

the Federal Employees Retirement System.

§ 24.6 Performance appraisal system.

The members of the Service shall be subject to a performance appraisal system that is designed to encourage excellence in performance and shall provide for periodic and systematic assessment of the performance of members.

§ 24.7 Inapplicability of provisions regarding appointments.

(a) Appointments to the Service shall be made without regard to the provisions of title 5 of the U.S. Code regarding appointments.

(b) Members of the Service shall not be covered by the following provisions of title 5 of the U.S. Code:

- (1) Subchapter I of chapter 35 (relating to retention preference in the event of reduction in force);
- (2) Chapter 43 (relating to performance appraisal and performance-based actions);
- (3) Chapter 51 (relating to classification);
- (4) Subchapter III of chapter 53 (relating to General Schedule pay rates); and
- (5) Chapter 75 (relating to adverse actions).

§ 24.8 Removal from the Service.

(a) A member of the Service may be subject to disciplinary action, including removal from the Service, for substandard performance of duty as a member of the service, for misconduct, for reasons of national security or for other reasons as determined by the Secretary.

(b) A member for whom disciplinary action is proposed is entitled to:

- (1) Written notice of the proposed action and the basis therefor;
- (2) A reasonable opportunity to answer the notice of proposed action both orally and in writing;
- (3) The right to be represented by an attorney or other representative in making such answer; and
- (4) A written decision on the proposal.

(c) The decision may be made by an official with delegated authority to take such action, but in no case may the official be at a level below the head of the Operating Division where the member is assigned.

(d) A member who is separated from the Service involuntarily and without cause and who, immediately prior to his appointment to the Service, was a career appointee in the civil service or the Senior Executive Service, may be appointed to a position in the

competitive civil service at grade GS–15 of the General Schedule. Such an appointment may be made by the Secretary or his/her designee without regard to the provisions of title 5, U.S. Code regarding appointments in the civil service.

(e) A member who is separated from the Service involuntarily and without cause and who, immediately prior to appointment to the Service, was not a career appointee in the civil service or the Senior Executive Service may be appointed to a position in the excepted civil service at grade GS–15 of the General Schedule for a period not to exceed two years.

(f) There shall be no right to further review of the final decision on a disciplinary action. At his/her discretion, the Secretary may review an action taken under this section and may reduce, suspend, or overrule the action taken.

(g) A member of the Service may be removed from the Service for such other reasons as may be prescribed by the Secretary.

§ 24.9 Reporting.

(a) No later than May 1, 2020, and annually thereafter, each participating operating division shall submit to the Secretary a report of its implementation of the SBRBPAS authority in accordance with the Agency's policy requirements.

(b) At his or her discretion, the Secretary may use the information provided in the report under paragraph (a) of this section to inform the work of the Policy Board, including allocation of SBRBPAS slots.

Scott W. Rowell,

Assistant Secretary for Administration.

Approved: April 2, 2020.

Alex M. Azar II,

Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services.

[FR Doc. 2020–07367 Filed 4–17–20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

44 CFR Part 64

[Docket ID FEMA–2020–0005; Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA–8625]

Suspension of Community Eligibility

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This rule identifies communities where the sale of flood insurance has been authorized under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) that are scheduled for suspension on the effective dates listed within this rule because of noncompliance with the floodplain management requirements of the program. If the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) receives documentation that the community has adopted the required floodplain management measures prior to the effective suspension date given in this rule, the suspension will not occur and a notice of this will be provided by publication in the **Federal Register** on a subsequent date. Also, information identifying the current participation status of a community can be obtained from FEMA's Community Status Book (CSB). The CSB is available at <https://www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program-community-status-book>.

DATES: *Effective Dates:* The effective date of each community's scheduled suspension is the third date ("Susp.") listed in the third column of the following tables.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you want to determine whether a particular community was suspended on the suspension date or for further information, contact Adrienne L. Sheldon, PE, CFM, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 400 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 212–3966.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NFIP enables property owners to purchase Federal flood insurance that is not otherwise generally available from private insurers. In return, communities agree to adopt and administer local floodplain management measures aimed at protecting lives and new construction from future flooding. Section 1315 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 4022, prohibits the sale of NFIP flood insurance unless an appropriate public body adopts adequate floodplain management measures with effective enforcement measures. The communities listed in this document no longer meet that statutory requirement for compliance with program regulations, 44 CFR part 59. Accordingly, the communities will be suspended on the effective date in the third column. As of that date, flood insurance will no longer be available in the community. We recognize that some of these communities may adopt and submit the required documentation of

legally enforceable floodplain management measures after this rule is published but prior to the actual suspension date. These communities will not be suspended and will continue to be eligible for the sale of NFIP flood insurance. A notice withdrawing the suspension of such communities will be published in the **Federal Register**.

