

SECTION 7. EMERGENCY ACTIONS INVOLVING AIR CARRIER OPERATIONS

223. GENERAL. Emergency conditions such as military actions, insurrections, or natural disasters may make it necessary for the FAA to immediately restrict, suspend, or amend the approvals of U.S.-certified air carriers. An authorization for deviation from the FAR's is contained in FAR 121.57(c), FAR 135.19(a), and section 601c of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958. The authorization for an emergency amendment to operations specifications is contained in FAR 121.79 and FAR 135.17. This section contains direction and guidance to be used by inspectors when handling such emergencies for Part 121 and Part 135 operations.

225. NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES. When an inspector becomes aware of an emergency which adversely affects public safety, the inspector shall use the following procedures:

A. Emergency Occurring During Regular Working Hours. During regular working hours, inspectors shall immediately notify the regional flight standards division (RFSD) through their supervisor of the emergency need for exemption or amendment to the operations specifications (OpSpecs). The RFSD is responsible for then deciding

whether to elevate the matter to Washington Headquarters.

B. Emergency Occurring During Non-Duty Hours. If the event occurs on a weekend or during other non-duty hours when supervisors cannot be reached, the inspector shall notify the Regional Communication Center. If the Regional Communication Center cannot reach personnel of the RFSD, the inspector should request that the Regional Communication Center immediately connect the inspector with AFS-500 through the Washington Headquarters Communication Center.

NOTE: Specific guidance on emergency situations of this type will be given verbally by telephone through the Command Center. A written follow-up to the verbal guidance will be sent out on FAA Telemail system in the form of either a handbook bulletin or a flight standards information bulletin (FSIB).

227. ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE. For additional procedures and information on the internal FAA communications and emergency operations responsibilities, inspectors should refer to FAA Order 1900.1D, "FAA Emergency Operations Plan."

228. - 238. RESERVED.

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