



# Federal Aviation Administration

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## Memorandum

Date:

To: Instrument Flight Procedures Service Providers

From: *For* Wade E.K. Terrell, Acting Manager, Flight Technologies and  
Procedures Division

Subject: Clarification to FAA Order 8260.46, Departure Procedure (DP)  
Program, MOCA Documentation

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This memorandum provides clarification concerning Minimum Obstacle Clearance Altitude (MOCA) criteria in FAA Order 8260.46, Departure Procedure (DP) Program, Appendix D, Section 2 and Appendix E, Section 1, Paragraphs 4h, MOCA, and 17a. Remarks.

Appendix D, Section 2 and Appendix E, Section 1, Paragraph 4h states: "MOCA. Enter MOCA along the transition route. To reduce chart clutter, do not publish MOCAs less than 500 feet below MEAs." The word "enter" is a clear instruction to document the MOCA for each segment of a transition regardless whether that MOCA is charted. It is also intended that the MOCA is always charted with the only exception for those cases where it is less than 500 feet below the MEA.

Appendix D, Section 2 and Appendix E, Section 1, Paragraph 17a, "Remarks" provides guidance for when a MOCA is not charted. It states: "List information/data, which is not to be charted; e.g., administrative data or notes for controller information (requested by ATC)." An example is: **REMARKS: DO NOT CHART MOCA: FROM MICKY TO TWN VORTAC, TWN VORTAC TO WSN VORTAC.**

This policy has not changed substantively since first introduced into the directive. However, correct example forms were not provided in the order, which may have contributed to confusion and inconsistent implementation. In order to provide service providers time to react and accommodate new/revised SIDs already in coordination, this clarification applies to SIDs with a chart date on or after January 27, 2022. A future revision of FAA Order 8260.46 will provide additional guidance and updated example forms.

This memo remains in effect until rescinded. Please direct all inquiries to Thomas J. Nichols, Standards Section Manager, Flight Procedures and Airspace Group at 405-954-1171 or [thomas.j.nichols@faa.gov](mailto:thomas.j.nichols@faa.gov).