In addition, FEMA publishes a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) that identifies the Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs) in these communities. The date of the FIRM, if one has been published, is indicated in the fourth column of the table. No direct Federal financial assistance (except assistance pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act not in connection with a flood) may be provided for construction or acquisition of buildings in identified SFHAs for communities not participating in the NFIP and identified for more than a year on FEMA's initial FIRM for the community as having flood-prone areas (section 202(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, 42 U.S.C. 4106(a), as amended). This prohibition against certain types of Federal assistance becomes effective for the communities listed on the date shown in the last column. The Administrator finds that notice and public comment procedures under 5 U.S.C. 553(b), are impracticable and unnecessary because communities listed

in this final rule have been adequately notified.

Each community receives 6-month, 90-day, and 30-day notification letters addressed to the Chief Executive Officer stating that the community will be suspended unless the required floodplain management measures are met prior to the effective suspension date. Since these notifications were made, this final rule may take effect within less than 30 days.

National Environmental Policy Act. FEMA has determined that the community suspension(s) included in this rule is a non-discretionary action and therefore the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) does not apply.

Regulatory Flexibility Act. The Administrator has determined that this rule is exempt from the requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act because the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, Section 1315, 42 U.S.C. 4022, prohibits flood insurance coverage unless an appropriate public body adopts adequate floodplain management measures with effective enforcement measures. The communities listed no longer comply with the statutory requirements, and after the effective date, flood insurance will no longer be available in the communities unless remedial action takes place.

Regulatory Classification. This final rule is not a significant regulatory action under the criteria of section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866 of September 30, 1993, Regulatory Planning and Review, 58 FR 51735.

Executive Order 13132, Federalism. This rule involves no policies that have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132.

Executive Order 12988, Civil Justice Reform. This rule meets the applicable standards of Executive Order 12988.

Paperwork Reduction Act. This rule does not involve any collection of information for purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*

List of Subjects in 44 CFR Part 64

Flood insurance, Floodplains.

Accordingly, 44 CFR part 64 is amended as follows:

PART 64—[AMENDED]

■ 1. The authority citation for Part 64 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 4001 *et seq.*; Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1978, 3 CFR, 1978 Comp.; p. 329; E.O. 12127, 44 FR 19367, 3 CFR, 1979 Comp.; p. 376.

§ 64.6 [Amended]

■ 2. The tables published under the authority of § 64.6 are amended as follows:

State and location	Community No.	Effective date authorization/cancellation of sale of flood insurance in community	Current effective map date	Date certain federal assistance no longer available in SFHAs
Region II				
New Jersey:				
Haledon, Borough of, Passaic County	340399	May 13, 1975, Emerg; March 16, 1981, Reg; April 17, 2020, Susp.	April 17, 2020	April 17, 2020.
Little Falls, Township of, Passaic County	340401	July 6, 1973, Emerg; August 17, 1981, Reg; April 17, 2020, Susp.	do*	Do.
Pompton Lakes, Borough of, Passaic County	345528	June 5, 1970, Emerg; September 4, 1970, Reg; April 17, 2020, Susp.	do	Do.
Totowa, Borough of, Passaic County	340408	May 23, 1975, Emerg; August 5, 1985, Reg; April 17, 2020, Susp.	do	Do.
Region VII				
Iowa:				
Emerson, City of, Mills County	190202	July 28, 1975, Emerg; April 3, 1984, Reg; April 17, 2020, Susp.	do	Do.
Glenwood, City of, Mills County	190203	December 5, 1974, Emerg; May 17, 1982, Reg; April 17, 2020, Susp.	do	Do.
Hastings, City of, Mills County	190204	October 14, 1982, Emerg; October 14, 1982, Reg; April 17, 2020, Susp.	do	Do.
Malvern, City of, Mills County	190205	August 4, 1975, Emerg; September 16, 1982, Reg; April 17, 2020, Susp.	do	Do.
Mills County, Unincorporated Areas	190891	October 14, 1982, Emerg; October 14, 1982, Reg; April 17, 2020, Susp.	do	Do.
Pacific Junction, City of, Mills County	190206	December 23, 1974, Emerg; April 4, 1983, Reg; April 17, 2020, Susp.	do	Do.
Silver City, City of, Mills County	190207	January 2, 1976, Emerg; September 4, 1985, Reg; April 17, 2020, Susp.	do	Do.
Nebraska:				
Dodge County, Unincorporated Areas	310068	April 18, 1975, Emerg; August 17, 1981, Reg; April 17, 2020, Susp.	do	Do.

*-do- =Ditto.

Code for reading third column: Emerg.—Emergency; Reg.—Regular; Susp.—Suspension.

Katherine B. Fox,

Assistant Administrator for Mitigation,
Federal Insurance and Mitigation
Administration—FEMA Resilience,
Department of Homeland Security, Federal
Emergency Management Agency.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 64

[EB Docket No. 20-22; FCC 20-34; FRS
16617]

Implementing the Pallone-Thune Telephone Robocall Abuse Criminal Enforcement and Deterrence Act

AGENCY: Federal Communications
Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Commission adopts final rules, as required by the Pallone-Thune Telephone Robocall Abuse Criminal Enforcement and Deterrence Act (TRACED Act), to establish a registration process for the registration of a single consortium that conducts private-led efforts to trace back the origin of suspected unlawful robocalls.

