

# Rules and Regulations

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains regulatory documents having general applicability and legal effect, most of which are keyed to and codified in the Code of Federal Regulations, which is published under 50 titles pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 1510.

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## FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY

### 5 CFR Part 2424

#### Negotiability Proceedings

##### Corrections

In Rule Document C1–2023–19269, appearing on page 69873 in the issue of Tuesday, October 10, 2023, make the following correction:

##### § 2424.25 [Corrected]

- 1. On page 69873, beginning in the first column, amendatory instruction 6 should read:
- 6. On page 62458, in the first column, in the twenty-fourth line from the bottom, “© Content.” should read, “(c) Content.”

[FR Doc. C2–2023–19269 Filed 10–11–23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 0099–10–P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Office of the Secretary

#### 7 CFR Part 2

RIN 0503–AA78

#### Delegations of Authority

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, USDA.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This document revises the delegations of authority from the Secretary of Agriculture and general officers of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to reflect changes and additions to the delegations as summarized below.

**DATES:** Effective October 12, 2023.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Melissa McClellan, Office of the General Counsel, (202) 720–5565, [melissa.mcclellan@usda.gov](mailto:melissa.mcclellan@usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### Overview of Changes

This rule amends the delegations of authority in 7 CFR part 2 to reflect changes to the organizational structure of the Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement (OPPE). This includes removing the delegations of authority by the Director, OPPE to the Director, Office of Advocacy and Outreach (OAO) at section 2.700, as OAO is no longer a separate entity within OPPE. In addition, this rule reflects the transfer of oversight of the 1994 Tribal Scholars Program from the Director of OPPE (section 2.38) to the Director of the Office of Tribal Relations (section 2.39) and the transfer of oversight of the Centers for Faith Based and Neighborhood Partnerships from the Director of OPPE to the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations (section 2.23).

This rule also amends the delegations of authority to reflect the transfer of responsibility for USDA’s Controlled Unclassified Information Program from the Assistant Secretary for Administration (section 2.24) and the Executive Director of the Office of Homeland Security (section 2.95) to the Chief Information Officer (section 2.32). See Secretary’s Memorandum 1077–006 (Nov. 2, 2022), available at <https://www.usda.gov/directives/sm-1077-006>.

Finally, this rule amends the delegations to the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment (section 2.16) and the Chief of the Forest Service (section 2.60) to authorize the Forest Service’s Law Enforcement and Investigations staff to enforce and investigate violations of the Lacey Act, 16 U.S.C. 3371–3378, involving timber and timber products. These delegations do not affect the existing delegations of authority under the Lacey Act to the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs and the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

#### Classification

This rule relates to internal agency management. Accordingly, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553, notice of proposed rulemaking and opportunity for comment are not required, and this rule may be made effective less than 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register**. This rule also is exempt from the provisions of Executive Orders 12866 and 13771. This action is not a

rule as defined by the Regulatory Flexibility Act, as amended by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, 5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*, or the Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S.C. 801 *et seq.*, and thus is exempt from the provisions of those acts. This rule contains no information collection or recordkeeping requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

#### List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 2

Authority delegations (Government agencies).

Accordingly, as discussed in the preamble, 7 CFR part 2 is amended as follows:

### PART 2—DELEGATIONS OF AUTHORITY BY THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE AND GENERAL OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT

- 1. The authority citation for part 2 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 6912(a)(1); 5 U.S.C. 301; Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1953, 3 CFR 1949–1953 Comp., p. 1024.

#### Subpart C—Delegations of Authority to the Deputy Secretary, Under Secretaries, and Assistant Secretaries

- 2. Amend § 2.20 by adding paragraph (a)(2)(xliii) to read as follows:

##### § 2.20 Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment.

- (a) \* \* \*
- (2) \* \* \*
- (xliii) Enforce and conduct investigations of violations of the Lacey Act, which prohibits importing or exporting any plant or plant product in interstate or foreign commerce in violation of any Federal, State, Tribal, or foreign law regulating plants or plant products (16 U.S.C. 3371–3378).

- 3. Amend § 2.23 by adding paragraph (a)(2)(v) to read as follows:

##### § 2.23 Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations.

- (a) \* \* \*
- (2) \* \* \*
- (v) Oversee the Center for Faith Based and Neighborhood Partnerships.

##### § 2.24 [Amended]

- 4. Amend § 2.24 by removing and reserving paragraph (a)(8)(xi).

**Subpart D—Delegations of Authority to Other General Officers and Agency Heads**

- 5. Amend § 2.32 by adding paragraph (a)(14) to read as follows:

**§ 2.32 Chief Information Officer.**

(a) \* \* \*

(14) Administer the Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) Program for the Department pursuant to E.O. 13556, “Controlled Unclassified Information” (75 FR 68675, 3 CFR, 2011 Comp., p. 267) and 32 CFR part 2002.

