bank deposits, savings accounts, debts, indebtedness obligations, notes, debentures, stocks, bonds, coupons, and other financial securities, bankers' acceptances, mortgages, pledges, liens or other rights in the nature of security, warehouse receipts, bills of lading, trust receipts, bills of sale, any other evidences of title, ownership or indebtedness, powers of attorney, goods, wares, merchandise, chattels, stocks on hand, ships, goods on ships, real estate mortgages, deeds of trust, vendors' sales agreements, land contracts, real estate and any interest therein, leaseholds, ground rents, options, negotiable instruments, trade acceptances, royalties, book accounts, accounts payable, judgments, patents, trademarks, copyrights, contracts or licenses affecting or involving patents, trademarks or copyrights, insurance policies, safe deposit boxes and their contents, annuities, pooling agreements, contracts of any nature whatsoever, services, and any other property, real, personal, or mixed, tangible or intangible, or interest or interests therein, present, future or contingent.

(b) As used in § 515.208, the term *property* means any property (including patents, copyrights, trademarks, and any other form of intellectual property), whether real, personal, or mixed, and any present, future, or contingent right, security, or other interest therein, including any leasehold interest.

[28 FR 6974, July 9, 1963, as amended at 50 FR 27437, July 3, 1985; 56 FR 49847, Oct. 2, 1991; 61 FR 37386, July 18, 1996]

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.322****§ 515.312 Interest.**

The term *interest* when used with respect to property shall mean an interest of any nature whatsoever, direct or indirect.

§ 515.313 Property subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

(a) The phrase *property subject to the jurisdiction of the United States* includes, without limitation, securities, whether registered or bearer, issued by:

(1) The United States or any State, district, territory, possession, county, municipality, or any other subdivision or agency or instrumentality of any thereof; or

(2) Any person with the United States whether the certificate which evidences such property or interest is physically located within or outside the United States.

(b) The phrase *property subject to the jurisdiction of the United States* also includes, without limitation, securities, whether registered or bearer, by whomsoever issued, if the instrument evidencing such property or interest is physically located within the United States.

§ 515.314 Banking institution.

The term *banking institution* shall include any person engaged primarily or incidentally in the business of banking, of granting or transferring credits, or of purchasing or selling foreign exchange or procuring purchases and sellers thereof, as principal or agent, or any person holding credits for others as a direct or incidental part of his business, or any broker; and, each principal, agent, home office, branch or correspondent of any person so engaged shall be regarded as a separate "banking institution."

§ 515.316 License.

Except as otherwise specified, the term *license* shall mean any license or authorization contained in or issued pursuant to this part.

§ 515.317 General license.

A general license is any license or authorization the terms of which are set forth in this part.

§ 515.318 Specific license.

A specific license is any license or authorization issued pursuant to this part but not set forth in this part.

[28 FR 6974, July 9, 1963; 28 FR 7427, July 20, 1963]

§ 515.319 Blocked account.

The term *blocked account* shall mean an account in which any designated national has an interest, with respect to which account payments, transfers or withdrawals or other dealings may not be made or effected except pursuant to an authorization or license authorizing such action. The term *blocked account* shall not be deemed to include accounts of unblocked nationals.

[28 FR 6974, July 9, 1963; 28 FR 7427, July 20, 1963]

§ 515.320 Domestic bank.

The term *domestic bank* shall mean any branch or office within the United States of any of the following which is not a national of a designated foreign country; any bank or trust company incorporated under the banking laws of the United States or any State, territory, or district of the United States, or any private bank or banker subject to supervision and examination under the banking laws of the United States or of any State, territory or district of the United States. The Secretary of the Treasury may also authorize any other banking institution to be treated as a "domestic bank" for the purpose of this definition or for the purpose of any or all sections of this part.

§ 515.321 United States; continental United States.

The term *United States* means the United States and all areas under the jurisdiction or authority thereof, including the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. The term *continental United States* means the States of the United States and the District of Columbia.

[49 FR 27144, July 2, 1984]

§ 515.322 Authorized trade territory; member of the authorized trade territory.

(a) The term *authorized trade territory* includes all countries, including any

§ 515.323

colony, territory, possession, or protectorate, except those countries subject to sanctions pursuant to this chapter. The term does not include the United States.

(b) The term *member of the authorized trade territory* shall mean any of the foreign countries or political subdivisions comprising the authorized trade territory.

[43 FR 51762, Nov. 7, 1978, as amended at 60 FR 54195, Oct. 20, 1995]

§ 515.323 Occupied area.

The term *occupied area* shall mean any territory occupied by a designated foreign country which was not occupied by such country prior to the "effective date" of this part.

§ 515.325 National securities exchange.

The term *national securities exchange* shall mean an exchange registered as a national securities exchange under section 6 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (48 Stat. 885, 15 U.S.C. 78f).

§ 515.326 Custody of safe deposit boxes.

Safe deposit boxes shall be deemed to be in the *custody* not only of all persons having access thereto but also of the lessors of such boxes whether or not such lessors have access to such boxes. The foregoing shall not in any way be regarded as a limitation upon the meaning of the term *custody*.

§ 515.327 Blocked estate of a decedent.

The term *blocked estate of a decedent* shall mean any decedent's estate in which a designated national has an interest. A person shall be deemed to have an interest in a decedent's estate if he:

- (a) Was the decedent;
- (b) Is a personal representative; or
- (c) Is a creditor, heir, legatee, devisee, distributee, or beneficiary.

§ 515.329 Person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States; person subject to U.S. jurisdiction.

The terms *person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States* and *person subject to U.S. jurisdiction* include:

- (a) Any individual, wherever located, who is a citizen or resident of the United States;

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

(b) Any person within the United States as defined in § 515.330;

(c) Any corporation, partnership, association, or other organization organized under the laws of the United States or of any State, territory, possession, or district of the United States; and

(d) Any corporation, partnership, association, or other organization, wherever organized or doing business, that is owned or controlled by persons specified in paragraphs (a) or (c) of this section.

[50 FR 27437, July 3, 1985, as amended at 68 FR 14145, Mar. 24, 2003; 80 FR 2292, Jan. 16, 2015; 81 FR 13991, Mar. 16, 2016]

§ 515.330 Person within the United States.

(a) The term *person within the United States*, includes:

- (1) Any person, wheresoever located, who is a resident of the United States;
- (2) Any person actually within the United States;

(3) Any corporation, partnership, association, or other organization organized under the laws of the United States or of any State, territory, possession, or district of the United States; and

(4) Any corporation, partnership, association, or other organization, wherever organized or doing business, which is owned or controlled by any person or persons specified in paragraphs (a)(1) or (a)(3) of this section.

(b) [Reserved]

[28 FR 6974, July 9, 1963, as amended at 68 FR 14145, Mar. 24, 2003]

§ 515.331 Merchandise.

The term *merchandise* means all goods, wares and chattels of every description without limitation of any kind.

§ 515.332 Information and informational materials.

(a) For purposes of this part, the term *information and informational materials* means:

- (1) Publications, films, posters, phonograph records, photographs, microfilms, microfiche, tapes, compact disks, CD ROMs, artworks, news wire feeds, and other information and informational articles.

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.337**

(2) To be considered informational materials, artworks must be classified under Chapter subheading 9701, 9702, or 9703 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States.

(b) The term *information and informational materials* does not include items:

(1) That would be controlled for export pursuant to section 5 of the Export Administration Act of 1979, 50 U.S.C. App. 2401-2420 (1993) (the "EAA"), or section 6 of the EAA to the extent that such controls promote non-proliferation of antiterrorism policies of the United States, including "software" that is not "publicly available" as these terms are defined in 15 CFR parts 779 and 799.1 (1994); or

(2) With respect to which acts are prohibited by 18 U.S.C. chapter 37.

[60 FR 39256, Aug. 2, 1995]

§ 515.333 Depository institution.

The term *depository institution* means any of the following:

(a) An insured bank as defined in section 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act;

(b) An insured institution as defined in section 408(a) of the National Housing Act;

(c) An insured credit union as defined in section 101 of the Federal Credit Union Act; or

(d) Any other institution that is carrying on banking activities pursuant to a charter from a Federal or state banking authority.

[57 FR 53997, Nov. 16, 1992]

§ 515.334 United States national.

As used in § 515.208, the term *United States national* means:

(a) Any United States citizen; or

(b) Any other legal entity which is organized under the laws of the United States, or of any State, the District of Columbia, or any commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States, and which has its principal place of business in the United States.

[61 FR 37386, July 18, 1996]

§ 515.335 Permanent resident alien.

As used in § 515.208, the term *permanent resident alien* means an alien law-

fully admitted for permanent residence into the United States.

[61 FR 37386, July 18, 1996]

§ 515.336 Confiscated.

As used in § 515.208, the term *confiscated* refers to:

(a) The nationalization, expropriation, or other seizure by the Cuban Government of ownership or control of property, on or after January 1, 1959:

(1) Without the property having been returned or adequate and effective compensation provided; or

(2) Without the claim to the property having been settled pursuant to an international claims settlement agreement or other mutually accepted settlement procedure; and

(b) The repudiation by the Cuban Government of, the default by the Cuban Government on, or the failure of the Cuban Government to pay, on or after January 1, 1959:

(1) A debt of any enterprise which has been nationalized, expropriated, or otherwise taken by the Cuban Government;

(2) A debt which is a charge on property nationalized, expropriated, or otherwise taken by the Cuban Government; or

(3) A debt which was incurred by the Cuban Government in satisfaction or settlement of a confiscated property claim.

[61 FR 37386, July 18, 1996]

§ 515.337 Prohibited officials of the Government of Cuba.

For purposes of this part, the term *prohibited officials of the Government of Cuba* means Ministers and Vice-Ministers; members of the Council of State and the Council of Ministers; members and employees of the National Assembly of People's Power; members of any provincial assembly; local sector chiefs of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution; Director Generals and sub-Director Generals and higher of all Cuban ministries and state agencies; employees of the Ministry of the Interior (MININT); employees of the Ministry of Defense (MINFAR); secretaries and first secretaries of the Confederation of Labor of Cuba (CTC) and its

§515.338

component unions; chief editors, editors, and deputy editors of Cuban state-run media organizations and programs, including newspapers, television, and radio; and members and employees of the Supreme Court (Tribuno Supremo Nacional).

[82 FR 51999, Nov. 9, 2017]

§515.338 Prohibited members of the Cuban Communist Party.

For purposes of this part, the term *prohibited members of the Cuban Communist Party* means members of the Politburo.

[81 FR 71374, Oct. 17, 2016]

§515.339 Close relative.

(a) For purposes of this part, the term *close relative* used with respect to any person means any individual related to that person by blood, marriage, or adoption who is no more than three generations removed from that person or from a common ancestor with that person.

(b) *Example.* Your mother's first cousin is your close relative for purposes of this part, because you are both no more than three generations removed from your great-grandparents, who are the ancestors you have in common. Similarly, your husband's great-grandson is your close relative for purposes of this part, because he is no more than three generations removed from your husband. Your daughter's father-in-law is not your close relative for purposes of this part, because you have no common ancestor.

[74 FR 46003, Sept. 8, 2009]

§515.340 Independent private sector entrepreneur.

The term *independent private sector entrepreneur* means a Cuban national who is not a prohibited official of the Government of Cuba, as defined in §515.337, or a prohibited member of the Cuban Communist Party, as defined in §515.338, and is one or more of the following:

(a) An owner, including a self-employed individual (*cuentapropista*), or employee of a small private business entity, private cooperative, or a sole proprietorship located in Cuba, in each case of up to 100 employees;

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

(b) An independent contractor or consultant;

(c) A small farmer who owns his or her own land;

(d) A small usufruct farmer who cultivates state-owned land to sell products on the open market; or

(e) A private cooperative or small private business entity located in Cuba of up to 100 employees that is owned only by individuals described in paragraphs (a) through (d) of this section.

[84 FR 47122, Sept. 9, 2019, as amended at 89 FR 46324, May 29, 2024]

Subpart D—Interpretations**§515.401 Reference to amended sections.**

Reference to any section of this part or to any regulation, ruling, order, instruction, direction or license issued pursuant to this part shall be deemed to refer to the same as currently amended unless otherwise so specified.

§515.402 Effect of amendment of sections of this part or of other orders, etc.

Any amendment, modification, or revocation of any section of this part or of any order, regulation, ruling, instruction, or license issued by or under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to section 3(a) or 5(b) of the Trading With the Enemy Act, as amended, or pursuant to Proclamation 3447, shall not unless otherwise specifically provided be deemed to affect any act done or omitted to be done, or any suit or proceeding had or commenced in any civil or criminal case, prior to such amendment, modification, or revocation, and all penalties, forfeitures, and liabilities under any such section, order, regulation, ruling, instruction or license shall continue and may be enforced as if such amendment, modification, or revocation had not been made.

§515.403 Termination and acquisition of the interest of a designated national.

(a) Except as provided in §515.525, whenever a transaction licensed or authorized by or pursuant to this part results in the transfer of property (including any property interest) away

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.410**

from a designated national, such property shall no longer be deemed to be property in which a designated national has or has had an interest unless there exists in such property an interest of a designated national, the transfer of which has not been effected pursuant to license or other authorization.

(b) Unless otherwise specifically provided in a license or authorization contained in or issued pursuant to this part, if property (including any property interest) is transferred to a designated national such property shall be deemed to be property in which there exists the interest of a designated national.

§ 515.404 Transactions between principal and agent.

A transaction between any person within the United States and any principal, agent, home office, branch, or correspondent, outside the United States of such person is a transaction prohibited by § 515.201 to the same extent as if the parties to the transaction were in no way affiliated or associated with each other.

§ 515.405 Exportation of securities, currency, checks, drafts and promissory notes.

Section 515.201 prohibits the exportation of securities, currency, checks, drafts and promissory notes to a designated foreign country.

§ 515.406 Drafts under irrevocable letters of credit; documentary drafts.

Section 515.201 prohibits the presentation, acceptance or payment of:

(a) Drafts or other orders for payment drawn under irrevocable letters of credit issued in favor or on behalf of any designated national;

(b) Drafts or other orders for payment, in which any designated national has on or since the "effective date" had any interest, drawn under any irrevocable letter of credit; and

(c) Documentary drafts in which any designated national has on or since the "effective date" had any interest.

§ 515.407 Administration of blocked estates of decedents.

With respect to transactions incident to the administration of the blocked

estate of a decedent, including the appointment and qualification of personal representatives, the collection and liquidation of assets, the payment of claims, and distribution to beneficiaries, attention is directed to § 515.523, which authorizes all transactions incident to the administration and distribution of the assets of blocked estates of decedents.

[80 FR 56919, Sept. 21, 2015]

§ 515.408 Access to certain safe deposit boxes prohibited.

Section 515.201 prohibits access to any safe deposit box within the United States in the custody of any designated national or containing any property in which any designated national has any interest or which there is reasonable cause to believe contains property in which any such designated national has any interest. Attention is directed to § 515.517 which authorizes access to such safe deposit boxes under certain conditions.

§ 515.409 Certain payments to a designated foreign country and nationals through third countries.

Section 515.201 prohibits any request or authorization made by or on behalf of a bank or other person within the United States to a bank or other person outside of the United States as a result of which request or authorization such latter bank or person makes a payment or transfer of credit either directly or indirectly to a designated national.

§ 515.410 Dealing abroad in Cuban-origin commodities.

Section 515.204 prohibits, unless licensed, the importation of commodities of Cuban origin. It also prohibits, unless licensed, persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States from purchasing, transporting or otherwise dealing in commodities of Cuban origin which are outside the United States. Attention is directed to § 515.585, which authorizes certain dealings in commodities of Cuban origin outside the United States.

[81 FR 13991, Mar. 16, 2016]

§§ 515.411–515.413**§ 515.411–515.413 [Reserved]****§ 515.415 Travel to Cuba; transportation of certain Cuban nationals.**

(a) The following transactions are prohibited by §515.201 when in connection with the transportation of any Cuban national, except a Cuban national holding an unexpired immigrant or non-immigrant visa or a returning resident of the United States, from Cuba to the United States, unless otherwise licensed:

(1) Transactions incident to travel to, from, or within Cuba;

(2) The transportation to Cuba of a vessel or aircraft;

(3) The transportation into the United States of any vessel or aircraft which has been in Cuba since the effective date, regardless of registry;

(4) The provision of any services to a Cuban national, regardless of whether any consideration for such services is furnished by the Cuban national;

(5) The transportation or importation of baggage or other property of a Cuban national;

(6) The transfer of funds or other property to any person where such transfer involves the provision of services to a Cuban national or the transportation or importation of, or any transactions involving, property in which Cuba or any Cuban national has any interest, including baggage or other such property;

(7) Any other transaction such as payment of port fees and charges in Cuba and payment for fuel, meals, lodging; and

(8) The receipt or acceptance of any gratuity, grant, or support in the form of meals, lodging, fuel, payments of travel or maintenance expenses, or otherwise, in connection with travel to or from Cuba or travel or maintenance within Cuba.

(b) Transactions incident to the travel to the United States of Cuban nationals who are traveling other than in a non-immigrant status or pursuant to other non-immigrant travel authorization issued by the U.S. government are not authorized under the provisions of §515.571.

(c) Transactions described in paragraph (a) of this section are not “transactions ordinarily incident to

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

travel to and from Cuba” as set forth in §515.560(c).

[45 FR 32671, May 19, 1980, as amended at 64 FR 25812, May 13, 1999; 80 FR 56919, Sept. 21, 2015]

§ 515.416–515.419 [Reserved]**§ 515.420 Travel to Cuba.**

The prohibition on dealing in property in which Cuba or a Cuban national has an interest set forth in §515.201(b)(1) includes a prohibition on the receipt of goods or services in Cuba, even if provided free-of-charge by the Government of Cuba or a national of Cuba or paid for by a third-country national who is not subject to U.S. jurisdiction. The prohibition set forth in §515.201(b)(1) also prohibits payment for air travel by a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction to Cuba on a third-country carrier unless the travel is pursuant to an OFAC general or specific license.

[69 FR 33771, June 16, 2004, as amended at 81 FR 71374, Oct. 17, 2016]

§ 515.421 Transactions ordinarily incident to a licensed transaction.

(a) Any transaction ordinarily incident to a licensed transaction and necessary to give effect thereto is also authorized, except:

(1) A transaction by or with a prohibited official of the Government of Cuba, as defined in §515.337, or a prohibited member of the Cuban Communist Party, as defined in §515.338, where the terms of the applicable general or specific license expressly exclude transactions with such persons;

(2) A transaction involving a debit to a blocked account or a transfer of blocked property that is not explicitly authorized within the terms of the license;

(3) A transaction prohibited by §515.208;

(4) In the case of export or reexport-related transactions authorized by §515.533(a), payment or financing that is not authorized by §515.533 or §515.584(f);

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (a)(4): See §515.533(a)(4) for payment and financing terms for exportations or reexportations authorized pursuant to §515.533.

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.504**

(5) A direct financial transaction prohibited by § 515.209, where the terms of the applicable general or specific license expressly exclude such a transaction;

(6) Lodging, paying for lodging, or making any reservation for or on behalf of a third party to lodge, at any property on the Cuba Prohibited Accommodations List to the extent prohibited by § 515.210, where the terms of the applicable general or specific license expressly exclude such a transaction; or

(7) A transaction relating to the collection, forwarding, or receipt of remittances involving any entity or subentity identified on the Cuba Restricted List, as published in the FEDERAL REGISTER and maintained by the State Department and available at <https://www.state.gov/cuba-sanctions/cuba-restricted-list/>, where the terms of the applicable general or specific license expressly exclude any such transactions.

(b) *Examples.* (1) A specific license authorizing a person to complete a securities sale involving Cuban Company A, whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this part, also authorizes other persons to engage in activities that are ordinarily incident and necessary to complete the sale, including transactions by the buyer, broker, transfer agents, and banks.

(2) A general license authorizing a person to import certain goods from independent private sector entrepreneurs also authorizes funds transfers or payments that are ordinarily incident to the importation, including payments made using online payment platforms.

[80 FR 56919, Sept. 21, 2015, as amended at 81 FR 4584, Jan. 27, 2016; 81 FR 71374, Oct. 17, 2016; 82 FR 52000, Nov. 9, 2017; 85 FR 60070, Sept. 24, 2020; 85 FR 67989, Oct. 27, 2020; 89 FR 46324, May 29, 2024]

Subpart E—Licenses, Authorizations, and Statements of Licensing Policy**§ 515.501 General and specific licensing procedures.**

For provisions relating to licensing procedures, see part 501, subpart E, of

this chapter. Licensing actions taken pursuant to part 501 of this chapter with respect to the prohibitions contained in this part are considered actions taken pursuant to this part.

[68 FR 53657, Sept. 11, 2003]

§ 515.502 Effect of subsequent license or authorization.

(a) No license or other authorization contained in this part or otherwise issued by or under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to section 3(a) or 5(b) of the Trading With the Enemy Act, as amended, or section 620(a), Pub. L. 87-195, or Proclamation 3447, shall be deemed to authorize or validate any transaction effected prior to the issuance thereof, unless such license or other authorization specifically so provides.

(b) No regulation, ruling, instruction, or license authorizes a transaction prohibited under this part unless the regulation, ruling, instruction, or license is issued by the Treasury Department and specifically refers to this part.

[28 FR 6974, July 9, 1963, as amended at 80 FR 56919, Sept. 21, 2015]

§ 515.503 Exclusion from licenses and authorizations.

The Secretary of the Treasury reserves the right to exclude from the operation of any license or from the privileges therein conferred or to restrict the applicability thereof with respect to particular persons, transactions or property or classes thereof. Such action shall be binding upon all persons receiving actual notice or constructive notice thereof.

§ 515.504 Certain judicial proceedings with respect to property of designated nationals.

