

# U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

Air Traffic Organization Policy



Effective Date: 3/17/2022

**SUBJ**: Changes to Domestic/Oceanic Air Route Traffic Control Center (ARTCC) and International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Flight Information Region (FIR) Boundaries

- 1. **Purpose of This Order**. This order outlines the process and steps to be taken by all parties when realigning the boundaries of ARTCC, Control Areas (CTA), and FIRs.
- **2. Audience**. This order applies to the Air Traffic Services (to include ARTCCs), Mission Support Services (to include service center offices) ATO Service Units as well as the William J. Hughes Technical Center and Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center.
- **3.** Where Can I Find This Order? This order is available on the MyFAA employee Web site at <a href="https://employees.faa.gov/tools\_resources/orders\_notices/">https://employees.faa.gov/tools\_resources/orders\_notices/</a> and on the FAA Web site at: <a href="http://www.faa.gov/regulations">http://www.faa.gov/regulations</a> policies/orders notices/.
- **4. What This Order Cancels**. FAA Order JO 7900.1E, Changes to Domestic/Oceanic Air Route Traffic Control Center (ARTCC) and ICAO Flight Information Region (FIR) Boundaries, dated May 2, 2017, is canceled.
- **5. Explanation of Policy Changes**. This updates current organizational titles, roles, responsibilities and office symbols as a result of reorganization, as well as the process for submitting changes to ARTCC and FIR boundaries.
- **6. Information**. The FAA revises boundaries for many reasons, including improved service, system efficiency, and reduced coordination requirements. The frequency of revisions should be minimized and proposed boundary changes should be carefully checked for accuracy and compliance with this order to reduce the workload impacts on automation programs, record keeping, and processing.

#### 7. Responsibilities.

- a. All ARTCCs must:
  - (1) Coordinate the proposed change with all other affected facilities.
  - (2) Forward proposed domestic boundary changes to their Service Center Operations Support Group (OSG) at least 120 days prior to the desired charting date.
  - (3) Forward oceanic or international FIR boundary proposed changes to the OSG at least one (1) year prior to the desired charting date. Consult Mission Support Services, ATO International (AJV-I) as early as possible when considering proposed changes that may affect oceanic or international FIR boundaries. Early informal interagency coordination will facilitate subsequent formal coordination with the appropriate ICAO regional office and affected Member States.

Distribution: Electronic Initiated By: AJV-P21

(4) Maintain a current record of their high and low altitude boundaries. These records should be kept in graphic form on the appropriate U.S. Government High/Low Altitude En Route or Controller Charts. Whenever possible, high and low ARTCC boundaries should be coincident.

#### NOTE-

The official records data is maintained within the National Airspace System Resource (NASR). ARTCCs should maintain a current record to ensure the official record accurately reflects the ARTCC boundaries in use.

- (5) Indicate all airports under the jurisdiction of an ARTCC, which fall outside of the center's geographical boundary; e.g., an airport falls outside of the boundary of center ZXY, but ZXY has jurisdiction. List only those airports affected by the specific proposed boundary change submitted to the OSG.
- (6) Ensure that any change in ARTCC approach control jurisdiction over an airport is specified in the letter to the OSG for the proposed boundary change.
- (7) Specify the proposed boundary change effective date. This date is dependent on the next change date, ensuring enough lead time for facility data systems required adaptation or coordination. Effective dates should be coincident with 56-day Aeronautical Information Regulation and Control (AIRAC) dates.

#### b. All OSGs must:

- (1) Coordinate the proposed change with all affected Service Centers.
- (2) Review the proposed changes for accuracy and compliance with this order.
- (3) Forward proposed domestic boundary changes reviewed by the OSG to the Airspace Rules and Regulations Team (AJV-P21) at least 90 days prior to the desired chart date.
- (4) Forward any proposed oceanic or ICAO FIR boundary changes to AJV-P21 at least 180 days prior to the desired chart date.
- (5) Ensure that all proposed boundary change effective dates and any associated airspace action effective dates are the same and coincide with 56-day AIRAC chart dates.

#### c. AJV-P21 must:

- (1) Verify that all proposed boundary changes include the information listed in 8(a)(2) and follow the format listed in Figure 8-1.
- (2) Forward any proposed oceanic or ICAO FIR boundary changes to AJV-I.
- (3) Submit all proposed boundary changes to Aeronautical Information Services (AJV-A) for validation and publication at least 58 days prior to the proposed 56-day AIRAC chart date. Changes should be submitted via the Aeronautical Information Portal (AIS), https://www.faa.gov/air traffic/flight info/aeronav/aero data/.