\* \* \* \* \*

**§ 2.38 [Amended]**

- 6. Amend § 2.38 by removing and reserving paragraphs (a)(1)(xii) and (a)(4).

- 7. Amend § 2.39 by adding paragraph (a)(9) to read as follows:

**§ 2.39 Director, Office of Tribal Relations.**

(a) \* \* \*

(9) Administer the USDA/1994 Land Grant Institutions (Tribal Colleges) Programs.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Subpart J—Delegations of Authority by the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment**

- 8. Amend § 2.60 by adding paragraph (a)(45) to read as follows:

**§ 2.60 Chief, Forest Service.**

(a) \* \* \*

(45) Enforce and conduct investigations of violations of the Lacey Act, which prohibits importing or exporting any plant or plant product in interstate or foreign commerce in violation of any federal, state, Tribal, or foreign law regulating plants or plant products (16 U.S.C. 3371–3378).

\* \* \* \* \*

**Subpart P—Delegations of Authority by the Assistant Secretary for Administration****§ 2.95 [Amended]**

- 9. Amend § 2.95 by removing and reserving paragraph (b)(11).

**Subpart V—Delegations of Authority by the Director, Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement****§ 2.700 [Removed and Reserved]**

- 10. Remove and reserve § 2.700.
- The Secretary of Agriculture, Thomas J. Vilsack, having reviewed and approved this document, is delegating the authority to electronically sign this document to Mary Beth Schultz, Acting

General Counsel, for purposes of publication in the **Federal Register**.

Mary Beth Schultz,

*Acting General Counsel.*

[FR Doc. 2023–22524 Filed 10–11–23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–90–P

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****10 CFR Parts 429 and 431**

[EERE–2017–BT–STD–0048]

RIN 1904–AF27

**Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Dedicated Purpose Pool Pump Motors***Correction*

In rule document 2023–20343, appearing on pages 66966 through 67041 in the issue of Thursday, September 28, 2023, make the following correction:

On page 66967, in Table I.1, in the fifth column, on the third line, “September 28, 2025” should read “September 28, 2027”.

[FR Doc. C1–2023–20343 Filed 10–11–23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 0099–10–D

**SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION****13 CFR Part 120**

RIN 3245–AH78

**Debt Refinancing in the 504 Loan Program**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Small Business Administration.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** SBA is adopting with changes the interim final rule published in the **Federal Register** on July 29, 2021. That interim final rule implemented section 328 of the Economic Aid to Hard-Hit Small Businesses, Nonprofits, and Venues Act, which modified the requirements for refinancing debt in the 504 Loan Program, as set forth in section 521(a) of title V of division E of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 and section 502(7) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958. The modifications included: increasing the amount of existing indebtedness that may be refinanced for 504 debt refinancing involving expansions; and for 504 debt refinancing not involving expansions, removing two limitations on the program, reinstating an alternate job retention standard for the refinancing project, revising the definition of qualified debt, and

removing the prohibition against Certified Development Companies (CDCs) participating in the Premier Certified Lenders Program using their delegated authority to make these loans.

**DATES:** The effective date of this final rule is November 13, 2023.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Gregorius Suryadi, Senior Financial and Loan Specialist, 504 Program Branch, Office of Financial Assistance, Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street SW, Washington, DC 20416; telephone: (202) 205–6806; email: [gregorius.suryadi@sba.gov](mailto:gregorius.suryadi@sba.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****I. Background Information**

The 504 Loan Program is an SBA financing program authorized under title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, 15 U.S.C. 695 *et seq.* The core mission of the 504 Loan Program is to provide long-term financing to small businesses for the purchase or improvement of land, buildings, and major equipment, in an effort to facilitate the creation or retention of jobs and local economic development. Under the 504 Loan Program, loans are made to small business applicants by Certified Development Companies (“CDCs”), which are certified and regulated by SBA to promote economic development within their community. In general, a project in the 504 Loan Program (a “504 Project”) includes: a loan obtained from a private sector lender with a senior lien covering at least 50 percent of the project cost; a loan obtained from a CDC (a “504 Loan”) with a junior lien covering up to 40 percent of the total cost (backed by a 100 percent SBA-guaranteed debenture); and a contribution from the Borrower of at least 10 percent equity.

In addition, the 504 Loan Program may be used to refinance debt under two options authorized under section 502(7)(B) and (C) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958. First, if a 504 Project involves the expansion of the small business, any amount of existing indebtedness that does not exceed 50 percent of the project cost of the expansion may be refinanced and added to the project’s cost (Debt Refinancing with Expansion) under the conditions set forth in section 502(7)(B) and the implementing regulations. *See* 13 CFR 120.882(e) and (f). Second, debt refinancing is available for a 504 Project that does not involve the expansion of the small business under the requirements set forth in section 502(7)(C) and 13 CFR 120.882(g) (Debt Refinancing without Expansion).