(a) Subject to the limitations of paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) of this section judicial proceedings are authorized with respect to property in which on or since the “effective date” there has existed the interest of a designated national.

(b) A judicial proceeding is authorized by this section only if it is based upon a cause of action which accrued prior to the “effective date”.

(c) This section does not authorize or license:

§515.505

(1) The entry of any judgment or of any decree or order of similar or analogous effect upon any judgment book, minute book, journal or otherwise, or the docketing of any judgment in any docket book, or the filing of any judgment roll or the taking of any other similar or analogous action.

(2) Any payment or delivery out of a blocked account based upon a judicial proceeding nor does it authorize the enforcement or carrying out of any judgment or decree or order of similar or analogous effect with regard to any property in which a designated national has an interest.

(d) If a judicial proceeding relates to property in which there exists the interest of any designated national other than a person who would not have been a designated national except for his relationship to an occupied area, such proceeding is authorized only if it is based upon a claim in which no person other than any of the following has had an interest since the "effective date":

(1) A citizen of the United States;

(2) A corporation organized under the laws of the United States or any State, territory or possession thereof, or the District of Columbia;

(3) A natural person who is and has been since the "effective date" a resident of the United States and who has not been a specially designated national;

(4) A legal representative (whether or not appointed by a court of the United States) or successor in interest by inheritance, devise, bequest, or operation of law, who falls within any of the categories specified in paragraphs (a) (1), (2), and (3) of this section but only to the same extent that their principals or predecessors would be qualified by such paragraphs.

§515.505 Certain Cuban nationals unblocked.

(a) *General license unblocking certain persons.* The following persons are licensed as unblocked nationals, as that term is defined in §515.307 of this part:

(1) Any individual national of Cuba who:

(i) Has taken up residence in the United States; and

(ii) Is a United States citizen; is a lawful permanent resident alien of the

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

United States; has applied to become a lawful permanent resident alien of the United States and has an adjustment of status application pending; or is lawfully present and intending to lawfully remain in the United States on a permanent basis; and

(iii) Is not a prohibited official of the Government of Cuba, as defined in §515.337 of this part, or a prohibited member of the Cuban Communist Party, as defined in §515.338 of this part.

(2) Any individual national of Cuba who has taken up permanent residence outside of Cuba, provided that the required documentation specified in paragraph (c) of this section is obtained and the individual is not a prohibited official of the Government of Cuba, as defined in §515.337, or a prohibited member of the Cuban Communist Party, as defined in §515.338;

(3) Any entity that otherwise would be a national of Cuba solely because of the interest therein of one or more persons licensed in this paragraph (a) as an unblocked national;

(4) Any entity, office, or other sub-unit authorized pursuant to §515.573; and

(5) Any individual authorized to establish domicile in Cuba pursuant to §515.573(a)(4).

NOTE TO §515.505(a): An individual unblocked pursuant to this paragraph does not become blocked again merely by leaving the United States or the country in which he or she has taken up permanent residence. An individual unblocked national remains unblocked unless and until the individual thereafter becomes domiciled in or a permanent resident of Cuba.

(b) *General license unblocking blocked accounts.* Banking institutions, as defined in §515.314, including U.S. registered brokers or dealers in securities and U.S. registered money transmitters, are authorized to unblock any blocked account, as defined in §515.319, that had been previously blocked solely because of the interest therein of one or more persons licensed in paragraph (a) of this section as unblocked nationals.

(c) *Required documentation.* In determining whether an individual national of Cuba qualifies as an unblocked national under paragraph (a)(2) of this

section, persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction must obtain evidence demonstrating that the individual satisfies the requirements of that paragraph. Such evidence may include copies of documents issued by government authorities demonstrating citizenship or lawful permanent residence in a third country. These could include, depending on the information provided in the document in question, a passport, voter registration card, permanent resident alien card, national identity card, or other similar documents. Where such documents are unavailable, persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction may also rely on evidence that the individual has been resident for the past two years without interruption in a single country outside of Cuba, or a sworn statement or other evidence that the individual does not intend to, or would not be welcome to, return to Cuba.

(d) For the purposes of paragraph (a)(1) of this section, the term "lawfully present and intending to lawfully remain in the United States on a permanent basis" includes an individual with a pending application for asylum or who has been paroled into the United States under Cuban Parole or Cuban Medical designations. It does not include anyone present in the United States in a non-immigrant status.

NOTE TO § 515.505: See § 515.571 for the authorization of certain limited transactions incident to travel to, from, and within the United States by Cuban nationals who are present in the United States in a non-immigrant status or pursuant to other non-immigrant travel authorization issued by the U.S. government.

[80 FR 2292, Jan. 16, 2015, as amended at 80 FR 56919, Sept. 21, 2015; 81 FR 13991, Mar. 16, 2016]

§§ 515.506–515.507 [Reserved]

§ 515.508 Payments to blocked accounts in domestic banks.

(a) Any payment or transfer of credit to a blocked account in a domestic bank in the name of any designated national is hereby authorized providing such payment or transfer shall not be made from any blocked account if such payment or transfer represents, directly or indirectly, a transfer of the

interest of a designated national to any other country or person.

(b) This section does not authorize:

(1) Any payment or transfer to any blocked account held in a name other than that of the designated national who is the ultimate beneficiary of such payment or transfer; or

(2) Any foreign exchange transaction including, but not by way of limitation, any transfer of credit, or payment of an obligation, expressed in terms of the currency of any foreign country.

(c) This section does not authorize any payment or transfer of credit comprising an integral part of a transaction which cannot be effected without the subsequent issuance of a further license.

(d) This section does not authorize the crediting of the proceeds of the sale of securities held in a blocked account or a subaccount thereof, or the income derived from such securities to a blocked account or subaccount under any name or designation which differs from the name or designation of the specific blocked account or subaccount in which such securities were held.

(e) This section does not authorize any payment or transfer from a blocked account in a domestic bank to a blocked account held under any name or designation which differs from the name or designation of the blocked account from which the payment or transfer is made.

NOTE TO § 515.508: Please refer to § 501.603 of this chapter for mandatory reporting requirements regarding financial transfers.

[32 FR 10846, July 25, 1967, as amended at 58 FR 47645, Sept. 10, 1993; 62 FR 45106, Aug. 25, 1997]

§ 515.509 Entries in certain accounts for normal service charges.

(a) Any banking institution within the United States is hereby authorized to:

(1) Debit any blocked account with such banking institution (or with another office within the United States of such banking institution) in payment or reimbursement for normal service charges owed to such banking institution by the owner of such blocked account.

(2) Make book entries against any foreign currency account maintained

§515.510

by it with a banking institution in a designated foreign country for the purpose of responding to debits to such account for normal service charges in connection therewith.

(b) As used in this section, the term *normal service charge* shall include charges in payment or reimbursement for interest due; cable, telegraph, or telephone charges; postage costs; custody fees; small adjustment charges to correct bookkeeping errors; and, but not by way of limitation, minimum balance charges, account carrying charges, notary and protest fees, and charges for reference books, photo-stats, credit reports, transcripts of statements, registered mail insurance, stationery and supplies, check books, and other similar items.

§515.510 Payments to the United States, States and political subdivisions.

(a) The payment from any blocked account to the United States or any agency or instrumentality thereof or to any State, territory, district, county, municipality or other political subdivision in the United States, of customs duties, taxes, and fees payable thereto by the owner of such blocked account is hereby authorized.

(b) This section also authorizes transactions incident to the payment of customs duties, taxes, and fees from blocked accounts, such as the levying of assessments, the creation and enforcement of liens, and the sale of blocked property in satisfaction of liens for customs duties, taxes, and fees.

§515.511 Transactions by certain business enterprises.

(a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) of this section any partnership, association, corporation or other organization which on the "effective date" was actually engaged in a commercial, banking or financial business within the United States and which is a national of a designated foreign country, is hereby authorized to engage in all transactions ordinarily incidental to the normal conduct of its business activities within the United States.

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

(b) This section does not authorize any transaction which would require a license if such organization were not a national of a designated foreign country.

(c) This section does not authorize any transaction by a specially designated national.

(d) Any organization engaging in business pursuant to this section shall not engage in any transaction, pursuant to this section or any other license or authorization contained in this part, which, directly or indirectly, substantially diminishes or imperils the assets of such organization or otherwise prejudicially affects the financial position of such organization.

(e) No dealings with regard to any account shall be evidence that any person having an interest therein is actually engaged in commercial, banking or financial business within the United States.

§515.512 Provision of certain legal services authorized.

(a) The provision of the following legal services to or on behalf of Cuba or a Cuban national is authorized, provided that receipt of payment of professional fees and reimbursement of incurred expenses must be authorized by or pursuant to paragraph (d) or (e) of this section, or otherwise authorized pursuant to this part:

(1) Provision of legal advice and counseling on the requirements of and compliance with the laws of the United States or any jurisdiction within the United States, provided that such advice and counseling are not provided to facilitate transactions in violation of this part;

(2) Representation of persons named as defendants in or otherwise made parties to legal, arbitration, or administrative proceedings before any U.S. federal, state, or local court or agency;

(3) Initiation and conduct of legal, arbitration, or administrative proceedings before any U.S. federal, state, or local court or agency;

(4) Representation of persons before any U.S. federal, state, or local court or agency with respect to the imposition, administration, or enforcement of U.S. sanctions against such persons; and

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.512**

(5) Provision of legal services in any other context in which prevailing U.S. law requires access to legal counsel at public expense.

(b) The provision of any other legal services to Cuba or a Cuban national, not otherwise authorized in this part, requires the issuance of a specific license.

(c) Entry into a settlement agreement or the enforcement of any lien, judgment, arbitral award, decree, or other order through execution, garnishment, or other judicial process purporting to transfer or otherwise alter or affect property in which Cuba or a Cuban national has had an interest at any time on or since 12:01 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, July 8, 1963, is prohibited unless licensed pursuant to this part.

(d) *Receipts of payment*—(1) *Legal services to or on behalf of certain blocked persons*. All receipts of payment of professional fees and reimbursement of incurred expenses for the provision of legal services authorized pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section to or on behalf of a prohibited official of the Government of Cuba, as defined in § 515.337, or a prohibited member of the Cuban Communist Party, as defined in § 515.338, must be specifically licensed or otherwise authorized pursuant to § 515.512(e), which authorizes certain payments from funds originating outside the United States.

(2) *Legal services to or on behalf of all others*. All receipts of payment of professional fees and reimbursement of incurred expenses for the provision of legal services authorized pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section to or on behalf of Cuba or a Cuban national, other than those described in paragraph (d)(1) of this section, are authorized, except that nothing in this section authorizes the debiting of any blocked account or the transfer of any blocked property.

(e) *Payments for legal services from funds originating outside the United States authorized*. Receipts of payment of professional fees and reimbursement of incurred expenses for the provision of legal services authorized pursuant to § 515.512(a) to or on behalf of a prohibited official of the Government of Cuba, as defined in § 515.337, or a pro-

hibited member of the Cuban Communist Party, as defined in § 515.338, are authorized from funds originating outside the United States, provided that:

(1) The funds received by persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction as payment of professional fees and reimbursement of incurred expenses for the provision of legal services authorized pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section do not originate from:

(i) A source within the United States;

(ii) Any source, wherever located, within the possession or control of a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction; or

(iii) Any person, other than the person on whose behalf the legal services authorized pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section are to be provided, whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to any part of this chapter other than part 515.

(2) *Records*. Consistent with §§ 501.601 and 501.602 of this chapter, persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction who receive payments in connection with legal services authorized pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section must retain for ten years from the date of the relevant payment, and furnish to OFAC on demand, a record that specifies the following for each payment:

(i) The individual or entity from whom the funds originated and the amount of funds received; and

(ii) If applicable:

(A) The names of any persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction receiving payment in connection with authorized legal services to or on behalf of Cuba or a Cuban national, such as private investigators or expert witnesses;

(B) A general description of the services provided; and

(C) The amount of funds paid in connection with such services.

NOTE 1 TO § 515.512: Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction who receive payments in connection with legal services authorized pursuant to § 515.512(a) do not need to obtain specific authorization to contract for related services that are ordinarily incident to the provision of those legal services, such as those provided by private investigators or expert witnesses, or to pay for such services. This does not authorize the hiring of Cuban nationals. Additionally, persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction do not need to obtain specific authorization to provide related services that are

§515.513

ordinarily incident to the provision of legal services authorized pursuant to §515.512(a).

NOTE 2 TO §515.512: See §§515.527 and 515.528 for general licenses authorizing fees due to attorneys in connection with certain intellectual property-related transactions. See §515.588 for a general license authorizing the receipt of, and payment for, certain legal services from Cuba or a Cuban national.

[80 FR 56919, Sept. 21, 2015, as amended at 89 FR 103642, Dec. 19, 2024]

§515.513 Purchase and sale of certain securities.

(a) The bona fide purchase and sale of securities on a national securities exchange by banking institutions within the United States for the account, and pursuant to the authorization, of nationals of a designated foreign country and the making and receipt of payments, transfers of credit, and transfers of such securities which are necessary incidents of any such purchase or sale are hereby authorized provided the following terms and conditions are complied with:

(1) In the case of the purchase of securities, the securities purchased shall be held in an account in a banking institution within the United States in the name of the national whose account was debited to purchase such securities; and

(2) In the case of the sale of securities, the proceeds of the sale shall be credited to an account in the name of the national for whose account the sale was made and in the banking institution within the United States which held the securities for such national.

(b) This section does not authorize the crediting of the proceeds of the sale of securities held in a blocked account or a subaccount thereof, to a blocked account or subaccount under any name or designation which differs from the name or designation of the specific blocked account or subaccount in which such securities were held.

(c) Securities issued or guaranteed by the Government of the United States or any State, territory, district, county, municipality, or other political subdivision thereof (including agencies and instrumentalities of the foregoing) need not be purchased or sold on a national securities exchange, but purchases or sales of such securities shall be made at market value and pursuant

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

to all other terms and conditions prescribed in this section.

§515.514 Payment of dividends and interest on and redemption and collection of securities.

(a) The payment to, and receipt by, a banking institution within the United States of funds or other property representing dividends or interest on securities held by such banking institution in a blocked account is hereby authorized provided the funds or other property are credited to or deposited in a blocked account in such banking institution in the name of the national for whose account the securities were held. Notwithstanding §515.202, this paragraph authorizes the foregoing transactions although such securities are registered or inscribed in the name of any designated national and although the national in whose name the securities are registered or inscribed may not be the owner of such blocked account.

(b) The payment to, and receipt by, a banking institution within the United States of funds payable in respect of securities (including coupons) presented by such banking institution to the proper paying agents within the United States for redemption or collection for the account and pursuant to the authorization of nationals of a designated country is hereby authorized provided the proceeds of the redemption or collection are credited to a blocked account in such banking institution in the name of the national for whose account the redemption or collection was made.

(c) The performance of such other acts, and the effecting of such other transactions, as may be necessarily incident to any of the foregoing, are also hereby authorized.

(d) This section does not authorize the crediting of the proceeds of the redemption or collection of securities (including coupons) held in a blocked account or a subaccount thereof, or the income derived from such securities to a blocked account or subaccount under any name or designation which differs from the name or designation of the specific blocked account or subaccount in which such securities were held.

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.520**

(e) This section does not authorize any issuer or other obligor, with respect to a security, who is a designated national, to make any payment, transfer or withdrawal.

§ 515.515 Transfers of securities to blocked accounts in domestic banks.

(a) Transactions ordinarily incident to the transfer of securities from a blocked account in the name of any person to a blocked account in the same name in a domestic bank are hereby authorized provided such securities shall not be transferred from any blocked account if such transfer represents, directly or indirectly, a transfer of the interest of a designated national to any other country or person.

(b) This section does not authorize the transfer of securities held in a blocked account or subaccount thereof to a blocked account or subaccount under any name or designation which differs from the name or designation of the specific blocked account or subaccount in which such securities were held.

[32 FR 10847, July 25, 1967]

§ 515.516 Voting and soliciting of proxies on securities.

Notwithstanding § 515.202, the voting and the soliciting of proxies or other authorizations is authorized with respect to the voting of securities issued by a corporation organized under the laws of the United States or of any State, territory, or district thereof, in which a designated national has any interest.

§ 515.517 Access to safe deposit boxes under certain conditions.

(a) Access to any safe deposit box leased to a designated national or containing property in which any designated national has an interest, and the deposit therein or removal therefrom of any property is hereby authorized, provided the following terms and conditions are complied with:

(1) Access shall be permitted only in the presence of an authorized representative of the lessor of such box; and

(2) In the event that any property in which any designated national has any

interest is to be removed from such box, access shall be permitted only in the presence of an authorized representative of a banking institution within the United States, which may be the lessor of such box, which shall receive such property into its custody immediately upon removal from such box and which shall hold the same in a blocked account under an appropriate designation indicating the interest therein of designated nationals.

(b) The terms and conditions set forth in paragraph (a) of this section shall not apply to access granted to a representative of the Office of Alien Property pursuant to any rule, regulation or order of such Office.

§ 515.518 [Reserved]**§ 515.519 Limited payments from accounts of United States citizens abroad.**

(a) Payments and transfers of credit from blocked accounts for expenditures within the United States or the authorized trade territory of any citizens of the United States who are within any foreign country are hereby authorized provided the following terms and conditions are complied with:

(1) Such payments and transfers shall be made only from blocked accounts in the name, or in which the beneficial interest is held by, such citizen or his family; and

(2) The total of all such payments and transfers made under this section shall not exceed \$1,000 in any one calendar month for any such citizen or his family.

(b) This section does not authorize any remittance to a designated foreign country or, any payment, transfer, or withdrawal which could not be effected without a license by a person within the United States who is not a national of a designated foreign country.

[28 FR 6974, July 9, 1963, as amended at 49 FR 27144, July 2, 1984]

§ 515.520 Payments from accounts of United States citizens in employ of United States in foreign countries and certain other persons.

(a) Banking institutions within the United States are hereby authorized to

§515.521

make all payments, transfers and withdrawals from accounts in the name of citizens of the United States while such citizens are within any foreign country in the course of their employment by the Government of the United States.

(b) Banking institutions within the United States are also hereby authorized to make all payments, transfers and withdrawals from accounts in the name of members of the armed forces of the United States and of citizens of the United States accompanying such armed forces in the course of their employment by any organization acting on behalf of the Government of the United States while such persons are within any foreign country.

(c) This section is deemed to apply to the accounts of members of the armed forces of the United States and of citizens of the United States accompanying such armed forces in the course of their employment by the Government of the United States or by any organization acting on its behalf even though they are captured or reported missing.

§515.521 U.S. assets of certain Cuban corporations.

(a) Specific licenses may be issued unblocking the net pro rata shares of individuals who are permanent residents of the United States or the authorized trade territory, and who are not specially designated nationals, in U.S.-located assets of corporations formed under the laws of Cuba, after deducting the total debt due creditors for claims that accrued prior to the effective date, in cases where all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The assets were owned by, or accrued to, the corporation before the effective date of the regulations;

(2) The corporation did not carry on substantial business in Cuba under the management or control of the applicant(s) after the effective date;

(3) In cases where the blocked assets purportedly have been nationalized by Cuba, compensation has not been paid to the applicant(s).

(b) Applications for specific licenses under this section must include all of the following information:

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

(1) A detailed description of the corporation, its by-laws, activities, distribution of shares, and its current status;

(2) Proof of the permanent residence of the applicant(s) in the United States or the authorized trade territory;

(3) A list of all officers, directors and shareholders of the corporation, giving the citizenship and the residence of each person as of the date of the application;

(4) A detailed description of all of the assets of the corporation, wherever located, including a statement of all known encumbrances or claims against them; and

(5) Detailed information regarding the status of all debts and other obligations of the corporation, specifying the citizenship and residence of each creditor on the effective date and on the date of the application.

[50 FR 33720, Aug. 21, 1985. Redesignated at 64 FR 25813, May 13, 1999]

§515.522 [Reserved]

§515.523 Transactions incident to the administration of decedents' estates.

All transactions incident to the administration and distribution of the assets of a blocked estate of a decedent are authorized. Such transactions include the appointment and qualification of a personal representative in the United States or Cuba, collection and preservation of assets by a personal representative and associated fees, payment of funeral expenses and expenses of the last illness, transfer of title, and distribution of assets pursuant to a valid testamentary disposition or intestate succession. All property distributed pursuant to this section is unblocked, provided that neither Cuba nor a Cuban national (other than the decedent or a person unblocked pursuant to §515.505) has an interest in the property.

NOTE TO §515.523: See §515.570(f)(1) for a general license authorizing funds deposited in a blocked bank account in a banking institution, as defined in §515.314, as a result of certain administration of decedents' estates to be remitted to a national of Cuba.

[80 FR 56920, Sept. 21, 2015]

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.526****§ 515.524 Payment from, and transactions in the administration of certain trusts and estates.**

(a) Any bank or trust company incorporated under the laws of the United States, or of any State, territory, possession, or district of the United States, or any private bank subject to supervision and examination under the banking laws of any State of the United States, acting as trustee of a trust created by gift, donation, or bequest and administered in the United States, in which one or more persons who are designated nationals have an interest, beneficial or otherwise, or are co-trustees, is hereby authorized to engage in the following transactions:

(1) Payments of distributive shares of principal or income to all persons legally entitled thereto.

(2) Other transactions arising in the administration of such trust which might be engaged in if no Cuban national were a beneficiary or co-trustee of such trust.

(b) This section does not authorize a trustee to engage in any other transaction at the request, or upon the instructions, of any beneficiary or co-trustee of such trust or other person who is a Cuban national.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (b): See § 515.523 for a general license authorizing transactions incident to the administration of decedents' estates. See § 515.570(f)(1) for a general license authorizing funds deposited in a blocked bank account in a banking institution as a result of certain administration of decedents' estates to be remitted to a national of Cuba.