#### d. AJV-I must:

(1) Coordinate (as required) all oceanic or ICAO FIR proposed boundary changes with ICAO and with the countries involved.

(2) Coordinate (as required) all oceanic or ICAO FIR proposed boundary changes with the State Department.

(3) Communicate any concerns or impacts of oceanic or ICAO FIR proposed boundary changes with the OSG.

#### e. AJV-A must:

- (1) Maintain the database for all ARTCC boundaries, CTAs, and FIRs. The NASR database is the official record for this data.
- (2) Validate all proposed boundary changes submitted by AJV-P21 to ensure accuracy and compatibility with the NASR database.
- (3) Resolve any problems encountered during the validation process by coordinating directly with the appropriate OSG.
- (4) Notify AJV-P21 of any problems encountered during the validation process and the proposed solutions.
- (5) Update the NASR database and publish boundary changes in the National Flight Data Digest (NFDD).
- (6) Revise FAA Order JO 7350.9 to reflect changes in U.S. ARTCC computer codes/Canadian ARTCC identifiers caused by boundary changes effective on the 56-day AIRAC chart dates that are not coincident with the 112-day publication cycle of the order.
- (7) Ensure that the approved boundary change is published in the NFDD with the AIRAC effective date specified by OSG.

#### 8. Procedures:

- a. Facility responsible for requesting change must:
  - (1) Forward proposed boundary changes to the appropriate OSG for coordination.
  - (2) Include the following information for proposed boundary changes submitted to AJV-P21:
    - (a) Justification for the proposed change.
    - (b) Statement confirming that coordination has been accomplished with all affected Service Centers and ARTCCs and that all parties agree to the proposed change.
    - (c) Description of any related airspace actions and their effective dates.
    - (d) Changes in ARTCC jurisdiction over airports specified in paragraph 7(a) (5).
    - (e) Changes in ARTCC approach control jurisdiction over an airport.
    - (f) Desired 56-day AIRAC chart date of the proposed change.

(g) Graphic depiction of the proposed change on an appropriate U.S. Government High or Low Altitude En Route Chart.

- (h) A chart clearly indicating the geographical coordinates (latitude/longitude) describing the change.
- (i) An outline of the new boundary on the chart that clearly distinguishes it from the current boundary.
- (j) A description of the proposed change for each ARTCC boundary being changed in the format specified in Figure 8–1.

## b. Formatting Requirements:

- (1) Describe narratives for each boundary separately in terms of straight lines (whenever possible) between turning points defined by geographic coordinates (degrees, minutes, seconds of latitude/longitude).
- (2) Extract the proposed boundary to be changed from 28-day NASR subscription (arb.txt). Arrange the columns in Excel as shown in the Figure 8-1. In the "action" column indicate the type of change, add, modify, delete, or no change. Create a change list for all affected boundaries.
- (3) Submit the proposed boundary change via the AIS as an ARTCC Boundary Aeronautical Chart Change (ACC).

Figure 8-1:

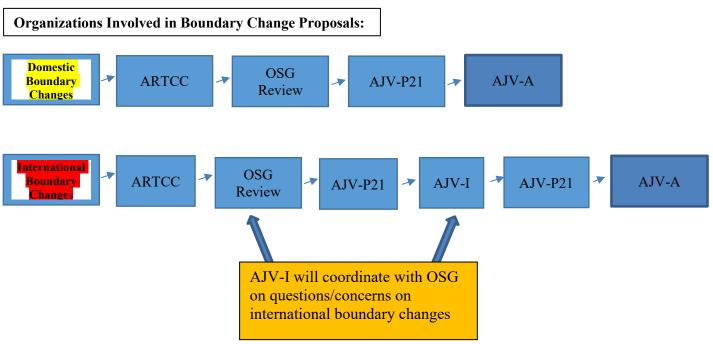
NAME:	XXXX XXXXX
ORGANIZATION NAME:	RULES & REGULATIONS
ORGANIZATION ROUTING CODE	AJV-P2
SUBMISSION DATE:	4/16/2021
EMAIL:	XXXX.XXXXX@FAA.GOV
PHONE:	999-999-9999
AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL NAME:	XXXX XXXXX
AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL TITLE/ ROUTING CODE:	SUPV ATC SPECIALIST/AJV-E
PURPOSE OF SUBMISSION:	MODIFY
PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE:	8/12/2021
SERVICE CENTER:	EASTERN
BOUNDARY IDENTIFERS:	ZMA, ZJX
BOUNDARY TYPES:	ZMA HIGH, ZMA FIR, ZJX HIGH

