

representations without the label having to bear an age statement.

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Subpart I—Standards of Identity for Distilled Spirits

■ 3. Section 5.145 is amended by:

- a. In paragraph (b), removing the words “(c)(1) through (12)” and adding, in their place, the words “(c)(1) through (13);
- b. Revising paragraph (c) introductory text;
- c. Redesignating paragraphs (c)(7) through (12) as (c)(8) through (13); and
- d. Adding new paragraph (c)(7).

The revisions and addition read as follows:

§ 5.145 Brandy.

* * * * *

(c) *Types.* Paragraphs (c)(1) through (13) of this section set out the types of brandy and the standards for each type.

Type	Standards
* * * * *	* * * * *
(7) Singani	Brandy derived from grape/s that is manufactured in Bolivia in accordance with the laws and regulations of Bolivia governing the manufacture of Singani for consumption in that country.
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Subpart N—Advertising of Distilled Spirits

■ 4. In § 5.235(c), revise the third sentence to read as follows:

§ 5.235 Prohibited practices.

* * * * *

(c) * * * An advertisement for any whisky or brandy (except immature brandies, pomace brandy, marc brandy, Pisco brandy, Singani brandy, and grappa brandy) which is not required to bear a statement of age on the label or an advertisement for any rum or agave spirits, which has been aged for not less than 4 years may, however, contain inconspicuous, general representations as to age, maturity or other similar representations even though a specific age statement does not appear on the label of the advertised product and in the advertisement itself.

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Signed: December 20, 2022.

Mary G. Ryan,
Administrator.

Approved: December 20, 2022.

Thomas C. West, Jr.
Deputy Assistant Secretary (Tax Policy).

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau

27 CFR Part 16

[Docket No. TTB-2023-0001; Notice No. 220]

Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment—Alcoholic Beverage Labeling Act

AGENCY: Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Treasury.

ACTION: Notification of civil monetary penalty adjustment.

SUMMARY: This document informs the public that the maximum penalty for violations of the Alcoholic Beverage Labeling Act (ABLA) is being adjusted in accordance with the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990, as amended. Prior to the publication of this document, any person who violated the provisions of the ABLA was subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$22,979, with each day constituting a separate offense. This document announces that this maximum penalty is being increased to \$24,759.

DATES: The new maximum civil penalty for violations of the ABLA takes effect on January 13, 2023, and applies to penalties that are assessed after that date.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Vonzella C. Johnson, Regulations and Rulings Division, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, 1310 G Street NW, Box 12, Washington, DC 20005; (202) 508-0413.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Statutory Authority for Federal Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustments

The Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990 (the Inflation Adjustment Act), Public Law 101-410, 104 Stat. 890, 28 U.S.C. 2461 note, as amended by the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015, Public Law 114-74, section 701, 129 Stat. 584, requires the regular adjustment and evaluation of civil monetary penalties to maintain their deterrent effect and helps to ensure that penalty amounts imposed by the Federal Government are properly accounted for and collected. A “civil

monetary penalty” is defined in the Inflation Adjustment Act as any penalty, fine, or other such sanction that is: (1) For a specific monetary amount as provided by Federal law, or has a maximum amount provided for by Federal law; (2) assessed or enforced by an agency pursuant to Federal law; and (3) assessed or enforced pursuant to an administrative proceeding or a civil action in the Federal courts.

The Inflation Adjustment Act, as amended, requires agencies to adjust civil monetary penalties by the inflation adjustment described in section 5 of the Inflation Adjustment Act. The amended Inflation Adjustment Act also provides that any increase in a civil monetary penalty shall apply only to civil monetary penalties, including those whose associated violation predated such an increase, which are assessed after the date the increase takes effect.

The Inflation Adjustment Act, as amended, provides that the inflation adjustment does not apply to civil monetary penalties under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the Tariff Act of 1930.

Alcoholic Beverage Labeling Act

The Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) administers the Federal Alcohol Administration Act (FAA Act) pursuant to section 1111(d) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, codified at 6 U.S.C. 531(d). In addition, the Secretary of the Treasury has delegated certain administrative and enforcement authorities to TTB through Treasury Order 120-01.

The FAA Act contains the Alcoholic Beverage Labeling Act (ABLA) of 1988, Public Law 100-690, 27 U.S.C. 213-219a, which was enacted on November 18, 1988. Section 204 of the ABLA, codified in 27 U.S.C. 215, requires that a health warning statement appear on the labels of all containers of alcoholic

beverages manufactured, imported, or bottled for sale or distribution in the United States, as well as on containers of alcoholic beverages that are manufactured, imported, bottled, or labeled for sale, distribution, or shipment to members or units of the U.S. Armed Forces, including those located outside the United States.

The health warning statement requirement applies to containers of alcoholic beverages manufactured, imported, or bottled for sale or distribution in the United States on or after November 18, 1989. The statement reads as follows:

GOVERNMENT WARNING: (1) According to the Surgeon General, women should not drink alcoholic beverages during pregnancy because of the risk of birth defects. (2) Consumption of alcoholic beverages impairs your ability to drive a car or operate machinery, and may cause health problems.