(c) The application of this section to trusts is limited to trusts established by gift, donation, or bequest from individuals or entities to benefit specific heirs, charitable causes, and similar beneficiaries. This section does not apply to trusts established for business or commercial purposes, such as sinking funds established by an issuer of securities in order to secure payment of interest or principal due on such securities.

[28 FR 6974, July 9, 1963, as amended at 49 FR 27144, July 2, 1984; 54 FR 5234, Feb. 2, 1989; 80 FR 56920, Sept. 21, 2015]

§ 515.525 Certain transfers as a consequence of the existence or change of marital status authorized.

Any transfer of any dower, courtesy, community property, or other interest of any nature whatsoever, provided that such transfer arises solely as a consequence of the existence or change of marital status, is authorized.

[80 FR 56920, Sept. 21, 2015]

§ 515.526 Transactions involving blocked life insurance policies.

(a) The following transactions are hereby authorized:

(1) The payment of premiums and interest on policy loans with respect to any blocked life insurance policy;

(2) The issuance, servicing or transfer of any blocked life insurance policy in which the only blocked interest is that of one or more of the following:

(i) A member of the armed forces of the United States or a person accompanying such forces (including personnel of the American Red Cross, and similar organizations);

(ii) An officer or employee of the United States; or

(iii) A citizen of the United States resident in a designated foreign country; and

(3) The issuance, servicing or transfer of any blocked life insurance policy in which the only blocked interest (other than that of a person specified in paragraph (a)(2) of this section) is that of a beneficiary.

(b) Paragraph (a) of this section does not authorize:

(1) Any payment to the insurer from any blocked account except a blocked account of the insured or beneficiary, or

(2) Any payment by the insurer to a national of a designated foreign country unless payment is made by deposit in a blocked account in a domestic bank in the name of the national who is the ultimate beneficiary thereof.

(c) The application, in accordance with the provisions of the policy or the established practice of the insurer of the dividends, cash surrender value, or loan value, of any blocked life insurance policy is also hereby authorized for the purpose of:

(1) Paying premiums;

§515.527

- (2) Paying policy loans and interest thereon;
- (3) Establishing paid-up insurance; or
- (4) Accumulating such dividends or values to the credit of the policy on the books of the insurer.

(d) As used in this section:

- (1) The term *blocked life insurance policy* shall mean any life insurance policy or annuity contract, or contract supplementary thereto, in which there is a blocked interest.
- (2) Any interest of a national of a designated foreign country shall be deemed to be a "blocked interest."
- (3) The term *servicing* shall mean the following transactions with respect to any blocked life insurance policy:
 - (i) The payment of premiums, the payment of loan interest, and the repayment of policy loans;
 - (ii) The effecting by a life insurance company or other insurer of loans to an insured;
 - (iii) The effecting on behalf of an insured or surrenders, conversions, modifications, and reinstatements; and
 - (iv) The exercise or election by an insured of nonforfeiture options, optional modes of settlement, optional disposition of dividends, and other policy options and privileges not involving payment by the insurer.
- (4) The term *transfer* shall mean the change of beneficiary, or the assignment or pledge of the interest of an insured in any blocked life insurance policy subsequent to the issuance thereof.

(e) This section does not authorize any transaction with respect to any blocked life insurance policy issued by a life insurance company or other insurer which is a national of a designated foreign country or which is not doing business or effecting insurance in the United States.

§515.527 Certain transactions with respect to United States intellectual property.

(a)(1) Transactions related to the registration and renewal in the United States Patent and Trademark Office or the United States Copyright Office of patents, trademarks, and copyrights in which the Government of Cuba or a Cuban national has an interest are authorized.

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

(2) No transaction or payment is authorized or approved pursuant to paragraph (a)(1) of this section with respect to a mark, trade name, or commercial name that is the same as or substantially similar to a mark, trade name, or commercial name that was used in connection with a business or assets that were confiscated, as that term is defined in §515.336, unless the original owner of the mark, trade name, or commercial name, or the bona fide successor-in-interest has expressly consented.

(b) This section authorizes the payment from blocked accounts or otherwise of fees currently due to the United States Government in connection with any transaction authorized in paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) This section further authorizes the payment from blocked accounts or otherwise of the reasonable and customary fees and charges currently due to attorneys or representatives within the United States in connection with the transactions authorized in paragraph (a) of this section.

[60 FR 54196, Oct. 20, 1995, as amended at 64 FR 25813, May 13, 1999]

§515.528 Certain transactions with respect to blocked foreign intellectual property.

(a) The following transactions by any person who is not a designated national are hereby authorized:

(1) The filing and prosecution of any application for a blocked foreign patent, trademark or copyright, or for the renewal thereof;

(2) The receipt of any blocked foreign patent, trademark or copyright;

(3) The filing and prosecution of opposition or infringement proceedings with respect to any blocked foreign patent, trademark, or copyright, and the prosecution of a defense to any such proceedings;

(4) The payment of fees currently due to the government of any foreign country, either directly or through an attorney or representative, in connection with any of the transactions authorized by paragraphs (a) (1), (2), and (3) of this section or for the maintenance of any blocked foreign patent, trademark or copyright; and

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.532**

(5) The payment of reasonable and customary fees currently due to attorneys or representatives in any foreign country incurred in connection with any of the transactions authorized by paragraphs (a) (1), (2), (3), or (4) of this section.

(b) Payments effected pursuant to the terms of paragraphs (a) (4) and (5) of this section may not be made from any blocked account.

(c) As used in this section the term *blocked foreign patent, trademark, or copyright* shall mean any patent, petty patent, design patent, trademark or copyright issued by any foreign country in which a designated foreign country or national thereof has an interest, including any patent, petty patent, design patent, trademark, or copyright issued by a designated foreign country.

[28 FR 6974, July 9, 1963, as amended at 60 FR 54196, Oct. 20, 1995]

§ 515.529 Powers of attorney.

(a) No power of attorney, whether granted before or after the "effective date" shall be invalid by reason of any of the provisions of this part with respect to any transaction licensed by or pursuant to the provisions of this part.

(b) This section does not authorize any transaction pursuant to a power of attorney if such transaction is prohibited by § 515.201 and is not otherwise licensed or authorized by or pursuant to this part.

(c) This section does not authorize the creation of any power of attorney in favor of any person outside of the United States or the exportation from the United States of any power of attorney.

§ 515.530 Exportation of powers of attorney or instructions relating to certain types of transactions.

(a) The exportation to any foreign country of powers of attorney or other instruments executed or issued by any person within the United States who is not a national of a designated foreign country, which are limited to authorizations or instructions to effect transactions incident to the following, are hereby authorized upon the condition prescribed in paragraph (b) of this section:

(1) The representation of the interest of such person in a decedent's estate which is being administered in a designated foreign country and the collection of the distributive share of such person in such estate;

(2) The maintenance, preservation, supervision or management of any property located in a designated foreign country in which such person has an interest; and

(3) The conveyance, transfer, release, sale or other disposition of any property specified in paragraph (a)(1) of this section or any real estate or tangible personal property if the value thereof does not exceed the sum of \$5,000 or its equivalent in foreign currency.

(b) No instrument which authorizes the conveyance, transfer, release, sale or other disposition of any property may be exported under this section unless it contains an express stipulation that such authority may not be exercised if the value of such property exceeds the sum of \$5,000 or the equivalent thereof in foreign currency.

(c) As used in this section, the term *tangible personal property* shall not include cash, bullion, deposits, credits, securities, patents, trademarks, or copyrights.

(d) *Certain direct financial transactions restricted.* Nothing in this section authorizes a direct financial transaction prohibited by § 515.209.

[28 FR 6974, July 9, 1963, as amended at 82 FR 52000, Nov. 9, 2017]

§ 515.532 Completion of certain securities transactions.

(a) Banking institutions within the United States are hereby authorized to complete, on or before July 12, 1963 purchases and sales made prior to the "effective date" of securities purchased or sold for the account of a designated foreign country or any designated national thereof provided the following terms and conditions are complied with, respectively:

(1) The proceeds of such sale are credited to a blocked account in a banking institution in the name of the person for whose account the sale was made; and

(2) The securities so purchased are held in a blocked account in a banking

§515.533

institution in the name of the person for whose account the purchase was made.

(b) This section does not authorize the crediting of the proceeds of the sale of securities held in a blocked account or a subaccount thereof, to a blocked account or subaccount under any name or designation which differs from the name or designation of the specific blocked account or subaccount in which such securities were held.

§515.533 Exports from the United States to Cuba; reexports to Cuba; importation and servicing or repair of certain items previously exported or reexported to Cuba.

(a) All transactions ordinarily incident to the exportation of items from the United States, or the reexportation of items from a third country, to any person within Cuba are authorized, provided that:

(1) The exportation or reexportation is licensed or otherwise authorized by the Department of Commerce under the provisions of the Export Administration Act of 1979, as amended (50 U.S.C. 4601-4623) (see the Export Administration Regulations, 15 CFR parts 730 through 774);

(2) The transaction is not a transaction between a U.S.-owned or -controlled firm in a third country and Cuba for the exportation to Cuba of commodities produced in a country other than the United States or Cuba;

(3) The transaction is not financed from any blocked account; and

(4) In the case of agricultural commodities, as that term is defined in 15 CFR part 772, only the following payment and financing terms are used:

(i) Payment of cash in advance. For the purposes of this section, the term "payment of cash in advance" shall mean payment before the transfer of title to, and control of, the exported items to the Cuban purchaser; or

(ii) Financing by a banking institution located in a third country provided the banking institution is not a designated national, a U.S. citizen, a U.S. permanent resident alien, or an entity organized under the laws of the United States or any jurisdiction within the United States (including any foreign branch of such an entity). Such fi-

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

nancing may be confirmed or advised by a U.S. banking institution.

NOTE 1 TO PARAGRAPH (a): The transactions authorized by this paragraph include all transactions that are directly incident to the shipping of specific exports or reexports (e.g., insurance and transportation of the exports to Cuba). Transactions that are not tied to specific exports or reexports, such as transactions involving future (non-specific) shipments, must be separately licensed by OFAC. For the waiver of the prohibitions on entry into U.S. ports contained in §515.207 for vessels transporting shipments of items between the United States and Cuba pursuant to this section, see §515.550.

NOTE 2 TO PARAGRAPH (a): The limitation in paragraph (a)(4) applies only to payment and financing terms for exports or reexports of agricultural commodities and is required by the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000, 22 U.S.C. 7207(b)(1). For other authorized exports and reexports, paragraph (a) does not restrict payment and financing terms. See §515.584 for an authorization for banking institutions to provide financing for authorized exports and reexports of items other than agricultural commodities.

NOTE 3 TO PARAGRAPH (a): Transactions ordinarily incident to exportation from the United States authorized by this paragraph include the importation into the United States of items from a third country for exportation to Cuba pursuant to a license or other authorization by the Department of Commerce.

NOTE 4 TO PARAGRAPH (a): See §515.534 for a general license authorizing certain contingent contracts, including contingent contracts for the sale of items that may be exported from the United States to Cuba or reexported from a third country to Cuba consistent with the export licensing policy of the Department of Commerce, where performance of such contingent contracts is expressly made contingent on prior authorization by the Department of Commerce.

(b) *Importation of certain items previously exported to Cuba; servicing and repair of such items.* All transactions ordinarily incident to the importation into the United States or a third country of items previously exported from the United States to Cuba or exported or reexported from a third country to Cuba, and the servicing and repair of such items, are authorized, provided that:

(1) The items previously were exported or reexported to Cuba pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section or §515.559; and

(2) The items are being imported into the United States or a third country either:

(i) In order to service or repair them before they are exported or reexported back to Cuba, or

(ii) To return them to the United States or a third country.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (b): This paragraph does not authorize the exportation or re-exportation of any item to Cuba. The exportation or reexportation of serviced, repaired, or replacement items to Cuba must be separately authorized pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section or § 515.559, in addition to any Department of Commerce authorization that may be required.

(c) *General license for travel-related transactions incident to exportation or re-exportation of certain items.* (1) The travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such additional transactions as are directly incident to the conduct of market research, commercial marketing, sales or contract negotiation, accompanied delivery, installation, leasing, servicing, or repair in Cuba of items consistent with the export or reexport licensing policy of the Department of Commerce are authorized, provided that the traveler's schedule of activities does not include free time or recreation in excess of that consistent with a full-time schedule.

(2) The travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such additional transactions as are directly incident to the facilitation of the temporary sojourn of aircraft and vessels as authorized by 15 CFR 740.15 (License Exception Aircraft, Vessels and Spacecraft) or pursuant to other authorization by the Department of Commerce for authorized travel between the United States and Cuba, including travel-related transactions by persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction who are required for normal operation and service aboard a vessel or aircraft, as well as persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction who are required to provide services to a vessel in port or aircraft on the ground, are authorized, provided that:

(i) Such travel-related transactions are limited to the duration and scope of their duties in relation to the particular authorized temporary sojourn; and

(ii) The aircraft or vessel must be transporting individuals whose travel between the United States and Cuba is authorized pursuant to any section of this part other than paragraph (c)(2) of this section.

(d) *Certain travel-related transactions restricted.* Nothing in paragraph (c) of this section authorizes the lodging, paying for lodging, or making any reservation for or on behalf of a third party to lodge, at any property on the Cuba Prohibited Accommodations List to the extent prohibited by § 515.210.

(e) *Specific licenses.* Specific licenses may be issued on a case-by-case basis authorizing the travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such other transactions as are related to the exportation and reexportation of items to Cuba when such transactions do not qualify for the general license under paragraph (c) of this section.

[81 FR 71374, Oct. 17, 2016, as amended at 82 FR 52000, Nov. 9, 2017; 85 FR 60070, Sept. 24, 2020]

§ 515.534 Negotiation of, and entry into, contingent contracts relating to transactions prohibited by this part.

(a) Persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States are authorized to enter into, and to engage in all transactions ordinarily incident to the negotiation of and entry into, contingent contracts for transactions that are prohibited by this part, provided that:

(1) The performance of any such contingent contract is made expressly contingent on the prior authorization of the Office of Foreign Assets Control pursuant to this part or authorization no longer being required; and

(2) The performance of any such contingent contract that is subject to licensing requirements of another Federal agency is expressly made contingent upon the prior authorization of that agency or the removal of those licensing requirements.

(b) For purposes of this section, the term "contingent contracts" includes executory contracts, executory pro forma invoices, agreements in principle, executory offers capable of acceptance such as bids or proposals in response to public tenders, binding

§515.535

memoranda of understanding, or any other similar agreement.

NOTE TO §515.534: This section does not authorize transactions related to travel to, from, or within Cuba. See §515.533(c) for a general license authorizing travel-related and other transactions incident to the negotiation of contracts for the exportation or reexportation of certain items to Cuba, and §515.564(a)(2) for a general license authorizing travel-related and other transactions incident to attending or organizing professional meetings in Cuba, which include professional meetings relating to the negotiation of contingent contracts authorized by this section.

(c) *Certain direct financial transactions restricted.* Nothing in this section authorizes a direct financial transaction prohibited by §515.209.

[81 FR 71375, Oct. 17, 2016, as amended at 82 FR 52000, Nov. 9, 2017; 85 FR 60070, Sept. 24, 2020; 87 FR 35089, June 9, 2022]

§515.535 Exchange of certain securities.

(a) Subject to the limitations and conditions of paragraph (b) of this section and notwithstanding §515.202, any banking institution within the United States is authorized to engage in the following transactions with respect to securities listed on a national securities exchange, including the withdrawal of such securities from blocked accounts:

(1) Exchange of certificates necessitated by reason of changes in corporate name, par value or capitalization,

(2) Exchanges of temporary for permanent certificates,

(3) Exchanges or deposits under plans of reorganization,

(4) Exchanges under refunding plans, or

(5) Exchanges pursuant to conversion privileges accruing to securities held.

(b) This section does not authorize the following transactions:

(1) Any exchange of securities unless the new securities and other proceeds, if any, received are deposited in the blocked account in which the original securities were held immediately prior to the exchange.

(2) Any exchange of securities registered in the name of any designated national, unless the new securities received are registered in the same name

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

in which the securities exchanged were registered prior to the exchange.

(3) Any exchange of securities issued by a person engaged in the business of offering, buying, selling, or otherwise dealing, or trading in securities, or evidences thereof, issued by another person.

(4) Any transaction with respect to any security by an issuer or other obligor who is a designated national.

§515.536 Certain transactions with respect to merchandise affected by §515.204.

(a) The purchase outside the United States for importation into the United States of nickel-bearing materials presumptively subject to §515.204 and the importation of such merchandise into the United States are authorized if there is presented to the collector of customs in connection with such importation the original of an appropriate certificate of origin as defined in paragraph (b) of this section and provided that the merchandise was shipped to the United States directly, or on a through bill of lading, from the country issuing the appropriate certificate of origin.

(b) A certificate of origin is appropriate for the purposes of this section only if

(1) It is a certificate of origin the availability of which for Cuban Assets Control purposes has been announced in the **FEDERAL REGISTER** by the Office of Foreign Assets Control; and

(2) It bears a statement by the issuing agency referring to the Cuban Assets Control Regulations or stating that the certificate has been issued under procedures agreed upon with the U.S. Government.

[30 FR 15371, Dec. 14, 1965, as amended at 47 FR 4254, Jan. 29, 1982; 50 FR 5753, Feb. 12, 1985; 54 FR 5234, Feb. 2, 1989; 81 FR 71375, Oct. 17, 2016]

§515.540 [Reserved]

§515.542 Mail and telecommunications-related transactions.

(a) All transactions, including payments, incident to the receipt or transmission of mail and parcels between the United States and Cuba are authorized, provided that the importation or

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.542**

exportation of such mail and parcels is exempt from or authorized pursuant to this part.

(b) All transactions, including payments, incident to the provision of telecommunications services related to the transmission or the receipt of telecommunications involving Cuba, including the entry into and performance under roaming service agreements with telecommunications services providers in Cuba, by persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction are authorized. This paragraph does not authorize any transactions addressed in paragraphs (c) or (d) of this section, nor does it authorize the entry into or performance of a contract with or for the benefit of any particular individual in Cuba.

(c) All persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction are authorized to enter into, and make payments under, contracts with telecommunications service providers, or particular individuals in Cuba, for telecommunications services provided to particular individuals in Cuba, provided that such individuals in Cuba are not prohibited officials of the Government of Cuba, as defined in § 515.337 of this part, or prohibited members of the Cuban Communist Party, as defined in § 515.338 of this part. The authorization in this paragraph includes payment for activation, installation, usage (monthly, pre-paid, intermittent, or other), roaming, maintenance, and termination fees.

(d) *General license for telecommunications facilities.* Transactions, including payments, incident to the establishment of facilities, including fiber-optic cable and satellite facilities, to provide telecommunications services linking the United States or third countries and Cuba, including facilities to provide telecommunications services in Cuba, are authorized.

(e) Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction are authorized to enter into licensing agreements related to services authorized by paragraphs (b) through (d) of this section, and to market such services.

(f) [Reserved]

(g) Any entity subject to U.S. jurisdiction relying on paragraph (b), (c), or (d) of this section shall notify OFAC in writing within 30 days after commencing or ceasing to offer such serv-

ices, as applicable, and shall furnish by January 15 and July 15 of each year semiannual reports providing the total amount of all payments made to Cuba or a third country related to any of the services authorized by this section during the prior six months. These notifications and reports must be captioned "Section 515.542 Notification" or "Section 515.542 Report" and emailed to *OFACReport@treasury.gov*. The reporting requirement in this paragraph (g) applies only to the non-banking institution entity subject to U.S. jurisdiction relying upon paragraph (b), (c), or (d) of this section to provide telecommunications services.

(h) For purposes of this section, the term "telecommunications services" includes data, telephone, telegraph, internet connectivity, radio, television, news wire feeds, and similar services, regardless of the medium of transmission, including transmissions by satellite.

(i) Nothing in this section authorizes the exportation or reexportation of any items to Cuba. For the rules related to authorization of exports and reexports to Cuba, see §§ 515.533 and 515.559.

(j) Nothing in this section authorizes transactions related to travel to, from, or within Cuba.

NOTE 1 TO § 515.542: For an authorization of travel-related transactions that are directly incident to the conduct of market research, commercial marketing, sales or contract negotiation, accompanied delivery, installation, leasing, servicing, or repair in Cuba of items consistent with the export or reexport policy of the Department of Commerce, see § 515.533(c). For an authorization of travel-related transactions that are directly incident to participation in professional meetings, including where such meetings relate to telecommunications services or other activities authorized by paragraphs (b) through (e) of this section, see § 515.564(a).

NOTE 2 TO § 515.542: For general licenses authorizing physical and business presence in Cuba for certain persons, see § 515.573. An authorization related to business presence was previously included in this section. For an authorization of certain internet-related services, see § 515.578.

[80 FR 2293, Jan. 16, 2015, as amended at 80 FR 56921, Sept. 21, 2015; 81 FR 13991, Mar. 16, 2016; 81 FR 71376, Oct. 17, 2016; 85 FR 60071, Sept. 24, 2020; 87 FR 35089, June 9, 2022; 89 FR 46324, May 29, 2024]

§ 515.543

§ 515.543 Proof of origin.

Specific licenses for importation of goods of Cuban origin are generally not issued unless the applicant submits satisfactory documentary proof of the location of the goods outside Cuba prior to July 8, 1963 and of the absence of any Cuban interest in the goods at all times on or since that date. Since the type of document which would constitute satisfactory proof varies depending upon the facts of the particular case, it is not possible to state in advance the type of documents required. However, it has been found that affidavits, statements, invoices, and other documents prepared by manufacturers, processors, sellers or shippers cannot be relied on and are therefore not by themselves accepted by the Office of Foreign Assets Control as satisfactory proof of origin. Independent corroborating documentary evidence, such as insurance documents, bills of lading, etc., may be accepted as satisfactory proof.