DATES: Effective May 20, 2020.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information on this proceeding, contact Daniel Stepanicich of the Telecommunications Consumers Division, Enforcement Bureau, at Daniel.Stepanicich@fcc.gov or (202) 418-7451.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission's Report and Order, FCC 20-34, EB Docket No. 20-22, adopted on March 27, 2020 and released on March 27, 2020, which is the subject of this rulemaking. The full text of this document is available for public inspection during regular business hours in the FCC Reference Center, 445 12th Street SW, Room CY-A257, Washington, DC 20554, or online at <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-20-34A1.pdf>. To request this document in accessible formats for people with disabilities (e.g., Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format, etc.) or to request reasonable accommodations (e.g., accessible format documents, sign language interpreters, CART, etc.), send an email to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the FCC's Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice), (202) 418-0432 (TTY).

Synopsis

1. In this Report and Order, the Federal Communications Commission adopts final rules to implement section 13(d) of the Pallone-Thune Telephone Robocall Abuse Criminal Enforcement and Deterrence Act (TRACED Act) to establish a registration process for the registration of a single consortium that conducts private-led efforts to trace back the origin of suspected unlawful robocalls. Unlawful prerecorded or artificial voice message calls—robocalls—plague the American public. Despite the Commission's efforts to combat unlawful robocalls, which includes efforts to trace unlawful spoofed robocalls to their origination—a process known as traceback—these calls persist. Congress recognized the continued problem and enacted the TRACED Act to further aid the Commission's efforts. Congress acknowledged the beneficial collaboration between the Commission and the private sector on traceback issues and, in section 13(d) of the TRACED Act, required the Commission to issue rules for the registration of a single consortium that conducts private-led efforts to trace back the origin of suspected unlawful robocalls.

2. The Commission released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) on February 6, 2020, at 85 FR 8531, proposing to establish a process to designate a registered consortium as contemplated by section 13(d) of the TRACED Act. ACA International, INCOMPAS, NCTA-The internet & Television Association (NCTA), USTelecom-The Broadband Association (USTelecom), and ZipDX, LLC (ZipDX) filed comments, and Cloud Communications Alliance (CCA), NCTA, and USTelecom filed reply comments in this proceeding.

3. In this Report and Order, we amend our rules to establish a process to register a single consortium under section 13(d) of the TRACED Act. We generally adopt our rules as proposed, with limited modifications to ensure that we satisfy the statutory requirements and to address commenters' concerns.

Registration Process

4. We revise our rules to require the Enforcement Bureau (Bureau) to issue, no later than April 28th of each year, an annual public notice seeking registration of a single consortium that conducts private-led efforts to trace back the origin of suspected unlawful robocalls. This is consistent with the statute and our proposed rule. The notice will set forth a deadline by which

an entity that plans to register as the consortium for private-led traceback efforts must submit in the docket a letter of notice of its intent to conduct private-led traceback efforts and its intent to register as a single consortium.

5. Letter of Intent. We require an entity that plans to register as the consortium for private-led traceback efforts to submit a Letter of Intent as directed by the Bureau's public notice. Consistent with the statute, we proposed that the Letter of Intent include the name of the entity and a statement of its intent to conduct private-led traceback efforts and its intent to register with the Commission as the single consortium that conducts private-led efforts to trace back the origin of suspected unlawful robocalls. We adopt this proposal.

6. In its Letter of Intent, the entity must satisfy the statutory requirements by:

(a) Demonstrating that the consortium is a neutral third party competent to manage the private-led effort to trace back the origin of suspected unlawful robocalls;

(b) Including a copy of the consortium's written best practices, with an explanation thereof, regarding management of its traceback efforts and regarding providers of voice services' participation in the consortium's efforts to trace back the origin of suspected unlawful robocalls;

(c) Certifying that, consistent with section 222(d)(2) of the Communications Act, the consortium's efforts will focus on fraudulent, abusive, or unlawful traffic; and

(d) Certifying that the consortium has notified the Commission that it intends to conduct traceback efforts of suspected unlawful robocalls in advance of registration as the single consortium.

7. We direct the Bureau to review the Letters of Intent and to select the single registered consortium no later than 90 days after the deadline for the submission of Letters of Intent. As we proposed, we will not require the incumbent registered consortium to submit a Letter of Intent after its initial selection as the registered consortium. Instead, the certifications contained in the registered consortium's initial Letter of Intent will continue in effect for each subsequent year the incumbent registered consortium serves unless the incumbent consortium notifies the Commission otherwise in writing on or before the date for the filing of such letters set forth in the annual public notice. This approach will allow us to fulfill our statutory mandate while minimizing the burdens of the registration process. In the event of any