Section 204 of the ABLA also specifies that the Secretary of the Treasury shall have the power to ensure the enforcement of the provisions of the ABLA and issue regulations to carry them out. In addition, section 207 of the ABLA, codified in 27 U.S.C. 218, provides that any person who violates the provisions of the ABLA is subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$10,000, with each day constituting a separate offense.

Most of the civil monetary penalties administered by TTB are imposed by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and thus are not subject to the inflation adjustment mandated by the Inflation Adjustment Act. The only civil monetary penalty enforced by TTB that is subject to the inflation adjustment is the penalty imposed by the ABLA at 27 U.S.C. 218.

TTB Regulations

The TTB regulations implementing the ABLA are found in 27 CFR part 16, and the regulations implementing the Inflation Adjustment Act with respect to the ABLA penalty are found in 27 CFR 16.33. This section indicates that, in accordance with the ABLA, any person who violates the provisions of this part is subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$10,000. Further, pursuant to the provisions of the Inflation Adjustment Act, as amended, this civil penalty is subject to periodic cost-of-living adjustments. Accordingly, any person who violates the provisions of 27 CFR part 16 is subject to a civil penalty of not more than the amount listed at https://www.ttb.gov/regulation_guidance/ablapenalty.html. Each day constitutes a separate offense.

To adjust the penalty, § 16.33(b) indicates that TTB will provide notice

in the **Federal Register** and at the website mentioned above of cost-of-living adjustments to the civil penalty for violations of 27 CFR part 16.

Penalty Adjustment

In this document, TTB is publishing its yearly adjustment to the maximum ABLA penalty, as required by the amended Inflation Adjustment Act.

As mentioned earlier, the ABLA contains a maximum civil monetary penalty. For such penalties, section 5 of the Inflation Adjustment Act indicates that the inflation adjustment is determined by increasing the maximum penalty by the cost-of-living adjustment. The cost-of-living adjustment means the percentage increase (if any) between the Consumer Price Index for all-urban consumers (CPI-U) for the October preceding the date of the adjustment and the prior year's October CPI-U.

The CPI-U in October 2021 was 276.589, and the CPI-U in October 2022 was 298.012. The rate of inflation between October 2021 and October 2022 was therefore 7.745 percent. When applied to the current ABLA penalty of \$22,979, this rate of inflation yields a raw (unrounded) inflation adjustment of \$1,779.72355. Rounded to the nearest dollar, the inflation adjustment is \$1,780, meaning that the new maximum civil penalty for violations of the ABLA will be \$24,759.

The new maximum civil penalty will apply to all penalties that are assessed after January 13, 2023. TTB has also updated its web page at https://www.ttb.gov/regulation_guidance/ablapenalty.html to reflect the adjusted penalty.

Dated: January 9, 2023.

Amy R. Greenberg,

Director, Regulations and Rulings Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of Foreign Assets Control

31 CFR Parts 501, 510, 535, 536, 539, 541, 542, 544, 546, 547, 548, 549, 551, 552, 553, 560, 561, 566, 570, 576, 578, 583, 584, 588, 589, 590, 592, 594, 597, and 598

Inflation Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties

AGENCY: Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treasury.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets

Control (OFAC) is issuing this final rule to adjust certain civil monetary penalties for inflation pursuant to the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990, as amended by the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015.

DATES: This rule is effective January 13, 2023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: OFAC: Assistant Director for Licensing, 202-622-2480; Assistant Director for Regulatory Affairs, 202-622-4855; Assistant Director for Sanctions Compliance & Evaluation, 202-622-2490.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Availability

This document and additional information concerning OFAC are available from OFAC's website (www.treas.gov/ofac).

Background

Section 4 of the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act (1990 Pub. L. 101-410, 104 Stat. 890; 28 U.S.C. 2461 note), as amended by the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015 (Pub. L. 114-74, 129 Stat. 599, 28 U.S.C. 2461 note) (the FCPIA Act), requires each federal agency with statutory authority to assess civil monetary penalties (CMPs) to adjust CMPs annually for inflation according to a formula described in section 5 of the FCPIA Act. One purpose of the FCPIA Act is to ensure that CMPs continue to maintain their deterrent effect through periodic cost-of-living based adjustments.

OFAC has adjusted its CMPs eight times since the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act went into effect on November 2, 2015: an initial catch-up adjustment on August 1, 2016 (81 FR 43070, July 1, 2016); an additional initial catch-up adjustment related to CMPs for failure to comply with a requirement to furnish information, the late filing of a required report, and failure to maintain records ("recordkeeping CMPs") that were inadvertently omitted from the August 1, 2016 initial catch-up adjustment on October 5, 2020 (85 FR 54911, September 3, 2020); and annual adjustments on February 10, 2017 (82 FR 10434, February 10, 2017); March 19, 2018 (83 FR 11876, March 19, 2018); June 14, 2019 (84 FR 27714, June 14, 2019); April 9, 2020 (85 FR 19884, April 9, 2020); March 17, 2021 (86 FR 14534, March 17, 2021); and February 9, 2022 (87 FR 7369, February 9, 2022).