[39 FR 25317, July 10, 1974]

§ 515.544 Certain gifts sent to the United States.

The importation into the United States of merchandise from Cuba or Cuban-origin merchandise from a third country intended as gifts is authorized, provided that the value of the merchandise is not more than \$100; the merchandise is of a type and in quantities normally given as gifts between individuals; the merchandise is sent and not carried by a traveler (including as accompanied or unaccompanied baggage); and the merchandise is not alcohol or tobacco products.

NOTE TO § 515.544: See § 515.533 for a general license authorizing transactions ordinarily incident to exports of items from the United States that are licensed or otherwise authorized by the Department of Commerce, which may include gifts sent to Cuba.

[80 FR 56921, Sept. 21, 2015]

§ 515.545 Transactions related to information and informational materials.

(a) Transactions relating to the creation, dissemination, artistic or other substantive alteration, or enhancement of informational materials are author-

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

ized, including employment of Cuban nationals and remittance of royalties or other payments in connection with such transactions. This section authorizes marketing related to the dissemination of such informational materials but does not authorize other marketing or business consulting services.

(b) *General license.* (1) The travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such additional transactions as are directly incident to the exportation, importation, or transmission of information or informational materials as defined in § 515.332 are authorized, provided that the traveler's schedule of activities does not include free time or recreation in excess of that consistent with a full-time schedule.

(2) The travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such additional transactions as are directly incident to professional media or artistic productions of information or informational materials for exportation, importation, or transmission, including the filming or production of media programs (such as movies and television programs), the recording of music, and the creation of artworks in Cuba, are authorized, provided that the traveler is regularly employed in or has demonstrated professional experience in a field relevant to such professional media or artistic productions, and that the traveler's schedule of activities does not include free time or recreation in excess of that consistent with a full-time schedule.

(c) *Certain direct financial transactions restricted.* Nothing in paragraphs (a) or (b) of this section authorizes a direct financial transaction prohibited by § 515.209.

(d) *Certain travel-related transactions restricted.* Nothing in paragraph (b) of this section authorizes the lodging, paying for lodging, or making any reservation for or on behalf of a third party to lodge, at any property on the Cuba Prohibited Accommodations List to the extent prohibited by § 515.210.

(e) *Specific licenses.* Specific licenses may be issued on a case-by-case basis authorizing the travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such other transactions as are related to information and informational materials

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.547**

that do not qualify for the general license under paragraph (b) of this section.

NOTE 1 TO § 515.545. With respect to transactions necessary and ordinarily incident to the publishing and marketing of manuscripts, books, journals and newspapers, see § 515.577.

NOTE 2 TO § 515.545: See § 515.332(a)(2) for clarification as to the types of artworks that are considered to be informational materials.

[54 FR 5234, Feb. 2, 1989, as amended at 60 FR 39257, Aug. 2, 1995; 64 FR 25813, May 13, 1999; 69 FR 75469, Dec. 17, 2004; 74 FR 46006, Sept. 8, 2009; 80 FR 2294, Jan. 16, 2015; 81 FR 4585, Jan. 27, 2016; 82 FR 52000, Nov. 9, 2017; 85 FR 60071, Sept. 24, 2020]

§ 515.546 Accounts of Cuban sole proprietorships.

Specific licenses are issued unblocking sole proprietorships established under the laws of Cuba if the proprietor has emigrated from Cuba and established residence in the United States or a country in the authorized trade territory.

[39 FR 25319, July 10, 1974. Redesignated at 64 FR 25813, May 13, 1999]

§ 515.547 Certain transactions related to medical research and Cuban-origin pharmaceuticals; research samples.

(a) Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction are authorized to engage in all transactions incident to joint medical research projects with Cuban nationals.

NOTE 1 TO PARAGRAPH (a): The export or re-export to Cuba of goods (including software) or technology subject to the Export Administration Regulations (15 CFR parts 730 through 774) may require separate authorization from the Department of Commerce.

NOTE 2 TO PARAGRAPH (a): This paragraph does not authorize transactions related to travel to, from, or within Cuba, nor does it authorize transactions related to travel to, from, or within the United States by Cuban nationals. See § 515.564(a) for a general license authorizing travel-related and other transactions incident to professional research and professional meetings in Cuba. See § 515.571 for a general license authorizing transactions incident to travel to, from, and within the United States by certain Cuban nationals.

NOTE 3 TO PARAGRAPH (a): This paragraph also does not authorize persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction to establish a business or

physical presence in Cuba, to hire Cuban nationals, or to engage in any transactions prohibited by § 515.208.

(b) Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction are authorized to engage in all transactions incident to obtaining approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) of Cuban-origin pharmaceuticals, including discovery and development, pre-clinical research, clinical research, regulatory review, regulatory approval and licensing, regulatory post-market activities, and the importation into the United States of Cuban-origin pharmaceuticals.

(c) Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction are authorized to engage in all transactions incident to the marketing, sale, or other distribution in the United States of FDA-approved Cuban-origin pharmaceuticals, including the importation into the United States of Cuban-origin pharmaceuticals.

(d)(1) *Opening and maintaining bank accounts at Cuban financial institutions to engage in authorized transactions.* The opening and maintenance of accounts, including the deposit of funds in such accounts by wire transfer, at a financial institution in Cuba, is authorized provided that such accounts are used only for transactions authorized pursuant to this section.

(2) *Closing bank accounts.* The closing of an account opened pursuant to the authorization in paragraph (d)(1) of this section is authorized, provided that any transfer of funds may only be effected by wire transfer to an account maintained at a depository institution, as defined in § 515.333, that is a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction.

(e) *Specific licenses.* (1) To the extent not authorized by paragraph (b) of this section, specific licenses may be issued for the importation of Cuban-origin commodities for bona-fide research purposes in sample quantities only.

(2) Specific licenses may be issued for transactions related to medical research or pharmaceutical products not authorized by paragraphs (a) through (c) of this section.

§ 515.548

NOTE TO § 515.547: Transactions authorized by this section may require separate authorizations or approvals by the FDA or other Federal agencies.

[81 FR 71376, Oct. 17, 2016, as amended at 85 FR 60071, Sept. 24, 2020; 87 FR 35089, June 9, 2022]

§ 515.548 Overflight payments, emergency landings, and air ambulance services authorized.

(a) The receipt of, and payment of charges for, services rendered by Cuba or a Cuban national in connection with overflights of Cuba or emergency landings in Cuba by aircraft registered in the United States or owned or controlled by, or chartered to, persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction are authorized.

(b) Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction are authorized to engage in all transactions necessary to provide air ambulance and related medical services, including medical evacuation from Cuba, for individual travelers in Cuba, regardless of nationality or the purpose of the individual's travel to Cuba.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (b): Persons providing air ambulance services authorized by paragraph (b) are authorized to carry persons who are close relatives, as defined in § 515.539, of the subject of the evacuation.

[80 FR 56921, Sept. 21, 2015]

§ 515.549 Bank accounts and other property of non-Cuban decedents in Cuba on or after July 8, 1963.

Specific licenses may be issued authorizing the administration of the estates of non-Cuban decedents who died in Cuba on or after July 8, 1963, provided that any distribution to a blocked national of Cuba is made by deposit in a blocked account in a domestic bank in the name of the blocked national.

[80 FR 2294, Jan. 16, 2015]

§ 515.550 Certain vessel transactions authorized.

(a) Unless a vessel is otherwise engaging or has otherwise engaged in transactions that would prohibit entry pursuant to § 515.207, § 515.207 shall not apply to a vessel that is:

(1) Engaging or has engaged in trade with Cuba authorized pursuant to this part;

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (a)(1): The authorization in this paragraph includes, for example, trade with Cuba authorized pursuant to § 515.533, § 515.559, or § 515.582, or by specific license.

(2) Engaging or has engaged in trade with Cuba that is exempt from the prohibitions of this part (see § 515.206);

(3) Engaging or has engaged in the exportation or reexportation to Cuba from a third country of agricultural commodities, medicine, or medical devices that, were they subject to the Export Administration Regulations (15 CFR parts 730 through 774) (EAR), would be designated as EAR99;

(4) A foreign vessel that has entered a port or place in Cuba while carrying students, faculty, and staff that are authorized to travel to Cuba pursuant to § 515.565(a); or

(5) Carrying or has carried persons between the United States and Cuba or within Cuba pursuant to the authorization in § 515.572(a)(2) or, in the case of a vessel used solely for personal travel (and not transporting passengers), pursuant to a license or other authorization issued by the Department of Commerce for the exportation or reexportation of the vessel to Cuba.

(b) Unless a vessel is otherwise engaging or has otherwise engaged in transactions that would prohibit entry pursuant to § 515.207, § 515.207(a) shall not apply to a foreign vessel that has engaged in the exportation to Cuba from a third country only of items that, were they subject to the EAR, would be designated as EAR99 or would be controlled on the Commerce Control List only for anti-terrorism reasons.

[81 FR 71376, Oct. 17, 2016]

§ 515.551 Joint bank accounts.

(a) Specific licenses are issued unblocking a portion of or all of a joint bank account blocked by reason of the fact that one or more of the persons in whose names the account is held is a blocked national, where a non-blocked applicant claims beneficial ownership, as follows:

(1) *Joint bank account, without survivorship provisions.* Specific licenses are issued unblocking only that amount with respect to which the applicant is able to prove beneficial ownership by

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.554**

documentary evidence independent of his assertions of interest.

(2) *Joint bank account, with survivorship provisions.* Specific licenses are issued unblocking an amount equivalent to that portion of the total amount to which the applicant would be entitled if the total were divided evenly among the persons in whose names the account is held (e.g. 50 percent where there are two names; 33½ percent where there are three names). Such licenses generally are issued on the basis of applicant's assertions of beneficial ownership interest without the requirement of independent evidence.

(3) *Joint bank account in the names of a husband and wife, with survivorship provision.* Specific licenses are issued unblocking portions of such accounts blocked by reason of the residence of one spouse in Cuba in favor of the non-blocked spouse under the policy stated in paragraph (a)(2) of this section. However, if 50 percent of the account has been unblocked under that policy, and the spouse who is the blocked Cuban national subsequently dies, the surviving spouse may be entitled to a license unblocking the remainder of the assets under § 515.522.

(b) [Reserved]

[39 FR 25318, July 10, 1974, as amended at 49 FR 27145, July 2, 1984; 54 FR 5234, Feb. 2, 1989; 64 FR 25813, May 13, 1999]

§ 515.552 Proceeds of insurance policies.

(a) Specific licenses are issued authorizing payment of the proceeds of blocked life insurance policies issued on the life of a Cuban national who died in Cuba after July 8, 1963, to certain beneficiaries licensed as unblocked nationals pursuant to § 515.505, as follows:

(1) The applicant is a permanent resident of the United States or the authorized trade territory and is not a specially designated national; and

(2) No interest on the part of a designated national not licensed as an unblocked national exists in that portion of the funds to which the applicant is entitled.

(b) Applications for specific licenses under this section must include all of the following information:

(1) Proof of permanent residence in the United States or the authorized trade territory, to be established by the submission of documentation issued by relevant government authorities that must include at least two of the following documents:

- (i) Passport;
- (ii) Voter registration card;
- (iii) Permanent resident alien card;

or

- (iv) National identity card.

Other documents tending to show residency, such as income tax returns, may also be submitted in support of government documentation, but will not suffice in and of themselves;

(2) Proof of entitlement under the insurance policy to be established by a copy of the policy and an affidavit from an appropriate officer of a recognized insurance company acknowledging the legitimacy of the beneficiary's claim and the amount of the payment; and

(c) Any document provided pursuant to this section that is not written in the English language must be accompanied by a translation into English, as well as a certification by the translator that he is not an interested party to the proceeding, is qualified to make the translation, and has made an accurate translation of the document in question.

[54 FR 5234, Feb. 2, 1989]

§ 515.553 Bank accounts of official representatives in Cuba of foreign governments.

Specific licenses are issued authorizing payments from accounts of official representatives in Cuba of foreign governments for transactions which are not inconsistent with the purposes of any of the regulations in this chapter.

[39 FR 25319, July 10, 1974]

§ 515.554 Transfers of abandoned property under State laws.

(a) Except as stated in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, specific licenses are not issued authorizing the transfer of blocked property to State agencies under State laws governing abandoned property.

§ 515.555

(b) Specific licenses are issued authorizing the transfer of blocked property, pursuant to the laws of the State governing abandoned property, to the appropriate State agency: *Provided*, That the State's laws are custodial in nature, i.e., there is no permanent transfer of beneficial interest to the State. Licenses require the property to be held by the State in accounts which are identified as blocked under the regulations. A separate index of these blocked assets is required to be maintained by the State agency. The requirements of this section for identification and separate indexing of blocked assets apply to all blocked assets held by State agencies and any licenses issued prior to the effective date of this section hereby are amended by the incorporation of such requirements.

(c) To be eligible for a specific license under this section, the state agency must demonstrate that it has the statutory authority under appropriate state law to comply with the requirements of § 515.205. Such a showing shall include an opinion of the State Attorney General that such statutory authority exists.

[44 FR 11771, Mar. 2, 1979]

§ 515.555 Assets of Cuban firms wholly or substantially owned by U.S. citizens.

(a) Specific licenses are issued to applicants requesting the unblocking of their stock in Cuban corporations if:

(1) The corporation was wholly or substantially owned by United States citizens on July 8, 1963;

(2) The assets are in the United States and either:

(3) The applicant is a stockholder who was a United States citizen on July 8, 1963 and owned the stock interests on that date; or,

(4) The applicant is a non-blocked person who acquired such stock interest after July 8, 1963 from a person specified in paragraph (a)(3) of this section.

(b) The issuance of licenses is conditioned on the applicant's furnishing the following information:

(1) Detailed information as to the status of all debts and other obligations of the Cuban corporation, specifying the citizenship and residence of each creditor as of July 8, 1963, and as of the date of the application;

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

fying the citizenship and residence of each creditor as of July 8, 1963, and as of the date of filing of the application;

(2) Current status of the Cuban corporation, e.g., liquidated, nationalized, inoperative, etc.;

(3) A detailed description of all the corporation's assets, wherever located;

(4) A list of all officers, directors, and stockholders giving the citizenship and the residence of each such person as of July 8, 1963; and,

(5) Satisfactory proof that such stock was owned by U.S. citizens as of July 8, 1963. Such proof may consist of sworn statements by the persons in question attesting to their citizenship. The Office of Foreign Assets Control reserves the right to require additional proof of citizenship.

[39 FR 25319, July 10, 1974]

§ 515.556 [Reserved]

§ 515.557 Accounts of Cuban partnerships.

Specific licenses are issued unblocking partnerships established under the laws of Cuba as follows:

(a) Where all of the general partners and limited partners, if any, have emigrated from Cuba and have established residence in the United States or in a country in the authorized trade territory, specific licenses are issued unblocking the assets of the partnership after deducting the total debt due creditors wherever located.

(b) Where one or more partners, whether general or limited, is still in Cuba (or elsewhere but still blocked), specific licenses are issued unblocking only the net pro-rata shares of those partners who are resident in the United States or in a country in the authorized trade territory after deducting the total debt due creditors wherever located.

(c) The issuance of licenses is conditioned on the applicant's furnishing the following information:

(1) Detailed information as to the status of all debts and other obligations of the blocked partnership, specifying the citizenship and residence of each creditor as of July 8, 1963, and as of the date of the application;

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.559**

(2) Current status of the Cuban partnership, e.g., liquidated, nationalized, inoperative, etc.;

(3) A detailed description of all the partnership's assets, wherever located; and,

(4) A list of all partners, indicating whether they are general, limited, etc. and giving their citizenship and residence as of July 8, 1963, and as of the date of filing of the application.

[39 FR 25319, July 10, 1974]

§ 515.558 Bunkering of Cuban vessels and fueling of Cuban aircraft by American-owned or controlled foreign firms.

Foreign firms owned or controlled by United States persons are authorized to engage in transactions ordinarily incident to the bunkering of vessels and to the fueling of aircraft owned or controlled by, or chartered to, Cuba or nationals thereof.

(50 U.S.C. App. 5(b); 22 U.S.C. 2370(a); E. O. 9193, 3 CFR 1943 Cum. Supp.; Treas. Dept. Order No. 128, 32 FR 3472)

[42 FR 58518, Nov. 10, 1977; 43 FR 19852, May 9, 1978. Redesignated at 64 FR 25813, May 13, 1999]

§ 515.559 Certain export and import transactions by U.S.-owned or -controlled foreign firms.

(a) Effective October 23, 1992, no specific licenses will be issued pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section for transactions between U.S.-owned or controlled firms in third countries and Cuba for the exportation to Cuba of commodities produced in the authorized trade zone or for the importation of goods of Cuban origin into countries in the authorized trade zone, unless, in addition to meeting all requirements of paragraph (b), one or more of the following conditions are satisfied:

(1) The contract underlying the proposed transaction was entered into prior to October 23, 1992;

(2) The transaction is for the exportation of medicine or medical supplies from a third country to Cuba, which shall not be restricted:

(i) Except to the extent such restrictions would be permitted under section 5(m) of the Export Administration Act of 1979 or section 203(b)(2) of the International Emergency Economic Powers

Act if the exportation were subject to these provisions;

(ii) Except in a case in which there is a reasonable likelihood that the item to be exported will be used for purposes of torture or other human rights abuses;

(iii) Except in a case in which there is a reasonable likelihood that the item to be exported will be reexported; or

(iv) Except in a case in which the item to be exported could be used in the production of any biotechnological product; and

(v) Except in a case where it is determined that the United States Government is unable to verify, by on-site inspection or other means, that the item to be exported will be used for the purpose for which it was intended and only for the use and benefit of the Cuban people, but this exception shall not apply to donations for humanitarian purposes to a nongovernmental organization in Cuba.

(3) The transaction is for the exportation of telecommunications equipment from a third country, when the equipment is determined to be necessary for efficient and adequate telecommunications service between the United States and Cuba.

(b) Specific licenses will be issued in appropriate cases for certain categories of transactions between U.S.-owned or controlled firms in third countries and Cuba, where local law requires, or policy in the third country favors, trade with Cuba. The categories include:

(1) Exportation to Cuba of commodities produced in the authorized trade territory, provided:

(i) The commodities to be exported are non-strategic;

(ii) United States-origin technical data (other than maintenance, repair and operations data) will not be transferred;

(iii) If any U.S.-origin parts and components are included therein, such inclusion has been authorized by the Department of Commerce;

(iv) If any U.S.-origin spares are to be reexported to Cuba in connection with a licensed transaction, such reexport has been authorized by the Department of Commerce;

§515.560

(v) No U.S. dollar accounts are involved; and

(vi) Any financing or other extension of credit by a U.S.-owned or controlled firm is granted on normal short-term conditions which are appropriate for the commodity to be exported.

(2) [Reserved]

(3) Importation of goods of Cuban origin into countries in the authorized trade territory.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (b): On October 23, 1992, sections 1705 and 1706 of the Cuban Democracy Act of 1992, Pub. L. 102-484 (Oct. 23, 1992) (codified at 22 U.S.C. 6004 and 6005, respectively), prohibited OFAC from issuing licenses for any transaction described in this paragraph other than those transactions currently set forth in paragraph (a).

(c) The term *strategic goods* means any item, regardless of origin, of a type included in the Commodity Control List of the U.S. Department of Commerce (15 CFR part 399) and identified by the code letter "A" following the Export Control Commodity Numbers, or of a type the unauthorized exportation of which from the United States is prohibited by regulations issued under the Arms Export Control Act of 1976, 22 U.S.C. 2778, or under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, 42 U.S.C. 2011, *et seq.*, or successor acts restricting the export of strategic goods.

(d) *General license.* Travel-related transactions set forth in §515.560(c) and such other transactions as are directly incident to market research, commercial marketing, sales or contract negotiation, accompanied delivery, installation, leasing, servicing, or repair in Cuba of exports that are consistent with the licensing policy under paragraph (a) of this section are authorized, provided that the traveler's schedule of activities does not include free time or recreation in excess of that consistent with a full-time schedule.

(e) *Certain travel-related transactions restricted.* Nothing in paragraph (d) of this section authorizes the lodging, paying for lodging, or making any reservation for or on behalf of a third party to lodge, at any property on the Cuba Prohibited Accommodations List to the extent prohibited by §515.210.

(f) *Specific licenses.* Specific licenses may be issued on a case-by-case basis authorizing the travel-related trans-

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

actions set forth in §515.560(c) and such other transactions as are related to certain transactions by U.S.-owned or -controlled foreign firms with Cuba that do not qualify for the general license under paragraph (d) of this section.

NOTE 1 TO §515.559: For authorization of the reexportation of U.S.-origin items, see §515.533. Transactions by U.S.-owned or -controlled foreign firms directly incident to the exportation of information or informational materials or the donation of food to non-governmental entities or individuals in Cuba are exempt from the prohibitions of this part. See §515.206. For the waiver of the prohibitions contained in §515.207 with respect to vessels transporting shipments of items pursuant to this section, see §515.550.

NOTE 2 TO §515.559: See §515.585 for provisions related to certain transactions by persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction with certain Cuban nationals in third countries.

[40 FR 47108, Oct. 8, 1975, as amended at 42 FR 1472, Jan. 7, 1977; 42 FR 16621, Mar. 29, 1977; 50 FR 27438, July 3, 1985; 53 FR 47527, Nov. 23, 1988; 58 FR 34710, June 29, 1993; 64 FR 25814, May 13, 1999; 66 FR 36687, July 12, 2001; 68 FR 14146, Mar. 24, 2003; 80 FR 2294, Jan. 16, 2015; 80 FR 56921, Sept. 21, 2015; 81 FR 13991, Mar. 16, 2016; 81 FR 71376, Oct. 17, 2016; 85 FR 60071, Sept. 24, 2020]

§515.560 Travel-related transactions to, from, and within Cuba by persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction.