Action	Center Name	Altitude	Latitude	Longitude	Description
MODIFY	MIAMI	HIGH	27-34-30.0N	085-19-02.0W	COMMON ZMA/ZJX/ TO
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	28-02-35.0N	084-56-40.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	28-03-45.0N	084-36-58.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	28-10-00.0N	084-30-00.0W	ТО
DELETE	MIAMI	HIGH	28-32-53.0N	084-00-36.0W	TO
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	28-24-00.0N	083-31-00.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	28-09-30.0N	083-12-30.0W	ТО
DELETE	MIAMI	HIGH	27-57-00.0N	082-56-30.0W	ТО

ADD	MIAMI	HIGH	27-50-25.0N	082-40-05.0W	то
DELETE	MIAMI	HIGH	27-57-00.0N	082-23-00.0W	TO
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	28-20-47.0N	081-30-00.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	28-43-40.0N	080-59-10.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	28-54-00.0N	080-44-00.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	29-01-30.0N	080-06-56.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	29-49-20.0N	079-54-03.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	30-12-01.0N	079-34-03.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE		HIGH		079-17-12.0W	ТО
	MIAMI MIAMI		30-00-00.0N 30-00-00.0N		/COMMON ZJX/ZMA/ZNY/ TO
NO CHANGE		HIGH		077-00-00.0W	
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	27-50-00.0N	076-15-52.0W	TO
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	27-33-00.0N	077-00-00.0W	TO
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	27-00-00.0N	077-00-00.0W	TO
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	27-00-00.0N	078-53-00.0W	TO
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	26-27-00.0N	079-00-00.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	24-40-00.0N	079-00-00.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	24-00-00.0N	078-00-00.0W	/COMMON ZMA-MIAMI CTA/FIR-HABANA CTA/FIR/ TO
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	24-00-00.0N	083-10-00.0W	COMMON HABANA CTA/FIR-MIAMI CTA/FIR (SCTR B) TO
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	24-38-38.0N	083-14-26.0W	COMMON MIAMI CTA/FIR (SCTR B) TO
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	HIGH	27-30-00.0N	084-30-00.0W	COMMON MIAMI CTA/FIR (SCTR B) TO THE POINT OF
					BEGINNING.
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	31-16-50.0N	087-24-00.0W	/COMMON ZJX-ZHU-ZTL/ TO
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	31-29-30.0N	086-57-00.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	31-45-45.0N	085-35-00.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	31-32-00.0N	085-18-30.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	31-41-00.0N	084-06-00.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	31-41-00.0N	083-06-45.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	32-10-00.0N	082-20-00.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	32-33-45.0N	081-56-00.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	32-54-01.0N	081-50-29.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	33-53-20.0N	081-51-00.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	33-59-07.0N	081-48-16.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	34-17-37.0N	081-34-28.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	34-23-40.0N	081-20-00.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	34-44-51.0N	080-28-08.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	34-51-20.0N	080-08-50.0W	/COMMON ZJX-ZTL-ZDC/ TO
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE JACKSONVILLE			079-55-00.0W	TO
		HIGH	34-51-00.0N		
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	34-42-48.0N	079-43-41.0W	TO
NO CHANGE		HIGH	34-25-30.0N	079-20-00.0W	TO
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	34-26-40.0N 32-58-04.0N	078-45-00.0W 076-46-46.0W	TO /COMMON ZJX-ZDC-ZNY FIR/ TO
	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH			
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	32-15-44.0N	077-00-00.0W	/COMMON ZIX-ZNY FIR/ TO
MODIFY	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	30-00-00.0N	077-00-00.0W	/COMMON ZJX/ZMA/ZNY/ TO
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	30-00-00.0N	077-13-00.0W	TO
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	30-12-01.0N	079-17-12.0W	TO
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	29-49-20.0N	079-54-03.0W	TO
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	29-01-30.0N	080-06-56.0W	TO
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	28-54-00.0N	080-44-00.0W	TO
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	28-43-40.0N	080-59-10.0W	TO
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	28-20-47.0N	081-30-00.0W	TO
DELETE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	27-57-00.0N	082-23-00.0W	TO
ADD	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	27-50-25.0N	082-40-05.0W	TO
DELETE	JACKSONVILLE JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	27-57-00.0N	082-56-30.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE		HIGH	28-09-30.0N	083-12-30.0W	TO

NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	28-24-00.0N	083-31-00.0W	ТО
DELETE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	28-32-53.0N	084-00-36.0W	TO
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	28-10-00.0N	084-30-00.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	28-03-45.0N	084-36-58.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	28-02-35.0N	084-56-40.0W	ТО
MODIFY	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	27-34-30.0N	085-19-02.0W	COMMON MIAMI CTA/FIR (SCTR B) ARTCC TO
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	27-15-14.0N	085-37-20.0W	COMMON MIAMI CTA/FIR (SCTR B) TO
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	27-00-00.0N	086-00-00.0W	COMMON HOUSTON CTA/FIR - MIAMI CTA/FIR (SCTR B) TO
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	27-14-29.0N	086-49-02.0W	COMMON HOUSTON CTA/FIR TO
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	27-30-00.0N	087-41-00.0W	COMMON HOUSTON CTA/FIR TO
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	28-08-30.0N	088-00-00.0W	/COMMON ZJX-ZHU-HOUSTON CTA/FIR/ TO
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	30-13-15.0N	088-01-30.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	30-31-00.0N	087-55-00.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	30-38-00.0N	087-55-00.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	30-41-00.0N	087-48-30.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	30-41-30.0N	087-43-00.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	30-50-45.0N	087-41-00.0W	ТО
NO CHANGE	JACKSONVILLE	HIGH	30-57-30.0N	087-39-30.0W	TO POINT OF BEGINNING
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	BDRY	24-00-00.0N	084-59-59.0W	BEGINNING OF MIAMI CTA/FIR (SCTR B), COMMON HOUSTON CTA/FIR TO
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	BDRY	25-02-01.0N	084-59-59.0W	COMMON HOUSTON CTA/FIR TO
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	BDRY	26-12-00.0N	085-05-30.0W	COMMON HOUSTON CTA/FIR TO
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	BDRY	26-36-10.0N	085-24-50.0W	COMMON HOUSTON CTA/FIR TO
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	BDRY	27-00-00.0N	086-00-00.0W	COMMON HOUSTON CTA/FIR - JACKSONVILLE ARTCC TO
MODIFY	MIAMI	BDRY	27-34-23.0N	085-19-02.0W	COMMON JACKSONVILLE/MIAMI ARTCC TO
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	BDRY	27-30-00.0N	084-30-00.0W	COMMON MIAMI ARTCC TO
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	BDRY	24-38-38.0N	083-14-26.0W	COMMON MIAMI ARTCC TO
NO CHANGE	MIAMI	BDRY	24-00-00.0N	083-10-00.0W	COMMON MIAMI ARTCC TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING

Figure 8-2



### EXPLANATION OF TERMS AND SYMBOLS

#### **Term/Symbol Definition/Use**

"Beginning on the current boundary at"

describing a partial boundary revision.

"Common" A point that is common to

three or more

ARTCC/CTA/FIR boundaries.

First unchanged point named when

"To" Used to show continuity between

set of coordinates.

٠٠/۶۶ Multi-purpose symbol used as a parenthesis, slash, "and" or

"or."

"Thence clockwise/counterclockwise nautical miles (NM) arc centered on coordinates to"

May be used for boundaries that are not along a straight line or for unusual descriptions

such as international boundaries.

Or

"Thence along (State/national/other names)

boundary to"

"Thence via current boundary" Used instead of describing turning points

that are not changing. Normally used following the last set of coordinates in a

partial boundary description.

"To the point of beginning" Used following the last point of

a complete boundary description.

Control Areas (CTA) A controlled airspace extending upwards

from a specified limit above the earth.

Flight Information Region An airspace of defined dimensions within which Flight Information Service and

Alerting Service are provided.

Natasha A. Durkins Director, Policy, AJV-P Air Traffic Organization