

currently provided Mode-S TIS. With the ADS-B mandate in effect since January 2020, and low-cost avionics systems for receiving and displaying ADS-B, ADS-R, ADS-SLR, and TIS-B information are readily available, the GA community is able to obtain a heightened situational awareness of the traffic around them. This is especially true when flying around the terminal areas where significant ADS-B coverage is available today.

As of March 6, 2023, approximately 133,486 aircraft have been identified as receiving ADS-B In information on one or both of the mandated ADS-B frequencies. The vast majority of these are general aviation aircraft due to the number of portable ADS-B In devices or integrated ADS-B In/Out systems available to this market.

Mode-S Radar Beacon Replacement System

Many FAA Mode-S terminal radars are approaching the end of their useful lifecycle. Additionally, the FAA is facing an increased maintenance cost from the inability to purchase parts, due to parts obsolescence or part shortages, necessary to ensure continued operational availability. To mitigate this, the FAA has initiated a radar modernization effort called the Mode-S Beacon Replacement System (MSBRS) program. Under this program, the FAA intends to replace at least forty-six (46) aging Mode-S terminal radars starting in 2024. Starting in 2024 as the new MSBRS radars replace the existing terminal radars, the existing Mode-S TIS functionality will disappear at the location of each replaced terminal radar.

Replacement of the existing terminal radars capable of providing Mode-S TIS under the MSBRS Program will provide an improvement in air traffic control (ATC) capabilities, which will benefit civil and military aviation, including general aviation. Installation of the new state-of-the-art MSBRS radars will improve system operational reliability and reduce system down time.

During this timeframe, the FAA will continue to provide Mode-S TIS through the existing terminal radars until the existing radar is replaced with a new MSBRS radar. This document is intended to provide time for GA aircraft owners and operators who have not yet equipped with an ADS-B receiver to acquire and install, if appropriate, an ADS-B In capable system.

Other FAA Surveillance System Improvement Activities

Independent of the MSBRS program, FAA is also engaged in multiple activities aimed at improving existing

surveillance systems. These activities are aimed at reducing FAA operating costs and/or reducing congestion on surveillance system RF frequencies. As these activities proceed, FAA may remove one or more Mode-S terminal radars from operation, which would eliminate Mode-S TIS at that location.

II. Industry Discussion on Mode-S TIS Removal

Using surveys and discussions with industry organizations, the FAA was able to obtain the necessary data required to understand the potential safety impacts from removing Mode-S TIS functionality from the existing terminal radars. FAA conducted surveys, such as the General Aviation/Part 135 Air Taxi Activity Survey, to produce a set of comprehensive data on part 91 and part 135 aircraft and their operations. The FAA reviewed data from survey reports for 2010, 2014, 2016, 2018, and 2019, and discussed these reports with industry association experts. The data from these reports were utilized to study the relevant surveillance equipment for all types of aircraft: Fixed Wing Piston, Fixed Wing turboprop single and multi-engine, turbojet, and rotorcraft.

Since 2018, the FAA has conducted industry briefings and discussions with major avionics manufacturing companies on the MSBRS program and the associated planned removal of Mode-S TIS from terminal radars. These discussions assisted in gathering pertinent information on equipment and gaining insight into potential concerns. Taking into consideration this information and the survey results, as well as the ADS-B In traffic services available to the cockpit via low-cost portable or integrated devices, the FAA determined that removal of Mode-S TIS had little to no significant adverse safety impacts on the GA Community.

III. Summary

Based on industry engagement, FAA has determined that the removal of Mode-S TIS functionality will have little to no safety impact on the GA community.

Removal of legacy terminal Mode-S radars may occur as part of other ongoing FAA activities to divest radars or which are being replaced with other modern cooperative surveillance systems. These activities are being pursued to lower FAA operating costs and/or reduce congestion on surveillance system RF frequencies.

Aircraft operating within ADS-B mandated airspace, specified under 14 CFR 91.225, have transitioned their avionics equipment to be compliant

with the performance requirements of the regulation. If the ADS-B Out equipment is performing and configured properly, aircraft equipped with ADS-B In are capable of receiving ADS-R, ADS-SLR, and TIS-B services from the FAA ADS-B ground stations across the NAS. These low-cost ADS-B In avionics systems are widely available, and provide the GA community with a heightened situational awareness of the traffic around them which was not previously available using solely Mode-S TIS information. These services expand coverage and more than replace the information currently provided by Mode-S TIS.

Issued in Washington, DC, on June 7, 2023.

Daniel S. Hicok,

Deputy Vice President (A), Program Management Organization, Air Traffic Organization.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

22 CFR Part 51

[Public Notice: 12094]

RIN 1400-AF10

Passports: Consular Reports of Birth Abroad (CRBA)

AGENCY: Department of State.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This rule finalizes a proposal for the Department of State (the Department) to remove from the list of acceptable documentary evidence of sole authority/custody a Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA) that lists only the applying parent.

DATES: This final rule is effective on July 24, 2023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kelly Cullum, Office of Adjudication, Passport Services, (202) 485-8800, or email

PassportOfficeofAdjudicationGeneral@state.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department published a proposed rule, Public Notice 11299 at 87 FR 63739, October 20, 2022 (the NPRM), with a request for comments to amend 22 CFR 51.28(a)(3)(ii) by removing from the list of acceptable documentary evidence of sole authority/custody a Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA) listing only the applying parent, because a CRBA is a citizenship document and not by itself evidence of sole authority/custody.