(a) The travel-related transactions listed in paragraph (c) of this section may be authorized either by a general license or on a case-by-case basis by a specific license for travel related to the following activities (see the referenced sections for the applicable general and specific licensing criteria):

(1) Family visits (see §515.561);

(2) Official business of the U.S. government, foreign governments, and certain intergovernmental organizations (see §515.562);

(3) Journalistic activity (see §515.563);

(4) Professional research and professional meetings (see §515.564);

(5) Educational activities (see §515.565);

(6) Religious activities (see §515.566);

(7) Public performances, clinics, workshops, athletic and other competitions, and exhibitions (see §515.567);

(8) Support for the Cuban people (see §515.574);

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.560**

(9) Humanitarian projects (see § 515.575);

(10) Activities of private foundations or research or educational institutes (see § 515.576);

(11) Exportation, importation, or transmission of information or informational materials (see § 515.545); and

(12) Certain export transactions that may be considered for authorization under existing Department of Commerce regulations and guidelines with respect to Cuba or engaged in by U.S.-owned or -controlled foreign firms (see §§ 515.533 and 515.559).

(b) Effective October 28, 2000, no specific licenses will be issued authorizing the travel-related transactions in paragraph (c) of this section in connection with activities other than those referenced in paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) Except as provided in paragraph (d) of this section, persons generally or specifically licensed under this part to engage in transactions in connection with travel to, from, and within Cuba may engage in the following transactions:

(1) *Transportation to, from, and within Cuba; Cuban visas.* All transportation-related transactions ordinarily incident to travel to, from, and within Cuba, including the acquisition of Cuban visas, are authorized.

(2) *Living expenses in Cuba.* All transactions ordinarily incident to travel within Cuba, including payment of living expenses and the acquisition in Cuba of goods for personal consumption there, are authorized.

(3) *Importation of Cuban merchandise.* The purchase or other acquisition in Cuba and importation as accompanied baggage into the United States of merchandise is authorized, provided that the merchandise is imported for personal use only. This paragraph does not apply to the importation into the United States of Cuban-origin alcohol or tobacco products. The importation of Cuban-origin information and informational materials is exempt from the prohibitions of this part, as described in § 515.206. The importation of certain other specified goods and services is authorized in §§ 515.544, 515.547, 515.569, 515.578, 515.582, and 515.585.

(4) *Carrying remittances to Cuba.* The carrying to Cuba of any remittances that the licensed traveler is authorized to remit pursuant to § 515.570 is authorized, provided that no emigration-related remittances authorized by § 515.570(e) are carried to Cuba unless a U.S. immigration visa has been issued for each payee and the licensed traveler can produce the visa recipients' full names, dates of birth, visa numbers, and visa dates of issuance.

(5) *Processing certain financial instruments.* All transactions incident to the processing and payment of credit cards, debit cards, stored value cards, checks, drafts, travelers' checks, and similar instruments used or negotiated in Cuba by any person authorized pursuant to this part to engage in financial transactions in Cuba are authorized. Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction may rely on the traveler with regard to compliance with this paragraph, provided that such persons do not know or have reason to know that a transaction is not authorized by this section.

NOTE TO § 515.560(c)(5): Please see § 515.584 for additional provisions related to the processing and payment of credit and debit card transactions.

(6)(i) *Opening and maintaining bank accounts.* All transactions incident to the opening and maintenance of accounts, including the deposit of funds in such accounts by wire transfer, at a financial institution in Cuba are authorized, provided that such accounts are used only while the traveler is located in Cuba and for the purpose of accessing funds in Cuba for transactions authorized pursuant to, or exempt from, this part.

(ii) *Closing bank accounts.* All transactions incident to the closing of accounts opened pursuant to the authorization in paragraph (c)(6)(i) of this section are authorized, provided that any transfer of funds may only be effected by wire transfer to an account maintained at a depository institution, as defined in § 515.333, that is a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (c)(6): Account(s) authorized by this general license may only be accessed while the account holder is located in Cuba for travel authorized pursuant to this part. The account(s) may not be accessed or utilized by the account holder

§515.561

unless the account holder is located in Cuba and is engaging in authorized transactions. The account(s) may be maintained but not accessed while the account holder is located outside of Cuba other than for the purpose of funding or closing the bank account as authorized in paragraph (c)(6).

(d) Nothing in paragraphs (c)(2), (c)(3), and (c)(6)(i) of this section authorizes a direct financial transaction prohibited by §515.209, and nothing in paragraph (c)(2) of this section authorizes the lodging, paying for lodging, or otherwise making any reservation for or on behalf of a third party to lodge, at any property on the Cuba Prohibited Accommodations List to the extent prohibited by §515.210, in each case if the terms of the applicable general or specific license expressly exclude such a transaction.

(e) A blocked Cuban national permanently resident in Cuba who is departing the United States may carry currency as follows:

(1) The amount of any currency brought into the United States by the Cuban national and registered with U.S. Customs and Border Protection upon entry;

(2) Funds received as remittances pursuant to §515.570 by the Cuban national during his or her stay in the United States; and

(3) Salaries or other compensation earned by the Cuban national up to any amount that can be substantiated through payment receipts as authorized in §515.571(a)(5).

(f) Nothing in this section authorizes transactions in connection with tourist travel to Cuba.

NOTE 1 TO §515.560: Each person relying on the general authorization in this section must retain specific records related to the authorized travel transactions. See §§501.601 and 501.602 of this chapter for applicable recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

NOTE 2 TO §515.560: This section authorizes the provision of health insurance-, life insurance-, and travel insurance-related services to authorized travelers, as well as the receipt of emergency medical services and the making of payments related thereto.

NOTE 3 TO §515.560: The export or reexport to Cuba of goods (including software) or technology subject to the Export Administration Regulations (15 CFR parts 730

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

through 774) may require separate authorization from the Department of Commerce.

[64 FR 25814, May 13, 1999, as amended at 66 FR 36688, July 12, 2001; 68 FR 14146, Mar. 24, 2003; 69 FR 33771, 33773, June 16, 2004; 74 FR 46006, Sept. 8, 2009; 76 FR 5074, Jan. 28, 2011; 80 FR 2295, Jan. 16, 2015; 80 FR 56922, Sept. 21, 2015; 81 FR 13992, Mar. 16, 2016; 81 FR 71376, Oct. 17, 2016; 82 FR 52000, Nov. 9, 2017; 85 FR 60071, Sept. 24, 2020]

§515.561 Family visits.

(a) *General license.* Persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and persons traveling with them who share a common dwelling as a family with them are authorized to engage in the travel-related transactions set forth in §515.560(c) and such additional transactions as are directly incident to: visiting a close relative, as defined in §515.339, who is a national of Cuba or a person ordinarily resident in Cuba; or visiting a close relative located in Cuba or accompanying a close relative traveling to Cuba pursuant to the authorizations in §515.562 (official government business), §515.563 (journalistic activity), §515.564(a)(1) (professional research), §515.565(a)(1)(1) through (4) and (6) (educational activities), §515.566 (religious activities), §515.575 (humanitarian projects), or §515.576 (activities of private foundations or research or educational institutes). Nothing in this paragraph authorizes a direct financial transaction prohibited by §515.209, or the lodging, paying for lodging, or making any reservation for or on behalf of a third party to lodge, at any property on the Cuba Prohibited Accommodations List to the extent prohibited by §515.210.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (a): Each person relying on the general authorization in this paragraph must retain specific records related to the authorized travel transactions. See §§501.601 and 501.602 of this chapter for applicable recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

(b) *Specific licenses.* Specific licenses may be issued on a case-by-case basis authorizing the travel-related transactions set forth in §515.560(c) and such other transactions as are related to family visits that do not qualify for the general license under paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) An entire group does not qualify for the general license in paragraph (a)

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.563**

of this section merely because some members of the group qualify individually.

[80 FR 2295, Jan. 16, 2015, as amended at 80 FR 56922, Sept. 21, 2015; 82 FR 52000, Nov. 9, 2017; 85 FR 60071, Sept. 24, 2020; 87 FR 35089, June 9, 2022]

§ 515.562 Official business of the U.S. government, foreign governments, and certain intergovernmental organizations.

(a) The travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such additional transactions as are directly incident to activities in their official capacities by persons who are employees, contractors, or grantees of the United States Government, any foreign government, or any intergovernmental organization of which the United States is a member or holds observer status, and who are traveling on the official business of their government or intergovernmental organization, are authorized.

(b) All transactions otherwise prohibited by this part that are for the conduct of the official business of the United States Government or of any intergovernmental organization of which the United States is a member, or holds observer status, by employees, grantees, or contractors thereof, are authorized.

NOTE TO § 515.562(a) AND (b): Each person relying on the general authorization in this paragraph must retain specific records related to the authorized travel transactions. For example, grantees or contractors relying on the authorization in this section must retain a copy of their grant or contract with the United States Government, foreign government, or intergovernmental organization. See §§ 501.601 and 501.602 of this chapter for applicable recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

(c) An entire group does not qualify for the general license in paragraph (a) of this section merely because some members of the group qualify individually.

(d) *Specific licenses.* Specific licenses may be issued on a case-by-case basis authorizing the travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such other transactions as are related to official government business that do not

qualify for the general licenses under paragraph (a) or (b) of this section.

[80 FR 2295, Jan. 16, 2015]

§ 515.563 Journalistic activities in Cuba.

(a) *General license.* The travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such additional transactions as are directly incident to journalistic activities in Cuba are authorized, provided that:

(1) The traveler is at least one of the following:

(i) Regularly employed as a journalist by a news reporting organization;

(ii) Regularly employed as supporting broadcast or technical personnel;

(iii) A freelance journalist with a record of previous journalistic experience working on a freelance journalistic project; or

(iv) Broadcast or technical personnel with a record of previous broadcast or technical experience, who are supporting a freelance journalist working on a freelance journalistic project; and

(2) The traveler's schedule of activities does not include free time or recreation in excess of that consistent with a full-time schedule.

NOTE TO § 515.563(a): Each person relying on the general authorization in this paragraph must retain specific records related to the authorized travel transactions. See §§ 501.601 and 501.602 of this chapter for applicable recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

(b) An entire group does not qualify for the general license in paragraph (a) of this section merely because some members of the group qualify individually.

(c) *Certain travel-related transactions restricted.* Nothing in paragraph (a) of this section authorizes the lodging, paying for lodging, or making any reservation for or on behalf of a third party to lodge, at any property on the Cuba Prohibited Accommodations List to the extent prohibited by § 515.210.

(d) *Specific licenses.* Specific licenses may be issued on a case-by-case basis authorizing the travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such other transactions as are related to journalistic activity in Cuba that do

§ 515.564

not qualify for the general license under paragraph (a) of this section.

[80 FR 2296, Jan. 16, 2015, as amended at 85 FR 60071, Sept. 24, 2020]

§ 515.564 Professional research and professional meetings in Cuba.

(a) *General license for professional research* (1) *Professional research.* The travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such additional transactions as are directly incident to professional research are authorized, provided that:

(i) The purpose of the research directly relates to the traveler's profession, professional background, or area of expertise, including area of graduate-level full-time study; and

(ii) The traveler's schedule of activities does not include free time or recreation in excess of that consistent with a full-time schedule of professional research.

Example to paragraph (a)(1): The making of a documentary film in Cuba would qualify for the general license in this section if it is a vehicle for presentation of the research conducted pursuant to this section.

NOTE 1 TO PARAGRAPH (a)(1): A person does not qualify as engaging in professional research merely because that person is a professional who plans to travel to Cuba.

(2) *Professional meetings.* The travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such additional transactions as are directly incident to attendance at, or organization of, professional meetings or conferences in Cuba are authorized, provided that:

(i) For a traveler attending a professional meeting or conference, the purpose of the meeting or conference directly relates to the traveler's profession, professional background, or area of expertise, including area of graduate-level full-time study;

(ii) For a traveler organizing a professional meeting or conference on behalf of an entity, either the traveler's profession must be related to the organization of professional meetings or conferences or the traveler must be an employee or contractor of an entity that is organizing the professional meeting or conference; and

(iii) The traveler's schedule of activities does not include free time or recreation in excess of that consistent with

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

a full-time schedule of attendance at, or organization of, professional meetings or conferences.

NOTE 2 TO PARAGRAPH (a)(2): Transactions incident to the organization of professional meetings or conferences include marketing related to such meetings or conferences in Cuba.

NOTE 3 TO PARAGRAPH (a): Each person relying on the general authorization in this paragraph must retain specific records related to the authorized travel transactions. See §§ 501.601 and 501.602 of this chapter for applicable recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

(b) An entire group does not qualify for the general license in paragraph (a) of this section of this section merely because some members of the group qualify individually.

Example to paragraph (b): A musicologist travels to Cuba to research Cuban music pursuant to the general license for professional research set forth in paragraph (a) of this section. Others who are simply interested in music may not engage in travel-related transactions with the musicologist in reliance on this general license. For example, an art historian who plays in the same band with the musicologist would not qualify for the general license.

(c) *Certain direct financial transactions restricted.* Nothing in paragraph (a) of this section authorizes a direct financial transaction prohibited by § 515.209.

(d) *Certain travel-related transactions restricted.* Nothing in paragraph (a) of this section authorizes the lodging, paying for lodging, or making any reservation for or on behalf of a third party to lodge, at any property on the Cuba Prohibited Accommodations List to the extent prohibited by § 515.210.

(e) *Specific licenses.* Specific licenses may be issued on a case-by-case basis authorizing the travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such other transactions as are related to professional research or professional meetings in Cuba that do not qualify for the general license under paragraph (a) of this section.

[80 FR 2296, Jan. 16, 2015, as amended at 81 FR 4585, Jan. 27, 2016; 81 FR 71377, Oct. 17, 2016; 82 FR 52000, Nov. 9, 2017; 85 FR 60071, Sept. 24, 2020; 87 FR 35089, June 9, 2022]

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.565****§ 515.565 Educational activities.**

(a) *General license for educational activities.* Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction, including U.S. academic institutions and their faculty, staff, and students, are authorized to engage in transactions including the travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c), that are related to:

(1) Participation in a structured educational program in Cuba as part of a course offered for credit by a U.S. graduate or undergraduate degree-granting academic institution that is sponsoring the program;

(2) Noncommercial academic research in Cuba specifically related to Cuba and for the purpose of obtaining an undergraduate or graduate degree;

(3) Participation in a formal course of study at a Cuban academic institution, provided the formal course of study in Cuba will be accepted for credit toward the student's graduate or undergraduate degree;

(4) Teaching at a Cuban academic institution related to an academic program at the Cuban institution, provided that the individual is regularly employed by a U.S. or other non-Cuban academic institution;

(5) Sponsorship of a Cuban scholar to teach or engage in other scholarly activity at the sponsoring U.S. academic institution (in addition to those transactions authorized by the general license contained in § 515.571).

NOTE 1 TO PARAGRAPH (a)(5): *See* § 515.571(a) for authorizations related to certain banking transactions and receipt of salary or other compensation by Cuban nationals present in the United States in a non-immigrant status or pursuant to other non-immigrant travel authorization issued by the U.S. government.

(6) Educational exchanges sponsored by Cuban or U.S. secondary schools involving secondary school students' participation in a formal course of study or in a structured educational program offered by a secondary school or other academic institution and led by a teacher or other secondary school official. This includes participation by a reasonable number of adult chaperones to accompany the secondary school students to Cuba.

(7) Sponsorship or co-sponsorship of noncommercial academic seminars,

conferences, symposia, and workshops related to Cuba or global issues involving Cuba and attendance at such events by faculty, staff, and students of a participating U.S. academic institution;

(8) Establishment of academic exchanges and joint non-commercial academic research projects with universities or academic institutions in Cuba;

(9) Provision of standardized testing services, including professional certificate examinations, university entrance examinations, and language examinations, and related preparatory services for such exams, to Cuban nationals, wherever located;

(10) Provision of internet-based courses, including distance learning and Massive Open Online Courses, to Cuban nationals, wherever located, provided that the course content is at the undergraduate level or below;

(11) The organization of, and preparation for, activities described in paragraphs (a)(1) through (10) of this section by employees or contractors of the sponsoring organization that is a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction; or

(12) Facilitation by an organization that is a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction, or a member of the staff of such an organization, of licensed educational activities in Cuba on behalf of U.S. academic institutions or secondary schools, provided that:

(i) The organization is directly affiliated with one or more U.S. academic institutions or secondary schools; and

(ii) The organization facilitates educational activities that meet the requirements of one or more of the general licenses set forth in paragraphs (a)(1) through (3) and (6) of this section.

NOTE 2 TO PARAGRAPH (a): *See* § 515.560(c)(6) for an authorization for individuals to open and maintain accounts at Cuban financial institutions; *see* § 515.573 for an authorization for entities conducting educational activities authorized by this paragraph (a) to establish a physical presence in Cuba, including an authorization to open and maintain accounts at Cuban financial institutions.

NOTE 3 TO PARAGRAPH (a): The authorization in this paragraph extends to adjunct faculty and part-time staff of U.S. academic institutions. A student enrolled in a U.S. academic institution is authorized pursuant to paragraph (a)(1) of this section to participate in the academic activities in Cuba described above through any sponsoring U.S. academic institution.

§515.565

NOTE 4 TO PARAGRAPH (a): The export or re-export to Cuba of items subject to the Export Administration Regulations (15 CFR parts 730 through 774) may require separate authorization from the Department of Commerce.

NOTE 5 TO PARAGRAPH (a): *See* §515.590(a) for an authorization for the provision of educational grants, scholarships, or awards to a Cuban national or in which Cuba or a Cuban national otherwise has an interest.

(b) *General license for people-to-people travel.* The travel-related transactions set forth in §515.560(c) and such additional transactions as are directly incident to educational exchanges not involving academic study pursuant to a degree program are authorized, provided that:

(1) The exchanges take place under the auspices of an organization that is a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction and that sponsors such exchanges to promote people-to-people contact;

(2) Travel-related transactions pursuant to this authorization must be for the purpose of engaging, while in Cuba, in a full-time schedule of activities intended to enhance contact with the Cuban people, support civil society in Cuba, or promote the Cuban people's independence from Cuban authorities;

(3) Each traveler has a full-time schedule of educational exchange activities that will result in meaningful interaction between the traveler and individuals in Cuba;

(4) An employee, paid consultant, or agent of the sponsoring organization accompanies each group traveling to Cuba to ensure that each traveler has a full-time schedule of educational exchange activities; and

(5) The predominant portion of the activities engaged in by individual travelers is not with a prohibited official of the Government of Cuba, as defined in §515.337, or a prohibited member of the Cuban Communist Party, as defined in §515.338.

(6) In addition to all other information required by §501.601 of this chapter, entities sponsoring travel pursuant to the authorization in this paragraph (b) must retain records sufficient to demonstrate that each individual traveler has engaged in a full-time schedule of activities that satisfy the requirements of paragraphs (b)(1) through (5) of this section. Individuals may rely on

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

the entity sponsoring the travel to satisfy their recordkeeping requirements with respect to the requirements of paragraphs (b)(1) through (5) of this section. These records must be furnished to the Office of Foreign Assets Control on demand pursuant to §501.602 of this chapter.

Example 1 to paragraph (b): An organization wishes to sponsor and organize educational exchanges not involving academic study pursuant to a degree program for individuals to learn side-by-side with Cuban individuals in areas such as environmental protection or the arts. The travelers will have a full-time schedule of educational exchange activities that will result in meaningful interaction between the travelers and individuals in Cuba. The organization's activities qualify for the general license.

Example 2 to paragraph (b): An individual plans to travel to Cuba to participate in discussions with Cuban artists on community projects, exchanges with the founders of a youth arts program, and extended dialogue with local city planners and architects to learn about historical restoration projects in Old Havana. The individual traveler will have a full-time schedule of such educational exchange activities that result in meaningful interaction between the traveler and individuals in Cuba. The individual's activities do not qualify for the general license for people-to-people travel because the individual is not traveling under the auspices of an organization that is a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction and that sponsors such exchanges to promote people-to-people contact. The individual's travel may qualify for the general license in §515.574 (Support for the Cuban People) provided the individual meets all of its requirements.

NOTE 6 TO PARAGRAPH (b): An organization that sponsors and organizes trips to Cuba in which travelers engage in individually selected and/or self-directed activities would not qualify for the general license. Authorized trips are expected to be led by the organization and to have a full-time schedule of activities in which the travelers will participate.

NOTE 7 TO PARAGRAPHS (a) AND (b): Except as provided in paragraph (b)(6) of this section, each person relying on the general authorizations in these paragraphs, including entities sponsoring travel pursuant to the authorization in paragraph (b) of this section, must retain specific records related to the authorized travel transactions. *See* §§501.601 and 501.602 of this chapter for applicable recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

(c) *Certain direct financial transactions restricted.* Nothing in paragraph (a) or

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.567**

(b) of this section authorizes a direct financial transaction prohibited by § 515.209.

(d) *Certain travel-related transactions restricted.* Nothing in paragraph (a) or (b) of this section authorizes the lodging, paying for lodging, or making any reservation for or on behalf of a third party to lodge, at any property on the Cuba Prohibited Accommodations List to the extent prohibited by § 515.210.

(e) Transactions related to activities that are primarily tourist-oriented are not authorized pursuant to this section.

(f) *Specific licenses.* Specific licenses may be issued on a case-by-case basis authorizing the travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such other transactions as are related to educational activities that do not qualify for the general licenses under paragraph (a) or (b) of this section.