The Department also proposed to amend 22 CFR 51.28(a)(3)(i), (a)(4)(i) and (a)(4)(ii) to allow the non-applying parent or legal guardian to sign a statement of consent before a passport specialist at one of the passport agency public counters located within the United States as an alternative to signing it before a notary public when an application is pending at a passport agency/center. However, the Department has decided to postpone the publication of these amendments to a later date. For the same reason, the Department is not at this time finalizing the proposal relating to revising the DS-3053: *Statement of Consent for Issuance of a Passport to a Minor Under Age 16*, to allow for a signature at a passport agency's public counter.

Analysis of Comments: The Department provided 60 days for comment on the NPRM. The comment period closed December 19, 2022. The Department received two responsive comments regarding the removal of the CRBA from the list of acceptable documentary evidence of sole authority/custody if the CRBA lists only the applying parent, which is the subject of this final rule. Neither comment was opposed to the proposal.

Regulatory Findings

Administrative Procedure Act

The Department of State published this rulemaking as a proposed rule and provided 60 days for public comment. Pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, the rule will be in effect 30 days from the date of publication.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Department of State, in accordance with the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 605(b)), has reviewed this regulation and, by approving it, certifies that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. Only individuals, and no small entities, apply for passports.

Unfunded Mandates Act of 1995

This rule will not result in the expenditure by State, local, and tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of \$100 million or more in any year and it will not significantly or uniquely affect small governments. Therefore, no actions were deemed necessary under the provisions of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995.

Congressional Review Act

The Department does not believe that this rule is a major rule as defined by the Congressional Review Act. This rule

does not result in an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more; a major increase in costs or prices; or significant adverse effects on competition, employment, investment, productivity, innovation, or on the ability of United States-based companies to compete with foreign based companies in domestic and import markets.

Executive Order 12866

The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs has designated this rule non-significant under Executive Order 12866. The Department has reviewed the regulation to ensure its consistency with the regulatory philosophy and principles set forth in that Executive Order. The Department finds that the cost of this rulemaking to the public is expected to be minimal.

Executive Order 13563—Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review

The Department of State has considered this rule in light of Executive Order 13563, dated January 18, 2011, and affirms that this regulation is consistent with the guidance therein.

Executive Orders 12372 and 13132—Federalism

This regulation will not have substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. Therefore, in accordance with section 6 of Executive Order 13132, it is determined that this rule does not have sufficient federalism implications to require consultations or warrant the preparation of a federalism summary impact statement. The regulations implementing E.O. 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities do not apply to this regulation.

Executive Order 13175—Consultation With Tribal Governments

The Department has determined that this rulemaking will not have tribal implications, will not impose substantial direct compliance costs on Indian tribal governments, and will not pre-empt tribal law. Accordingly, the requirements of E.O. 13175 do not apply to this rule.

Paperwork Reduction Act

This final rule does not add or modify any information collection subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35. The NPRM included the 60-day notice for the renewal of Control No. 1405–0129. The Department will

publish the 30-day notice separately from this final rule.

List of Subjects in 22 CFR Part 51

Passports.

Accordingly, for the reasons set forth in the preamble, 22 CFR part 51 is amended as follows:

PART 51—PASSPORTS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 51 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 8 U.S.C. 1104; 8 U.S.C. 1185; 8 U.S.C. 1185n (text of Pub. L. 108–458, 118 Stat. 3638, 3823 (Dec. 17, 2004)); 8 U.S.C. 1504; 8 U.S.C. 1714; 22 U.S.C. 211a, 212, 212a, 212b, 213, 213n (Pub. L. 106–113 Div. B, Sec. 1000(a)(7) [Div. A, Title II, Sec. 236], 113 Stat. 1536, 1501A–430); 214, 214a, 217a, 218, 2651a, 2671(d)(3), 2705, 2714, 2714a, 2721, and 3926; 26 U.S.C. 6039E; 26 CFR 301.6039E–1; 31 U.S.C. 9701; 34 U.S.C. 21501–21510; 42 U.S.C. 652(k); E.O. 11295, Aug. 5, 1966, 31 FR 10603, 3 CFR, 1966–1970 Comp., p. 570; Pub. L. 114–119, 130 Stat. 15.

§ 51.28 [Amended]

■ 2. Amend § 51.28 by:

- a. Removing paragraph (a)(3)(ii)(B);
- b. Redesignating paragraphs (a)(3)(ii)(C) through (G) as paragraphs (a)(3)(ii)(B) through (F);
- c. In newly redesignated paragraph (a)(3)(ii)(E), removing the period and adding “; and” in its place.

Rachel M. Arndt,

Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Department of State.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Indian Gaming Commission

25 CFR Part 575

Annual Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalty To Reflect Inflation

AGENCY: National Indian Gaming Commission, Interior.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015 (the Act) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidance, the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC or Commission) is amending its civil monetary penalty rule to reflect an annual adjustment for inflation in order to improve the penalty's effectiveness and maintain its deterrent effect. The Act provides that the new penalty level must apply to penalties assessed after the effective