[82 FR 52000, Nov. 9, 2017, as amended at 84 FR 25992, June 5, 2019; 85 FR 60071, Sept. 24, 2020; 87 FR 35089, June 9, 2022; 89 FR 46325, May 29, 2024]

§ 515.566 Religious activities in Cuba.

(a) *General license.* Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction, including religious organizations located in the United States and members and staff of such organizations, are authorized to engage in the travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such additional transactions as are directly incident to engaging in religious activities in Cuba, provided that the travel-related transactions pursuant to this authorization must be for the purpose of engaging, while in Cuba, in a full-time schedule of religious activities. Nothing in this paragraph authorizes a direct financial transaction prohibited by § 515.209, or the lodging, paying for lodging, or making any reservation for or on behalf of a third party to lodge, at any property on the Cuba Prohibited Accommodations List to the extent prohibited by § 515.210.

NOTE TO § 515.566(a): Each person relying on the general authorization in this paragraph must retain specific records related to the authorized travel transactions. See §§ 501.601 and 501.602 of this chapter for applicable recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

(b) Financial and material donations to Cuba or Cuban nationals are not authorized by this section.

NOTE TO § 515.566(b): See § 515.570 regarding authorized remittances to religious organizations in Cuba and for other purposes. See § 515.533 regarding the exportation of items from the United States to Cuba.

(c) *Specific licenses.* Specific licenses may be issued on a case-by-case basis authorizing the travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such other transactions as are related to religious activities that do not qualify for the general license under paragraph (a) of this section.

NOTE TO § 515.566: See § 515.573 for an authorization permitting religious organizations engaging in activities authorized pursuant to this section to establish a physical presence in Cuba, including an authorization to open and maintain accounts at Cuban financial institutions.

[80 FR 2297, Jan. 16, 2015, as amended at 80 FR 56923, Sept. 21, 2015; 82 FR 52003, Nov. 9, 2017; 85 FR 60071, Sept. 24, 2020]

§ 515.567 Public performances, clinics, workshops, athletic and other competitions, and exhibitions.

(a) *General license for amateur and semi-professional international sports federation competitions.* The travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such other transactions as are directly incident to participation in athletic competitions in Cuba by amateur or semi-professional athletes or athletic teams, or organization of such competitions, are authorized, provided that:

(1) The athletic competition in Cuba is held under the auspices of the international sports federation for the relevant sport;

(2) The U.S. participants in the athletic competition are selected by the U.S. federation for the relevant sport; and

(3) The competition is open for attendance, and in relevant situations, participation, by the Cuban public.

NOTE 1 TO PARAGRAPH (a): Each person relying on the general license described in paragraph (a) must retain specific records related to the authorized travel transactions. See §§ 501.601 and 501.602 of this chapter for applicable recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

§515.568

NOTE 2 TO PARAGRAPH (a): Transactions incident to the organization of amateur and semi-professional international sports federation competitions described in paragraph (a) include marketing related to such events in Cuba.

(b) *Public performances, clinics, workshops, other athletic or non-athletic competitions, and exhibitions.* Specific licenses, including for multiple trips to Cuba over an extended period of time, may be issued on a case-by-case basis authorizing the travel-related transactions set forth in §515.560(c) and such other transactions as are directly incident to participation in or organization of a public performance, clinic, workshop, athletic competition not covered by paragraph (a) of this section, non-athletic competition, or exhibition in Cuba by participants in or organizers of such activities, provided that the event is open for attendance, and in relevant situations, participation, by the Cuban public.

(c) An entire group does not qualify for the general license in paragraph (a) of this section merely because some members of the group qualify individually.

(d) Nothing in paragraph (a) of this section authorizes a direct financial transaction prohibited by §515.209.

(e) *Certain travel-related transactions restricted.* Nothing in paragraph (a) of this section authorizes the lodging, paying for lodging, or making any reservation for or on behalf of a third party to lodge, at any property on the Cuba Prohibited Accommodations List to the extent prohibited by §515.210.

[80 FR 2298, Jan. 16, 2015, as amended at 81 FR 4585, Jan. 27, 2016; 82 FR 52003, Nov. 9, 2017; 85 FR 60071, Sept. 24, 2020]

§515.568 [Reserved]

§515.569 Foreign passengers' baggage.

The importation of merchandise subject to the prohibitions in §515.204, including Cuban-origin goods, brought into the United States as accompanied baggage by any person arriving in the United States other than a citizen or resident of the United States is hereby authorized, provided that such goods are not in commercial quantities and are not imported for resale. This authorization does not apply to the im-

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

portation into the United States of Cuban-origin alcohol or tobacco products.

[81 FR 71377, Oct. 17, 2016, as amended at 85 FR 60072, Sept. 24, 2020]

§515.570 Remittances.

(a) *Family remittances authorized.* Persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States who are 18 years of age or older are authorized to make remittances to nationals of Cuba who are close relatives, as defined in §515.339 of this part, of the remitter, provided that:

(1) The remittances are not made from a blocked source. Certain remittances from blocked accounts are authorized pursuant to paragraph (f) of this section;

(2) The recipient is not a prohibited official of the Government of Cuba, as defined in §515.337, a prohibited member of the Cuban Communist Party, as defined in §515.338, a close relative, as defined in §515.339, of a prohibited official of the Government of Cuba, or a close relative of a prohibited member of the Cuban Communist Party; and

(3) The remittances are not made for emigration-related purposes. Remittances for emigration-related purposes are addressed by paragraph (e) of this section.

(b) *Donative remittances to Cuban nationals authorized.* Persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States are authorized to make donative remittances to Cuban nationals, provided that:

(1) The remittances are not made from a blocked source;

(2) The recipient is not a prohibited official of the Government of Cuba, as defined in §515.337, a prohibited member of the Cuban Communist Party, as defined in §515.338, a close relative, as defined in §515.339, of a prohibited official of the Government of Cuba, or a close relative of a prohibited member of the Cuban Communist Party;

(3) The remittances are not made for emigration-related purposes (which are addressed by paragraph (e) of this section); and

(4) The remitter, if an individual, is 18 years of age or older.

(c) *Remittances to religious organizations in Cuba authorized.* Persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States are authorized to make remittances to religious organizations in Cuba in support of religious activities, provided that the remittances are not made from a blocked source and that the remitter, if an individual, is 18 years of age or older.

(d) *Remittances to students in Cuba pursuant to an educational license authorized.* Persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States who are 18 years of age or older are authorized to make remittances to close relatives, as defined in §515.339 of this part, who are students in Cuba pursuant to the general license authorizing certain educational activities in §515.565(a) or a specific license issued pursuant to §515.565(f), provided that the remittances are not made from a blocked source and are for the purpose of funding transactions authorized by the general licenses in §515.565(a) or the specific license issued pursuant to §515.565(f) under which the student is traveling.

(e) *Two one-time \$1,000 emigration-related remittances authorized.* Persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States are authorized to remit the following amounts:

(1) Up to \$1,000 per payee on a one-time basis to Cuban nationals for the purpose of covering the payees' preliminary expenses associated with emigrating from Cuba to the United States. These remittances may be sent before the payees have received valid visas issued by the State Department or other approved U.S. immigration documents, but may not be carried by a licensed traveler to Cuba until the payees have received valid visas issued by the State Department or other approved U.S. immigration documents. See §515.560(c)(4) of this part for the rules regarding the carrying of authorized remittances to Cuba. These remittances may not be made from a blocked source unless authorized pursuant to paragraph (f) of this section.

(2) Up to an additional \$1,000 per payee on a one-time basis to Cuban nationals for the purpose of enabling the payees to emigrate from Cuba to the United States, including for the pur-

chase of airline tickets and payment of exit or third-country visa fees or other travel-related fees. These remittances may be sent only once the payees have received valid visas issued by the State Department or other approved U.S. immigration documents. A remitter must be able to provide the visa recipients' full names, dates of birth, visa numbers, and visa dates of issuance. See §515.560(c)(4) of this part for the rules regarding the carrying of authorized remittances to Cuba. These remittances may not be made from a blocked source unless authorized pursuant to paragraph (f) of this section.

(f) *Certain remittances from blocked sources authorized.* Provided the recipient is not a prohibited official of the Government of Cuba, as defined in §515.337, a prohibited member of the Cuban Communist Party, as defined in §515.338, a close relative, as defined in §515.339, of a prohibited official of the Government of Cuba, or a close relative of a prohibited member of the Cuban Communist Party, certain remittances from blocked sources are authorized as follows:

(1) Funds deposited in a blocked account in a banking institution, as defined in §515.314, in the United States held in the name of, or in which the beneficial interest is held by, a national of Cuba as a result of a valid testamentary disposition, intestate succession or payment from a life insurance policy or annuity contract triggered by the death of the policy or contract holder may be remitted to that national of Cuba, provided that the remittances are not made for emigration-related purposes. Remittances for emigration-related purposes are addressed by paragraph (e) of this section.

(2) Up to \$300 in any consecutive three-month period may be remitted from any blocked account in a banking institution in the United States to a Cuban national in a third country who is an individual in whose name, or for whose beneficial interest, the account is held.

§515.570

(g) *Remittances to certain individuals and independent non-governmental organizations in Cuba.* Remittances by persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction to individuals and independent non-governmental entities in Cuba, including pro-democracy groups and civil society groups, and to members of such groups or organizations, are authorized for the following purposes, provided that the remittances are not made from a blocked source:

(1) To support humanitarian projects in or related to Cuba that are designed to directly benefit the Cuban people, as set forth in §515.575(b);

(2) To support the Cuban people through activities of recognized human rights organizations, independent organizations designed to promote a rapid, peaceful transition to democracy, and activities of individuals and non-governmental organizations that promote independent activity intended to strengthen civil society in Cuba; and

(3) To support the development of private businesses in Cuba, including farms of up to 100 employees, and operation of economic activity in the non-state sector of Cuba by independent private sector entrepreneurs, as defined in §515.340.

(h) *Unlocking of certain previously blocked remittances authorized.* Banking institutions, as defined in §515.314, are authorized to engage in all transactions necessary to unlock and return remittances if they would have qualified as authorized had they been sent under current paragraph (a) or (b) of this section, provided that persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction unblocking remittances originally blocked on or after August 25, 1997 pursuant to this section must submit a report to the Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Attn: Sanctions Compliance & Evaluation Division, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Freedman's Bank Building, Washington, DC 20220 within 10 business days from the date such remittances are released. Such reports shall include the following:

(1) Where available, a copy of the original blocking report filed with OFAC pursuant to §501.603(b)(1) of this chapter;

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

(2) The date the unblocked remittance was released;

(3) The amount of funds unblocked;

(4) The name of the party to whom the remittance was released; and

(5) A reference to this section as the legal authority under which the remittance was unblocked and returned.

(i) *Remittances to third-country nationals for certain travel.* Persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States are authorized to make remittances to third-country nationals for travel by third-country nationals to, from, or within Cuba, provided that such travel would be authorized by a general license issued pursuant to this part if the traveler were a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction.

(j) *Remittance transactions with entities or subentities on the Cuba Restricted List prohibited.* Nothing in paragraphs (a) through (i) authorizes a transaction relating to the collection, forwarding, or receipt of remittances involving any entity or subentity identified on the Cuba Restricted List, as published in the FEDERAL REGISTER and maintained by the State Department and available at <https://www.state.gov/cuba-sanctions/cuba-restricted-list/>.

(k) *Specific licenses.* Specific licenses may be issued on a case-by-case basis authorizing the following:

(1) Remittances by persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction to a person in Cuba, directly or indirectly, for transactions to facilitate non-immigrant travel by an individual in Cuba to the United States under circumstances where humanitarian need is demonstrated, including illness or other medical emergency.

(2) Remittances from a blocked account to a Cuban national in excess of the amount specified in paragraph (f)(2) of this section.

NOTE 1 TO §515.570: This section does not authorize investment with respect to Cuba.

NOTE 2 TO §515.570: For the rules relating to the carrying of remittances to Cuba, see §515.560(c)(4). See §515.572 for an authorization related to the collection, forwarding, or

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.571**

receipt of certain remittances to or from Cuba.

[76 FR 5076, Jan. 28, 2011, as amended at 80 FR 2298, Jan. 16, 2015; 80 FR 56923, Sept. 21, 2015; 81 FR 71377, Oct. 17, 2016; 84 FR 47122, Sept. 9, 2019; 85 FR 60072, Sept. 24, 2020; 85 FR 67989, Oct. 27, 2020; 87 FR 35091, June 9, 2022; 89 FR 46325, May 29, 2024]

§ 515.571 Certain transactions incident to travel to, from, and within the United States by Cuban nationals.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this section, the following transactions by or on behalf of a Cuban national who is present in the United States in a non-immigrant status or pursuant to other non-immigrant travel authorization issued by the U.S. government are authorized:

(1) All transactions ordinarily incident to travel between the United States and Cuba, including the importation into the United States of accompanied baggage for personal use. This paragraph (a)(1) does not apply to the importation into the United States of Cuban-origin alcohol or tobacco products;

(2) All transactions ordinarily incident to travel and maintenance within the United States, including the payment of living expenses and the acquisition of goods for personal consumption in the United States;

(3) All transactions on behalf of aircraft or vessels incident to flights or voyages between the United States and Cuba, provided that the carrier services are authorized pursuant to § 515.572. This paragraph does not authorize the carriage of any merchandise into the United States except accompanied baggage;

(4) Normal banking transactions involving foreign currency drafts, travelers' checks, or other instruments negotiated incident to travel in the United States by any person under the authority of this section; and

(5) All transactions ordinarily incident to the Cuban national's presence in the United States in a non-immigrant status or pursuant to other non-immigrant travel authorization issued by the U.S. government.

(i) This paragraph (a)(5) authorizes the receipt of salary or other compensation by a national of Cuba consistent with the individual's non-immigrant status or non-immigrant travel authorization issued by the U.S. government, provided that such salary or compensation is consistent with the individual's non-immigrant status or non-immigrant travel authorization issued by the U.S. government.

grant status or non-immigrant travel authorization, provided that national of Cuba is not subject to any special tax assessments by the Cuban government in connection with the receipt of the salary or other compensation.

(ii) Examples of other transactions authorized by this paragraph (a)(5) include: the payment of tuition to a U.S. educational institution by a national of Cuba issued a student (F-1) visa, and the rental of a stage by a group of Cubans issued performance (P-2) visas.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (a)(5): This paragraph authorizes banking institutions, as defined in § 515.314, to open and maintain accounts solely in the name of a Cuban national who is present in the United States in a non-immigrant status or pursuant to other non-immigrant travel authorization for use while the Cuban national is located in the United States in such status, and to close such accounts prior to departure. See paragraph (b) of this section for an authorization for banking institutions to maintain accounts opened pursuant to this paragraph while the Cuban national is located outside the United States.

NOTE TO § 515.571(a): This paragraph authorizes the provision or receipt of emergency medical services and making or receipt of payment related thereto.

(b) Maintenance of accounts opened pursuant to paragraph (a)(5) of this section while the Cuban-national account holder is located outside the United States is authorized, provided that the Cuban-national account holder may only access the account pursuant to paragraph (a)(5) of this section when the Cuban-national account holder is lawfully present in the United States in a non-immigrant status or pursuant to other non-immigrant travel authorization issued by the U.S. government.

(c) Payments and transfers of credit in the United States from blocked accounts in domestic banking institutions held in the name of a Cuban national who is present in the United States in a non-immigrant status or pursuant to other non-immigrant travel authorization issued by the U.S. government to or upon the order of such Cuban national are authorized, provided that such payments and transfers of credit are made only for the living, traveling, and similar personal expenses in the United States of such Cuban national or his or her family, or

§515.572**31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)**

other transactions ordinarily incident to the Cuban national's presence in the United States in a non-immigrant status or pursuant to other non-immigrant travel authorization issued by the U.S. government.

(d) This section does not authorize any transfer of property to Cuba, or, except as otherwise authorized in paragraph (b) of this section, any debit to a blocked account.

NOTE TO §515.571: For the authorization of certain transactions by Cuban nationals who become U.S. citizens; are lawful permanent resident aliens of the United States; have applied to become a lawful permanent resident alien of the United States and have an adjustment of status application pending; or are lawfully present and intending to lawfully remain in the United States on a permanent basis, see §515.505 of this part.

(e) The following transactions by or on behalf of a Cuban national are authorized:

(1) All transactions related to the sponsorship or hiring of a Cuban national to work in the United States in a non-immigrant status or pursuant to other non-immigrant travel authorization issued by the U.S. government, except that an employer may not make payments to the Cuban government in connection with the sponsorship or hiring of a Cuban national; and

(2) All transactions in connection with the filing of an application for non-immigrant travel authorization issued by the U.S. government.

[64 FR 25819, May 13, 1999, as amended at 68 FR 14148, Mar. 24, 2003; 69 FR 33773, June 16, 2004; 76 FR 5077, Jan. 28, 2011; 80 FR 2299, Jan. 16, 2015; 80 FR 56923, Sept. 21, 2015; 81 FR 13993, Mar. 16, 2016; 85 FR 60072, Sept. 24, 2020]

§515.572 Provision of travel, carrier, other transportation-related, and remittance forwarding services.

(a) *General licenses*—(1) *Authorization to provide travel services.* Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction are authorized to provide travel services in connection with travel-related transactions involving Cuba authorized pursuant to this part. Nothing in this paragraph authorizes a direct financial transaction prohibited by §515.209, or the lodging, paying for lodging, or making any reservation for or on behalf of a third party to lodge, at any property

on the Cuba Prohibited Accommodations List to the extent prohibited by §515.210, if the terms of the applicable general or specific license authorizing the travel expressly exclude such a transaction.

(2) *Authorization to provide carrier services.* (i) Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction are authorized to provide carrier services to, from, or within Cuba in connection with travel or transportation, directly or indirectly, between the United States and Cuba of persons, baggage, or cargo authorized pursuant to this part.

(ii) The entry into blocked space, code-sharing, or leasing arrangements to facilitate the provision of carrier services by air authorized pursuant to section 515.572(a)(2) is authorized, including the entry into such arrangements with a national of Cuba.

NOTE 1 TO PARAGRAPH (a)(2): The export or reexport to Cuba of items subject to the Export Administration Regulations (15 CFR part 730 *et seq.*), including vessels and aircraft used to provide carrier services, requires separate authorization from the Department of Commerce. See §515.533.

(3) *Authorization to provide remittance forwarding services.* Banking institutions, as defined in §515.314, including U.S.-registered brokers or dealers in securities and U.S.-registered money transmitters, are authorized to provide services in connection with the collection, forwarding, or receipt of remittances authorized pursuant to this part. Nothing in this paragraph (a)(3) authorizes a transaction relating to the collection, forwarding, or receipt of remittances involving any entity or subentity identified on the Cuba Restricted List, as published in the FEDERAL REGISTER and maintained by the State Department and available at <https://www.state.gov/cuba-sanctions/cuba-restricted-list/>.

(4) *Authorization to provide lodging services.* Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction who are providing carrier services by vessel authorized pursuant to paragraph (a)(2) of this section are authorized to provide lodging services onboard such vessels to persons authorized to travel to or from Cuba pursuant to this part during the period of time the vessel is traveling to, from, or

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.573**

within Cuba, including when docked at a port in Cuba.

(5) *Authorization to provide civil aviation safety-related services.* Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction are authorized to provide civil aviation safety-related services to Cuba and Cuban nationals, wherever located, to ensure the safety of civil aviation and the safe operation of commercial aircraft.

NOTE 2 TO PARAGRAPH (a)(5): For provisions related to transactions ordinarily incident to the exportation or reexportation of items to Cuba, see §§ 515.533 and 515.559.

NOTE 3 TO PARAGRAPH (a): Section 515.564 authorizes employees, officials, consultants, or agents of persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction providing travel or carrier services or remittance forwarding services authorized pursuant to this part to engage in the travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such additional transactions as are directly incident to travel to Cuba for professional meetings in Cuba, such as those related to safety and security of flights to and from Cuba, or necessary to arrange for travel or carrier services or remittance forwarding to Cuba.

(b) *Required reports and recordkeeping.* (1) Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction providing services authorized pursuant to paragraphs (a)(1) through (4) of this section must retain for at least 10 years from the date of the transaction a certification from each customer indicating the section of this part that authorizes the person to travel or send remittances to Cuba. In the case of a customer traveling under a specific license, the specific license number or a copy of the license must be maintained on file with the person subject to U.S. jurisdiction providing services authorized pursuant to this section.

(2) The names and addresses of individual travelers or remitters, the number and amount of each remittance, and the name and address of each recipient, as applicable, must be retained on file with all other information required by § 501.601 of this chapter. These records must be furnished to the Office of Foreign Assets Control on demand pursuant to § 501.602 of this chapter.

(c) *Specific licenses.* Specific licenses may be issued on a case-by-case basis authorizing the provision of travel, carrier, or remittance-forwarding serv-

ices other than those authorized by paragraph (a) of this section.

NOTE 4 TO § 515.572: The following persons may be transported, directly or indirectly, between the United States and Cuba by a person authorized to provide carrier services:

(1) Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction who are traveling to or from Cuba pursuant to a general license under one of the 12 categories of travel listed in § 515.560 or under a specific license from the Office of Foreign Assets Control may be transported between the United States and Cuba;

(2) Cuban nationals applying for admission to the United States, as well as third-country nationals, with a valid visa or other travel authorization issued by the U.S. government may be transported to the United States from Cuba;

(3) Cuban nationals present in the United States in a non-immigrant status or pursuant to other non-immigrant travel authorization issued by the U.S. government may be transported from the United States to Cuba;

(4) Cuban nationals who have taken up residence in the United States and are licensed as unblocked nationals pursuant to § 515.505(a)(1) are persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction and may be transported between the United States and Cuba if they meet the criteria set out in (1) above; and

(5) An individual, including a foreign national, who is traveling on official business of the U.S. government, a foreign government, or an intergovernmental organization of which the United States is a member or in which the United States holds observer status—including an employee, contractor, or grantee of such government or intergovernmental organization and any individual traveling on a diplomatic passport, as well as any close relative, as defined in § 515.339, accompanying the traveler—may be transported between the United States and Cuba.

[80 FR 2299, Jan. 16, 2015, as amended at 80 FR 56923, Sept. 21, 2015; 81 FR 4586, Jan. 27, 2016; 81 FR 71377, Oct. 17, 2016; 82 FR 52003, Nov. 9, 2017; 84 FR 25993, June 5, 2019; 85 FR 60072, Sept. 24, 2020; 85 FR 67989, Oct. 27, 2020; 87 FR 35091, June 9, 2022; 89 FR 74834, Sept. 13, 2024]

§ 515.573 Physical presence and business presence in Cuba authorized; Cuban news bureaus.

(a) *Physical presence:* The persons listed in paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section are authorized to engage in all transactions necessary to establish and maintain a physical presence in Cuba to engage in transactions authorized

§515.573

pursuant to or exempt from the prohibitions of this part, including the following:

- (1) Leasing physical premises, including office, warehouse, classroom, or retail outlet space, and securing related goods and services, including for use in and to pay fees related to the operation of the physical premises;
- (2) Marketing related to the physical presence;
- (3) Employment of Cuban nationals in Cuba; and
- (4) Employment of individuals who are persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (a)(4): Individuals who are employed pursuant to §515.573(a)(4) are authorized to engage in all transactions necessary to establish domicile in Cuba, including accessing U.S. assets, for the duration of their employment.

(5)(i) *Opening and maintaining bank accounts at Cuban financial institutions to engage in authorized transactions.* The opening and maintenance of accounts, including the deposit of funds in such accounts by wire transfer, at a financial institution in Cuba, provided that such accounts are used only for transactions authorized pursuant to, or exempt from, this part.

(ii) *Closing bank accounts.* The closing of an account opened pursuant to the authorization in paragraph (a)(5)(i) of this section, provided that any transfer of funds may only be effected by wire transfer to an account maintained at a depository institution, as defined in §515.333, that is a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (a): Physical presence includes through a local representative, including an employee or contractor.

(b) *Business presence.* Except for transactions prohibited by §515.208, the persons listed in paragraph (c) of this section are authorized to engage in all transactions necessary to establish and maintain a business presence in Cuba to engage in transactions authorized pursuant to or exempt from the prohibitions of this part, including the following: establishing and maintaining subsidiaries, branches, offices, joint ventures, franchises, and agency or other business relationships with any Cuban national, and entering into all

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

necessary agreements or arrangements with such entity or individual.

(c) *Persons authorized to establish physical and business presence.* The following persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction may engage in the transactions authorized pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section, provided that such transactions may only be engaged in to support transactions authorized by or exempt from the prohibitions of this part:

(1) Providers of telecommunications services authorized by §515.542(b) through (d) or persons engaged in activities authorized by §515.542(e);

(2) Providers of internet-based services authorized by §515.578(a) or persons engaged in activities authorized by §515.578(c) or (e);

(3) Exporters of goods authorized for export or reexport to Cuba by §515.533 or §515.559 or that are otherwise exempt;

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (c)(3): This section authorizes the assembly in Cuba of items exported or reexported pursuant to authorization by the Department of Commerce or OFAC or that are otherwise exempt but does not authorize the incorporation of Cuban-origin goods into items assembled pursuant to this section or the processing of raw materials into finished goods in Cuba.

(4) Entities providing mail or parcel transmission services authorized by §515.542(a) or providing cargo transportation services in connection with trade involving Cuba authorized by or exempt from the prohibitions of this part; and

(5) Providers of travel and carrier services authorized by §515.572.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (c)(5): This authorization does not allow persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction to establish a physical or business presence in Cuba for the purpose of providing lodging services in Cuba.

(d) *Persons authorized to establish physical presence.* The following persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction may engage in the transactions authorized pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section, provided that such transactions may only be engaged in to support transactions authorized by or exempt from the prohibitions of this part:

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.574**

(1) News bureaus whose primary purpose is the gathering and dissemination of news to the general public authorized by paragraph (e) of this section;

(2) Entities organizing or conducting educational activities authorized by § 515.565(a);

(3) Religious organizations engaging in religious activities in Cuba authorized by § 515.566;

(4) Entities engaging in non-commercial activities authorized by § 515.574 (Support for the Cuban People);

(5) Entities engaging in humanitarian projects set forth in § 515.575(b) (Humanitarian projects); and

(6) Private foundations or research or educational institutes engaging in transactions authorized by § 515.576.

(e) *News bureaus.* (1) All transactions in Cuba related to the gathering and dissemination of news to the general public are authorized.

(2) Specific licenses may be issued authorizing transactions necessary for the establishment and operation of news bureaus in the United States by Cuban organizations whose primary purpose is the gathering and dissemination of news to the general public.

(f) *Certain direct financial transactions restricted.* (1) Nothing in paragraph (c)(3) of this section, with the exception of transactions related to exports or reexports of agricultural commodities, medicines or medical supplies, items associated with the provision of telecommunications and internet services for the Cuban people, or items associated with air and sea operations that support permissible travel, cargo, or trade, authorizes a direct financial transaction prohibited by § 515.209. Nothing in paragraph (c)(5) of this section, with the exception of transactions concerning air and sea operations that support permissible travel, cargo, or trade, authorizes a direct financial transaction prohibited by § 515.209.

(2) Nothing in paragraph (d)(2), (3), or (6) of this section authorizes a direct financial transaction prohibited by § 515.209.

NOTE TO § 515.573: The export or reexport to Cuba of items subject to the Export Administration Regulations (15 CFR parts 730

through 774) may require separate authorization from the Department of Commerce.

[80 FR 56924, Sept. 21, 2015, as amended at 81 FR 13993, Mar. 16, 2016; 82 FR 52003, Nov. 9, 2017]

§ 515.574 Support for the Cuban People.

(a) *General license.* The travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and other transactions that are intended to provide support for the Cuban people are authorized, provided that:

(1) The activities are of:

(i) Recognized human rights organizations;

(ii) Independent organizations designed to promote a rapid, peaceful transition to democracy; or

(iii) Individuals and non-governmental organizations that promote independent activity intended to strengthen civil society in Cuba; and

(2) Each traveler engages in a full-time schedule of activities that:

(i) Enhance contact with the Cuban people, support civil society in Cuba, or promote the Cuban people's independence from Cuban authorities; and

(ii) Result in meaningful interaction with individuals in Cuba.

(3) The traveler's schedule of activities does not include free time or recreation in excess of that consistent with a full-time schedule.

NOTE 1 TO PARAGRAPH (a): Each person relying on the general authorization in this paragraph must retain specific records related to the authorized travel transactions. See §§ 501.601 and 501.602 of this chapter for applicable recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

NOTE 2 TO PARAGRAPH (a): Staying in a room at a rented accommodation in a private Cuban residence (*casa particular*), eating at privately-owned Cuban restaurants (*paladares*), and shopping at privately-owned stores run by self-employed Cubans (*cuentapropista*) are examples of activities that qualify for this general license. However, in order to meet the requirement for a full-time schedule, a traveler must engage in additional authorized Support for the Cuban People activities.

(b) An entire group does not qualify for the general license in paragraph (a) of this section merely because some members of the group qualify individually.

(c) *Certain direct financial transactions restricted.* Nothing in paragraph

§515.575

(a)(1)(iii) of this section authorizes a direct financial transaction prohibited by §515.209, with the exception of transactions on behalf of a non-governmental organization.

(d) *Certain travel-related transactions restricted.* Nothing in paragraph (a) of this section authorizes the lodging, paying for lodging, or making any reservation for or on behalf of a third party to lodge, at any property on the Cuba Prohibited Accommodations List (CPA List) to the extent prohibited by §515.210.

(e) *Specific licenses.* Specific licenses may be issued on a case-by-case basis authorizing the travel-related transactions set forth in §515.560(c) and such other transactions as are related to support for the Cuban people that do not qualify for the general license under paragraph (a) of this section.

Example 1 to §515.574: An individual plans to travel to Cuba, stay in a room at a rented accommodation in a private Cuban residence (*casa particular*), eat at privately-owned Cuban restaurants (*paladares*), and shop at privately-owned stores run by self-employed Cubans (*cuentapropista*) during his or her four-day trip. While at the *casa particular*, the individual will have breakfast each morning with the Cuban host and engage with the Cuban host to learn about Cuban culture. The traveler will not lodge, or pay for lodging, at any property on the CPA List to the extent prohibited by §515.210. In addition, the traveler will complete his or her full-time schedule by supporting Cuban entrepreneurs launching their privately-owned businesses. The traveler's activities promote independent activity intended to strengthen civil society in Cuba. Because the individual's qualifying activities are not limited to staying in a room at a rented accommodation in a private Cuban residence (*casa particular*), eating at privately-owned Cuban restaurants (*paladares*), and shopping at privately owned stores run by self-employed Cubans (*cuentapropista*) and the traveler maintains a full-time schedule that enhances contact with the Cuban people, supports civil society in Cuba, and promotes the Cuban people's independence from Cuban authorities, and that results in meaningful interaction between the traveler and Cuban individuals, the individual's travel qualifies for the general license.

Example 2 to §515.574: A group of friends plans to travel and maintain a full-time schedule throughout their trip by volunteering with a recognized non-governmental organization to build a school for underserved Cuban children with the local commu-

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

nity. In their free time, the travelers plan to rent bicycles to explore the streets of Havana and visit an art museum. The travelers will not lodge, or pay for lodging, at any property on the CPA List to the extent prohibited by §515.210. The travelers' trip would qualify for the general license because the volunteer activities promote independent activity intended to strengthen civil society in Cuba and constitute a full-time schedule that enhances contact with the Cuban people and supports civil society in Cuba, and results in meaningful interaction between the travelers and individuals in Cuba.

Example 3 to §515.574: An individual plans to travel to Cuba, rent a bicycle to explore the neighborhoods and beaches, and engage in brief exchanges with local beach vendors. The individual intends to stay at a hotel that does not appear on the Cuba Restricted List (see §515.209), and will not lodge, or pay for lodging, at any property on the CPA List to the extent prohibited by §515.210. The traveler's trip does not qualify for this general license because none of these activities promote independent activity intended to strengthen civil society in Cuba.

[80 FR 2299, Jan. 16, 2015, as amended at 82 FR 52003, Nov. 9, 2017; 85 FR 60072, Sept. 24, 2020]

§515.575 Humanitarian projects.

(a) *General license.* Transactions, including the travel-related transactions set forth in §515.560(c), that are related to the humanitarian projects in or related to Cuba that are designed to directly benefit the Cuban people as set forth in paragraph (b) are authorized, provided that the traveler's schedule of activities does not include free time or recreation in excess of that consistent with a full-time schedule.

NOTE 1 TO PARAGRAPH (a): Each person relying on the general authorization in this paragraph must retain specific records related to the authorized travel transactions. See §§501.601 and 501.602 of this chapter for applicable recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

NOTE 2 TO PARAGRAPH (a): See §515.590(b) for an authorization for the provision of grants, scholarships, or awards related to humanitarian projects in or related to Cuba that are designed to directly benefit the Cuban people as set forth in paragraph (b).

(b) *Authorized humanitarian projects.* The following projects are authorized by paragraph (a) of this section: Medical and health-related projects; construction projects intended to benefit legitimately independent civil society

groups; disaster preparedness, relief, and response; historical preservation; environmental projects; projects involving formal or non-formal educational training, within Cuba or off-island, on the following topics: Entrepreneurship and business, civil education, journalism, advocacy and organizing, adult literacy, or vocational skills; community-based grassroots projects; projects suitable to the development of small-scale private enterprise; projects that are related to agricultural and rural development that promote independent activity; microfinancing projects, except for loans, extensions of credit, or other financing prohibited by § 515.208; and projects to meet basic human needs.

Example to § 515.575(b): A U.S. group of medical professionals that specializes in disease treatment wishes to support a community in Cuba by providing the latest techniques and literature in disease education and prevention directly to the Cuban people. Provided that the medical professionals in the group maintain a full-time schedule related to disease education and prevention, these activities qualify for the general license.

(c) An entire group does not qualify for the general license in paragraph (a) of this section merely because some members of the group qualify individually.

(d) *Certain travel-related transactions restricted.* Nothing in paragraph (a) of this section authorizes the lodging, paying for lodging, or making any reservation for or on behalf of a third party to lodge, at any property on the Cuba Prohibited Accommodations List to the extent prohibited by § 515.210.

(e) *Specific licenses.* Specific licenses may be issued on a case-by-case basis authorizing the travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such other transactions as are related to humanitarian projects that do not qualify for the general license under paragraph (a) of this section.

[80 FR 2300, Jan. 16, 2015, as amended at 80 FR 56924, Sept. 21, 2015; 81 FR 4586, Jan. 27, 2016; 81 FR 13994, Mar. 16, 2016; 81 FR 71377, Oct. 17, 2016; 85 FR 60072, Sept. 24, 2020]

§ 515.576 Activities of private foundations or research or educational institutes.

(a) *General license.* The travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such additional transactions as are directly incident to activities by private foundations or research or educational institutes with an established interest in international relations to collect information related to Cuba for non-commercial purposes are authorized, provided that the traveler's schedule of activities does not include free time or recreation in excess of that consistent with a full-time schedule.

Example to § 515.576(a): A private research foundation that produces essays on international relations issues wishes to send a team made up of its employees and consultants to Cuba to collect information for a current study of the relationship that countries in the Western Hemisphere have with European countries. Provided that all of the employees and consultants on the team maintain a full-time schedule of activities relating to the collection of information for the study, these activities qualify for the general license.

NOTE TO § 515.576(a): Each person relying on the general authorization in this paragraph must retain specific records related to the authorized travel transactions. See §§ 501.601 and 501.602 of this chapter for applicable recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

(b) An entire group does not qualify for the general license in paragraph (a) of this section merely because some members of the group qualify individually.

(c) *Certain direct financial transactions restricted.* Nothing in paragraph (a) authorizes a direct financial transaction prohibited by § 515.209.

(d) *Certain travel-related transactions restricted.* Nothing in paragraph (a) of this section authorizes the lodging, paying for lodging, or making any reservation for or on behalf of a third party to lodge, at any property on the Cuba Prohibited Accommodations List to the extent prohibited by § 515.210.

(e) *Specific licenses.* Specific licenses may be issued on a case-by-case basis authorizing the travel-related transactions set forth in § 515.560(c) and such other transactions as are related to activities of private foundations or research or educational institutes that

§515.577

do not qualify for the general license under paragraph (a) of this section.

[80 FR 2300, Jan. 16, 2015, as amended at 82 FR 52003, Nov. 9, 2017; 85 FR 60072, Sept. 24, 2020]

§515.577 Authorized transactions necessary and ordinarily incident to publishing.

(a) To the extent that such activities are not exempt from this part, and subject to the restrictions set forth in paragraphs (b) through (d) of this section, persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States are authorized to engage in all transactions necessary and ordinarily incident to the publishing and marketing of manuscripts, books, journals, and newspapers in paper or electronic format (collectively, "written publications"). This section does not apply if the parties to the transactions described in this paragraph include the Government of Cuba. For the purposes of this section, the term "Government of Cuba" includes the state and the Government of Cuba, as well as any political subdivision, agency, or instrumentality thereof, including the Central Bank of Cuba; prohibited officials of the Government of Cuba, as defined in §515.337 of this part; prohibited members of the Cuban Communist Party, as defined in §515.338 of this part; employees of the Ministry of Justice; and any person acting or purporting to act directly or indirectly on behalf of any of the foregoing with respect to the transactions described in this paragraph. For the purposes of this section, the term "Government of Cuba" does not include any academic and research institutions and their personnel. Pursuant to this section, the following activities are authorized, provided that persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States ensure that they are not engaging, without separate authorization, in the activities identified in paragraphs (b) through (d) of this section:

(1) Commissioning and making advance payments for identifiable written publications not yet in existence, to the extent consistent with industry practice;

(2) Collaborating on the creation and enhancement of written publications;

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

(3)(i) Augmenting written publications through the addition of items such as photographs, artwork, translation, explanatory text, and, for a written publication in electronic format, the addition of embedded software necessary for reading, browsing, navigating, or searching the written publication;

(ii) Exporting embedded software necessary for reading, browsing, navigating, or searching a written publication in electronic format, provided that, to the extent a license is required under the Export Administration Regulations, 15 CFR parts 730 through 774 (the "EAR"), the exportation is licensed or otherwise authorized by the Department of Commerce under the provisions of the EAR;

(4) Substantive editing of written publications;

(5) Payment of royalties for written publications;

(6) Creating or undertaking a marketing campaign to promote a written publication; and

(7) Other transactions necessary and ordinarily incident to the publishing and marketing of written publications as described in this paragraph (a).

(b) This section does not authorize transactions involving the provision of goods or services not necessary and ordinarily incident to the publishing and marketing of written publications as described in paragraph (a) of this section. For example, this section does not authorize persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States:

(1) To provide or receive individualized or customized services (including, but not limited to, accounting, legal, design, or consulting services), other than those necessary and ordinarily incident to the publishing and marketing of written publications, even though such individualized or customized services are delivered through the use of information and informational materials;

(2) To create or undertake for any person a marketing campaign with respect to any service or product other than a written publication, or to create or undertake a marketing campaign of any kind for the benefit of the Government of Cuba;

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.578**

(3) To engage in the exportation or importation of goods to or from Cuba other than the exportation of embedded software described in paragraph (a)(3)(ii) of this section;

(4) To operate a publishing house, sales outlet, or other office in Cuba; or

(5) To engage in transactions related to travel to, from, or within Cuba.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (b): The importation from Cuba and the exportation to Cuba of information or informational materials, as defined in §515.332, whether commercial or otherwise, regardless of format or medium of transmission, are exempt from the prohibitions and regulations of this part. See §515.206(a).

(c) This section does not authorize persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States to engage the services of publishing houses or translators in Cuba unless such activity is primarily for the dissemination of written publications in Cuba.

(d) This section does not authorize:

(1) Transactions for the development, production, or design of software;

(2) Transactions for the development, production, design, or marketing of technology specifically controlled by the International Traffic in Arms Regulations, 22 CFR parts 120 through 130 (the “ITAR”), the EAR, or the Department of Energy Regulations set forth at 10 CFR part 810.

(3) The exportation of information or technology subject to the authorization requirements of 10 CFR part 810, or Restricted Data as defined in section 11 y. of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, or of other information, data, or technology the release of which is controlled under the Atomic Energy Act and regulations therein;

(4) The exportation of any item (including information) subject to the EAR where a U.S. person knows or has reason to know that the item will be used, directly or indirectly, with respect to certain nuclear, missile, chemical, or biological weapons or nuclearar-maritime end-uses as set forth in part 744 of the EAR. In addition, U.S. persons are precluded from exporting any item subject to the EAR to certain restricted end-users, as set forth in part 744 of the EAR, as well as certain persons whose export privileges have been denied pursuant to parts 764 or 766 of

the EAR, without authorization from the Department of Commerce; or

(5) The exportation of information subject to licensing requirements under the ITAR, or exchanges of information that are subject to regulation by other government agencies.

(e) Section 515.564(a)(2) authorizes the travel-related transactions set forth in §515.560(c) and such additional transactions that are directly incident to attendance at or organization of professional meetings that are necessary and ordinarily incident to the publishing and marketing of written publications.

(f) *Certain direct financial transactions restricted.* Nothing in this section authorizes a direct financial transaction prohibited by §515.209.

[72 FR 50048, Aug. 30, 2007, as amended at 76 FR 5077, Jan. 28, 2011; 81 FR 13994, Mar. 16, 2016; 82 FR 52003, Nov. 9, 2017; 85 FR 60072, Sept. 24, 2020; 87 FR 35091, June 9, 2022]

§ 515.578 Exportation, reexportation, and importation of certain internet-based services; importation of software.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, the following transactions are authorized:

(1) *Certain internet-based services.* The exportation or reexportation, directly or indirectly, from the United States or by a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction to Cuba of the following services:

(i) Services incident to the exchange of communications over the internet, such as instant messaging, chat and email, social networking, sharing of photos and movies, web browsing, blogging, web hosting provided that it is not for the promotion of tourism, domain name registration services, social media platforms, collaboration platforms, video conferencing, e-gaming and e-learning platforms, automated translation, web maps, and user authentication services; and

(ii) Services to support the exchange of communications over the internet, such as software design, business consulting, information technology management services, and cloud-based services, to support services described in paragraph (a)(1)(i) of this section.

(2) *Services related to certain exportations and reexportations.* To the extent

§515.578

not authorized by §515.533, the exportation or reexportation of services, including training, to install, repair, or replace items related to communications, or items used to develop software that improves the free flow of information or that will support private sector activities in Cuba consistent with the export or reexport licensing policy of the Department of Commerce, provided that any such item subject to the Export Administration Regulations, 15 CFR parts 730 through 774, is licensed or otherwise authorized by the Department of Commerce for exportation or reexportation to Cuba.

(3) *Importation into the United States of certain items previously exported to Cuba.* To the extent not authorized by §515.533 or §515.560, the importation into the United States of items described in paragraph (a)(2) of this section by an individual entering the United States, directly or indirectly, from Cuba.

(4) *Exportation, reexportation, or provision of certain internet-based services to certain end-users.* (i) The exportation or reexportation, directly or indirectly, from the United States or by persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction, to a prohibited official of the Government of Cuba, as defined in §515.337, or a prohibited member of the Cuban Communist Party, as defined in §515.338, of services described in paragraphs (a)(1) or (2) of this section provided that such services are widely available to the public at no cost to the user.

(ii) The exportation or reexportation, directly or indirectly, from the United States or by persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction, to organizations administered or controlled by the Government of Cuba or the Cuban Communist Party of the following services:

(A) Services described in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, and

(B) Services described in paragraph (a)(2) of this section provided that such services are widely available to the public at no cost to the user.

NOTE 1 TO §515.578(a): The export or reexport to Cuba of items subject to the Export Administration Regulations (15 CFR parts 730 through 774) may require separate authorization from the Department of Commerce.

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

NOTE 2 TO §515.578(a): For an authorization of transactions related to the provision of telecommunications services, see §515.542.

(b) This section does not authorize:

(1) The direct or indirect exportation or reexportation of services with knowledge or reason to know that such services are intended for a prohibited official of the Government of Cuba, as defined in §515.337, or a prohibited member of the Cuban Communist Party, as defined in §515.338, or to organizations administered or controlled by the Government of Cuba or the Cuban Communist Party, except as specified in paragraph (a)(4) of this section.

(2) The direct or indirect exportation of any items to Cuba.

NOTE 3 TO §515.578(b)(2): For provisions related to transactions ordinarily incident to the exportation or reexportation of items, including software, to Cuba, see §§515.533 and 515.559.

(c) *Licensing and marketing.* Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction are authorized to enter into licensing agreements related to services authorized by paragraph (a) of this section, and to market such services.

(d) *Software.* The importation into the United States, and the exportation or reexportation from the United States to third countries, of Cuban-origin software is authorized.

(e) *Mobile applications.* (1) The importation into the United States, and the exportation or reexportation from the United States to third countries, of Cuban-origin mobile applications is authorized.

NOTE 4 TO §515.578(E)(1): This paragraph (e)(1) does not authorize U.S.-owned or -controlled firms in third countries to import goods of Cuban origin into the authorized trade zone. See §515.559.

(2) The employment of Cuban nationals to develop mobile applications is authorized.

(f) *Certain direct financial transactions restricted.* Nothing in paragraphs (d) or (e) authorizes a direct financial transaction prohibited by §515.209.

(g) *Specific licenses.* Specific licenses may be issued on a case-by-case basis for the exportation of other internet-based services.

NOTE TO §515.578: For general licenses authorizing physical and business presence in

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.584**

Cuba for certain persons, see § 515.573. An authorization related to business presence was previously included in this section. For an authorization of certain telecommunications-related services, see § 515.542.

[80 FR 2300, Jan. 16, 2015, as amended at 80 FR 56925, Sept. 21, 2015; 81 FR 13994, Mar. 16, 2016; 81 FR 71377, Oct. 17, 2016; 82 FR 52004, Nov. 9, 2017; 89 FR 46325, May 29, 2024]

§ 515.579 Funds transfers for third-country official missions and certain intergovernmental organizations.

(a) Depository institutions, as defined in § 515.333, are authorized to process funds transfers for the operating expenses or other official business in Cuba of third-country official missions or any intergovernmental organization in which the United States is a member or holds observer status.

(b) Depository institutions, as defined in § 515.333, are authorized to process funds transfers and maintain accounts for the personal expenditures of the employees, grantees, and contractors, or persons who share a common dwelling as a family member of such employees, grantees, and contractors, of third-country official missions or any intergovernmental organization in which the United States is a member or holds observer status in Cuba.

[80 FR 2301, Jan. 16, 2015]

§ 515.580 Global insurance policies covering individuals traveling to Cuba.

Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction are authorized to issue or provide coverage for global health, life, or travel insurance policies for individuals ordinarily resident in a country outside of Cuba who travel to or within Cuba. Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction are authorized to service those policies and pay claims arising from events that occurred while the individual was traveling in, or to or from, Cuba.

NOTE TO § 515.580: Certain insurance-related services for persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction traveling to, from, or within Cuba are authorized pursuant to § 515.560. See Note 2 to § 515.560.

[80 FR 2301, Jan. 16, 2015]

§ 515.581 Transactions related to conferences in third countries.

Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction are authorized to sponsor, organize, or provide services in connection with, as well as participate in, conferences or other similar events in a third country that are attended by Cuban nationals. Nothing in this paragraph authorizes a direct financial transaction prohibited by § 515.209.

NOTE TO § 515.581: The export or reexport to Cuba of technology subject to the Export Administration Regulations (15 CFR parts 730 through 774) may require separate authorization from the Department of Commerce.

[81 FR 71378, Oct. 17, 2016, as amended at 82 FR 52004, Nov. 9, 2017]

§ 515.582 Importation of certain goods and services produced by independent private sector entrepreneurs.

Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction are authorized to engage in all transactions, including payments, necessary to import certain goods and services produced by independent private sector entrepreneurs, as defined in § 515.340. The list of goods and services eligible for importation under this section is located at <https://www.state.gov/the-state-departments-section-515-582-list/>.

NOTE 1 TO § 515.582: Imports authorized by this section are not subject to the limitations set forth in § 515.560(c).

[80 FR 2301, Jan. 16, 2015, as amended at 80 FR 56925, Sept. 21, 2015; 85 FR 60072, Sept. 24, 2020; 89 FR 46325, May 29, 2024]

§ 515.583 Provision of certain goods and services to Cuban nationals sequestered aboard vessels in U.S. ports.

The provision of goods and services ordinarily incident and necessary to the personal maintenance of Cuban nationals who are prohibited from disembarking from vessels in U.S. ports is authorized.

[80 FR 2301, Jan. 16, 2015]

§ 515.584 Certain financial transactions involving Cuba.

(a) *Correspondent accounts.* Depository institutions, as defined in § 515.333, are authorized to engage in all transactions necessary to establish and

§ 515.584

maintain correspondent accounts at a financial institution that is a national of Cuba, provided that such accounts are used only for transactions authorized pursuant to, or exempt from, this part.

NOTE TO § 515.584(a): This section does not authorize the establishment and maintenance of accounts in the United States or with a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction by, on behalf of, or for the benefit of, Cuba or a Cuban national.

(b) *Testing arrangements.* Depository institutions are authorized to set up testing arrangements and exchange authenticator keys with any financial institution that is a national of Cuba for transactions authorized pursuant to, or exempt from, this part.

(c) *Credit and debit cards.* All transactions incident to the processing and payment of credit and debit cards involving travel-related and other transactions consistent with § 515.560 are authorized.

(d) *Funds transfers.* Any banking institution, as defined in § 515.314, that is a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction is authorized to process funds transfers originating and terminating outside the United States, provided that neither the originator nor the beneficiary is a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction.

(e) *Unlocking of certain previously blocked funds transfers authorized.* Any banking institution, as defined in § 515.314, that is a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction is authorized to unlock and return to the originator or originating financial institution or their successor-in-interest previously blocked funds transfers that could have been processed pursuant to paragraph (d) of this section, § 515.562(b), or § 515.579(b) if the processing of those transfers would have been authorized had they been sent under the current text of those provisions. Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction unblocking funds transfers that were originally blocked on or after August 25, 1997, pursuant to this section must submit a report to the Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Attn: Sanctions Compliance & Evaluation Division, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Freedman's Bank Building, Washington, DC 20220 within 10 business days from the date such funds

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

transfers are released. Such reports shall include the following:

(1) Where available, a copy of the original blocking report filed with OFAC pursuant to § 501.603(b)(1) of this chapter.

(2) The date the unblocked funds transfer was released;

(3) The amount of funds unblocked;

(4) The name of the party to whom the funds were released; and

(5) A reference to this section as the legal authority under which the funds transfer was unblocked and returned.

(f) Any banking institution, as defined in § 515.314, that is a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction is authorized to provide financing for exports or reexports of items, other than agricultural commodities, authorized pursuant to § 515.533, including issuing, advising, negotiating, paying, or confirming letters of credit (including letters of credit issued by a financial institution that is a national of Cuba), accepting collateral for issuing or confirming letters of credit, and processing documentary collections. With the exception of transactions related to exports or reexports of medicines or medical supplies, items associated with the provision of telecommunications and internet services for the Cuban people, or items associated with air and sea operations that support permissible travel, cargo, or trade, nothing in this paragraph authorizes a direct financial transaction prohibited by § 515.209.

(g) Any banking institution, as defined in § 515.314, that is a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction is authorized to accept, process, and give value to U.S. dollar monetary instruments presented for processing and payment by a banking institution located in a third country that is not a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction or a Cuban national and that has received the U.S. dollar monetary instruments from a financial institution that is a national of Cuba for which it maintains a correspondent account and which received the U.S. dollar monetary instruments in connection with an underlying transaction that is authorized, exempt, or otherwise not prohibited by this part, such as dollars spent in Cuba by authorized

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.586**

travelers or a third-country transaction that is not prohibited by this part.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (g): Correspondent accounts used for transactions authorized pursuant to § 515.584(g) may be denominated in U.S. dollars.

(h)(1) *Opening and maintaining bank accounts for certain Cuban nationals.* Any banking institution, as defined in § 515.314, that is a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction is authorized to open and maintain accounts solely in the name of a Cuban national located in Cuba for the purposes only of receiving payments in the United States in connection with transactions authorized pursuant to, or exempt from the prohibitions of, this part and remitting such payments to Cuba.

(2) Any banking institution, as defined in § 515.314, that is a person subject to U.S. jurisdiction is authorized to open and maintain accounts solely in the name of a Cuban national who is an independent private sector entrepreneur, as defined in § 515.340, for the purposes of conducting transactions authorized pursuant to, or exempt from the prohibitions of, this part.

[80 FR 2301, Jan. 16, 2015, as amended at 80 FR 56925, Sept. 21, 2015; 81 FR 4586, Jan. 27, 2016; 81 FR 13994, Mar. 16, 2016; 81 FR 71378, Oct. 17, 2016; 82 FR 52004, Nov. 9, 2017; 84 FR 47123, Sept. 9, 2019; 89 FR 46325, May 29, 2024]

§ 515.585 Certain transactions in third countries.

(a) Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction are authorized to provide goods and services to a Cuban national located in a third country who is an individual, provided that the transaction does not involve a commercial exportation, directly or indirectly, of goods or services to or from Cuba.

(b)(1) *Opening and maintaining bank accounts.* Banking institutions, as defined in § 515.314, are authorized to open and maintain accounts, including the deposit of funds in such accounts by wire transfer, for a Cuban national located in a third country who is an individual, provided that such accounts are used only while the Cuban national is located outside of Cuba and may not be used for transactions that involve a commercial exportation of goods or services to or from Cuba.

(2) *Closing bank accounts.* Banking institutions, as defined in § 515.314, are authorized to close an account opened pursuant to the authorization in paragraph (b)(1) of this section.

(c) Individuals who are persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction who are present in a third country are authorized to purchase or acquire merchandise subject to the prohibitions in § 515.204, including Cuban-origin goods, and to receive or obtain services in which Cuba or a Cuban national has an interest that are ordinarily incident to travel and maintenance within that country.

(d) Individuals who are persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction are authorized to import into the United States as accompanied baggage merchandise subject to the prohibitions in § 515.204, including Cuban-origin goods, that is purchased or acquired in a third country, provided that the merchandise is imported for personal use only. This paragraph does not apply to the importation into the United States of Cuban-origin alcohol or tobacco products.

NOTE 1 TO § 515.585: This section does not authorize U.S.-owned or -controlled firms in third countries to export to Cuba commodities produced in the authorized trade territory. See § 515.559.

NOTE 2 TO § 515.585: This section does not authorize U.S.-owned or -controlled firms in third countries to reexport to Cuba U.S.-origin items. See § 515.533.

NOTE 3 TO § 515.585: Except as provided in paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section, this section does not authorize any transactions prohibited by § 515.204.

NOTE 4 TO § 515.585: The export or reexport to Cuba of goods (including software) or technology subject to the Export Administration Regulations (15 CFR parts 730 through 774) may require separate authorization from the Department of Commerce.

[80 FR 2302, Jan. 16, 2015, as amended at 80 FR 56926, Sept. 21, 2015; 81 FR 13994, Mar. 16, 2016; 81 FR 71378, Oct. 17, 2016; 85 FR 60072, Sept. 24, 2020]

§ 515.586 Cuban official missions in the United States.

(a) The provision of goods or services in the United States to the official missions of the Government of Cuba to the United States and to international organizations in the United States and payment for such goods or services are authorized, provided that:

§515.587

(1) The goods or services are for the conduct of the official business of the missions, or for personal use of the employees, or persons who share a common dwelling as a family member of such an employee, of the missions, and are not for resale;

(2) The transaction does not involve the purchase, sale, financing, or refinancing of real property; and

(3) The transaction is not otherwise prohibited by law.

(b) The provision of goods or services in the United States to the employees, or persons who share a common dwelling as a family member of such an employee, of the official missions of the Government of Cuba to the United States and to international organizations in the United States and payment for such goods or services are authorized, provided that:

(1) The goods or services are for personal use of the employees, or persons who share a common dwelling as a family member of such an employee, of the missions, and are not for resale; and

(2) The transaction is not otherwise prohibited by law.

(c) Depository institutions, as defined in §515.333, are authorized to operate accounts for, extend credit to, and process funds transfers on behalf of the official missions of the Government of Cuba to the United States, and the official missions of the Government of Cuba to international organizations in the United States, and employees thereof, subject to the limitations in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section and provided that any depository institution making use of the authorization in this section must submit a report to the Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Attn: Sanctions Compliance & Evaluation Division, 1500 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Annex, Washington, DC 20220, no later than 30 days following the establishment of the account. Such report shall include the name and address of the depository institution, the name of the account holder, and the account number.

[80 FR 2302, Jan. 16, 2015, as amended at 80 FR 56926, Sept. 21, 2015]

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)**§515.587 Remittances from Cuban nationals to persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction.**

Persons subject to U.S. jurisdiction are authorized to receive remittances in the United States from Cuban nationals, wherever located, provided that the remitter is not a prohibited official of the Government of Cuba, as defined in §515.337, or a prohibited member of the Cuban Communist Party, as defined in §515.338. Nothing in this paragraph authorizes a transaction relating to the collection, forwarding, or receipt of remittances involving any entity or subentity identified on the Cuba Restricted List, as published in the *FEDERAL REGISTER* and maintained by the State Department and available at <https://www.state.gov/cuba-sanctions/cuba-restricted-list/>.

NOTE TO §515.587: See §515.572 for an authorization to provide services related to the receipt of remittances authorized by this section.

[80 FR 56926, Sept. 21, 2015, as amended at 85 FR 67989, Oct. 27, 2020]

§515.588 Certain Cuban legal services authorized.

(a) All transactions, including payments, ordinarily incident to receipt of the following legal services from Cuba or from a Cuban national are authorized: legal advice and counseling on the requirements of and compliance with the laws of Cuba or any jurisdiction within Cuba, provided that such advice and counseling relate to transactions authorized by or exempt from the prohibitions of this part.

(b) The receipt of any other legal services from Cuba or a Cuban national, not otherwise authorized in this part, requires the issuance of a specific license.

[80 FR 56926, Sept. 21, 2015]

§515.589 Authorization of emergency medical services.

The provision of nonscheduled emergency medical services in the United States to Cuban nationals is authorized.

[80 FR 56926, Sept. 21, 2015]

Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treas.**§ 515.802****§ 515.590 Certain grants, scholarships, and awards.**

The provision of grants, scholarships, or awards relating to the following activities to a Cuban national or in which Cuba or a Cuban national otherwise has an interest is authorized, provided that nothing in this section authorizes a direct financial transaction prohibited by § 515.209:

- (a) Educational activities;
- (b) Humanitarian projects, as set forth in § 515.575(b);
- (c) Scientific research; and
- (d) Religious activities.

[81 FR 71378, Oct. 17, 2016, as amended at 82 FR 52004, Nov. 9, 2017]

§ 515.591 Services related to infrastructure.

Persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States are authorized to provide to Cuba or Cuban nationals services related to developing, repairing, maintaining, and enhancing Cuban infrastructure that directly benefit the Cuban people, provided that those services are consistent with the export or reexport licensing policy of the Department of Commerce. For the purposes of this section, infrastructure means systems and assets used to provide the Cuban people with goods and services produced or provided by the public transportation, water management, waste management, non-nuclear electricity generation, and electricity distribution sectors, as well as hospitals, public housing, and primary and secondary schools. This authorization includes projects related to the environmental protection of U.S., Cuban, and international air quality, waters, and coastlines.

NOTE 1 TO § 515.591: For provisions related to transactions ordinarily incident to the exportation or reexportation of items to Cuba, see §§ 515.533 and 515.559. See § 746.2(b) of the Export Administration Regulations (15 CFR parts 730 through 774) for the Department of Commerce's Cuba licensing policy.

NOTE 2 TO § 515.591: See § 515.564 for a general license authorizing travel-related and other transactions incident to professional research and professional meetings in Cuba, § 515.533(c) for a general license authorizing travel-related and other transactions relating to certain exports and reexports to Cuba, and § 515.575(a) for a general license authorizing transactions, including travel-related

transactions, related to certain humanitarian projects.

[81 FR 71378, Oct. 17, 2016, as amended at 85 FR 60072, Sept. 24, 2020; 87 FR 35091, June 9, 2022]

Subpart F—Reports**§ 515.601 Records and reports.**

For provisions relating to records and reports, see subpart C of part 501 of this chapter.

[62 FR 45106, Aug. 25, 1997]

Subpart G—Penalties

SOURCE: 63 FR 10331, Mar. 3, 1998, unless otherwise noted.

§ 515.701 Penalties.

For provisions relating to penalties, see part 501, subpart D, of this chapter.

[68 FR 53657, Sept. 11, 2003]

Subpart H—Procedures**§ 515.801 Procedures.**

For license application procedures and procedures relating to amendments, modifications, or revocations of licenses; administrative decisions; rulemaking; and requests for documents pursuant to the Freedom of Information and Privacy Acts (5 U.S.C. 552 and 552a), see part 501, subpart E, of this chapter.

[62 FR 45106, Aug. 25, 1997, as amended at 68 FR 53657, Sept. 11, 2003]

§ 515.802 Delegation by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Any action under § 515.201 which the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to take pursuant to Proclamation 3447 or the Trading With the Enemy Act may be taken by the Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control, or by any other person to whom the Secretary of the Treasury has delegated authority so to act.

[28 FR 6974, July 9, 1963. Redesignated at 62 FR 45106, Aug. 25, 1997]

§ 515.901**Subpart I—Miscellaneous Provisions****§ 515.901 Paperwork Reduction Act notice.**

Collection of information on TDF 90-22.39, “Declaration, Travel to Cuba,” has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (“OMB”) under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3507(j)) and assigned control number 1505-0118. For approval by OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act of information collections relating to recordkeeping and reporting requirements, to licensing procedures (including those pursuant to statements of licensing policy), and to other procedures, see § 501.901 of this chapter. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid control number assigned by OMB.

[62 FR 45106, Aug. 25, 1997]

PART 525—BURMA SANCTIONS REGULATIONS

Sec.

Subpart A—General Provisions

- 525.101 Relation of this part to other laws and regulations.
- 525.102 Records and reports.
- 525.103 Procedures.
- 525.104 Paperwork Reduction Act notice.
- 525.105 [Reserved]
- 525.106 Delegation of certain authorities of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Subpart B—Prohibitions

- 525.201 Prohibited transactions.
- 525.202 Prohibited transactions related to financial services to or for the benefit of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE) (Directive 1).
- 525.203 Effect of transfers violating the provisions of this part.
- 525.204 Holding of funds in interest-bearing accounts; investment and reinvestment.
- 525.205 Expenses of maintaining blocked tangible property; liquidation of blocked property.
- 525.206 Evasions; attempts; causing violations; conspiracies.
- 525.207 Exempt transactions.

Subpart C—General Definitions

- 525.300 Applicability of definitions.

31 CFR Ch. V (7-1-25 Edition)

- 525.301 Blocked account; blocked property.
- 525.302 Effective date.
- 525.303 Entity.
- 525.304 Financial, material, or technological support.
- 525.305 Financial services.
- 525.306 Foreign person.
- 525.307 Government of Burma.
- 525.308 [Reserved]
- 525.309 Interest.
- 525.310 Licenses; general and specific.
- 525.311 OFAC.
- 525.312 Person.
- 525.313 Property; property interest.
- 525.314 Transfer.
- 525.315 United States.
- 525.316 United States person; U.S. person.
- 525.317 U.S. financial institution.

Subpart D—Interpretations

- 525.401 Reference to amended sections.
- 525.402 Effect of amendment.
- 525.403 Termination and acquisition of an interest in blocked property.
- 525.404 Transactions ordinarily incident to a licensed transaction.
- 525.405 Provision and receipt of services.
- 525.406 Offshore transactions involving blocked property.
- 525.407 Payments from blocked accounts to satisfy obligations prohibited.
- 525.408 Charitable contributions.
- 525.409 Credit extended and cards issued by financial institutions to a person whose property and interests in property are blocked.
- 525.410 Setoffs prohibited.
- 525.411 Entities owned by one or more persons whose property and interests in property are blocked.
- 525.412 Entities of which one or more blocked persons is a member, leader, official, senior executive officer, or otherwise exercises control.

Subpart E—Licenses, Authorizations, and Statements of Licensing Policy

- 525.501 General and specific licensing procedures.
- 525.502 Effect of license or other authorization.
- 525.503 Exclusion from licenses.
- 525.504 Payments and transfers to blocked accounts in U.S. financial institutions.
- 525.505 Entries in certain accounts for normal service charges.
- 525.506 Investment and reinvestment of certain funds.
- 525.507 Provision of certain legal services.
- 525.508 Payments for legal services from funds originating outside the United States.
- 525.509 Emergency medical services.
- 525.510 Official business of the United States Government.