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FMCSA-RG-390.23-FAQ016	3/19/2020	6/24/2020
FMCSA-RG-390.23-FAQ017	3/19/2020	6/24/2020
FMCSA-RG-390.23-FAQ018	3/19/2020	6/25/2020
FMCSA-RG-390.23-FAQ019	3/19/2020	6/25/2020
FMCSA-RG-390.23-FAQ020	3/19/2020	6/25/2020
FMCSA-RG-390.23-FAQ021	3/19/2020	6/25/2020
FMCSA-RG-390.23-FAQ022	3/19/2020	6/25/2020
FMCSA-RG-390.23-FAQ023	3/25/2020	6/25/2020
FMCSA-RG-390.23-FAQ024	3/5/2020	6/24/2020
FMCSA-RG-390.23-Q004	2/28/2020	6/23/2020

Robin Hutcheson,
Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2023-0034]

Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Epilepsy and Seizure Disorders

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of denials.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces its decision to deny applications from 27 individuals who requested an exemption from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) prohibiting persons with a clinical diagnosis of epilepsy or any other condition that is likely to cause a loss of consciousness or any loss of ability to operate a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) from operating CMVs in interstate commerce.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Christine A. Hydock, Chief, Medical Programs Division, FMCSA, Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W64-224, Washington, DC 20590-0001, (202) 366-4001, fmcsamedical@dot.gov. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. If you have questions regarding viewing material in the docket, contact Dockets Operations, (202) 366-9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Participation

A. Comments

To view comments go to www.regulations.gov. Insert the docket number (FMCSA-2023-0034) in the keyword box, and click "Search." Next, sort the results by "Posted (Newer-

Older)," choose the first notice listed, and click "Browse Comments." If you do not have access to the internet, you may view the docket online by visiting Dockets Operations on the ground floor of the DOT West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 366-9317 or (202) 366-9826 before visiting Dockets Operations.

B. Privacy Act

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(6), DOT solicits comments from the public on the exemption request. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov. As described in the system of records notice DOT/ALL 14 (Federal Docket Management System), which can be reviewed at <https://www.transportation.gov/individuals/privacy/privacy-act-system-records-notices>, the comments are searchable by the name of the submitter.

II. Background

FMCSA received applications from 27 individuals who requested an exemption from the FMCSRs prohibiting persons with a clinical diagnosis of epilepsy or any other condition that is likely to cause a loss of consciousness or any loss of ability to operate a CMV from operating CMVs in interstate commerce.

FMCSA has evaluated the eligibility of these applicants and concluded that granting these exemptions would not provide a level of safety that would be equivalent to, or greater than, the level of safety that would be obtained by complying with § 391.41(b)(8).

III. Basis for Exemption Determination

Under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), FMCSA may grant an exemption from the FMCSRs for no longer than a 5-year period if it finds such exemption would likely achieve a level of safety that is equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be

achieved absent such exemption. The statute also allows the Agency to renew exemptions at the end of the 5-year period. FMCSA grants medical exemptions from the FMCSRs for a 2-year period to align with the maximum duration of a driver's medical certification. The Agency's decision regarding these exemption applications is based on the eligibility criteria, the terms and conditions for Federal exemptions, and an individualized assessment of each applicant's medical information provided by the applicant.

IV. Conclusion

The Agency has determined that these applicants do not satisfy the eligibility criteria or meet the terms and conditions of the Federal exemption and granting these exemptions would not provide a level of safety that would be equivalent to, or greater than, the level of safety that would be obtained by complying with § 391.41(b)(8). Therefore, the 27 applicants in this notice have been denied exemptions from the physical qualification standards in § 391.41(b)(8).

Each applicant has, prior to this notice, received a letter of final disposition regarding his/her exemption request. Those decision letters fully outlined the basis for the denial and constitute final action by the Agency. This notice summarizes the Agency's recent denials as required under 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(4) by periodically publishing names and reasons for denial.

The following 27 applicants do not meet the minimum time requirement for being seizure-free, either on or off of anti-seizure medication:

- Larry Attles (MI)
- Julio Baez-Soto (NY)
- Charles Boman (PA)
- Christopher Carver (TX)
- Ryan Cecchini (WI)
- Joey Cerniglia (GA)
- Jason Ebert (OH)
- Muhammad Elbaba (MN)
- Jonathan Flight (NE)
- Marcus Foster (NJ)
- Deyanira Gonzalez (TX)

Bryan Hsu (CA)
 Gabriel Ihm (IL)
 Scott Jensen (WI)
 Evin Ksiezarczyk (NY)
 Zachery Lieske (WI)
 Juanita Liscano (TX)
 Brandon Mullican (GA)
 Matthew Nipper (TN)
 Jeremy Olson (WI)
 Elizabeth Orr (NC)
 Brody Scott (CA)
 Andonia Smith (MI)
 Joshua Sunderland (PA)
 Adriana Torres (WA)
 Gabriel Wilcox (CA)
 Cornelius Wilson (GA)

Larry W. Minor,

Associate Administrator for Policy.

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**UNITED STATES SENTENCING
 COMMISSION**

**Proposed Priorities for Amendment
 Cycle**

AGENCY: United States Sentencing
 Commission.

ACTION: Notice; request for comment.

SUMMARY: As part of its statutory authority and responsibility to analyze sentencing issues, including operation of the federal sentencing guidelines, and in accordance with its Rules of Practice and Procedure, the United States Sentencing Commission is seeking comment on possible policy priorities for the amendment cycle ending May 1, 2024.

DATES: Public comment should be received by the Commission on or before August 1, 2023. Any public comment received after the close of the comment period may not be considered.

ADDRESSES: There are two methods for submitting public comment.

Electronic Submission of Comments. Comments may be submitted electronically via the Commission's Public Comment Submission Portal at <https://comment.ussc.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

Submission of Comments by Mail. Comments may be submitted by mail to the following address: United States Sentencing Commission, One Columbus Circle NE, Suite 2-500, Washington, DC 20002-8002, Attention: Public Affairs—Priorities Comment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Dukes, Senior Public Affairs Specialist, (202) 502-4597.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The United States Sentencing Commission is

an independent agency in the judicial branch of the United States Government. The Commission promulgates sentencing guidelines and policy statements for federal courts pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 994(a). The Commission also periodically reviews and revises previously promulgated guidelines pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 994(o) and submits guideline amendments to the Congress not later than the first day of May each year pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 994(p).

The Commission provides this notice identifying the possible policy priorities that the Commission expects to focus on during the amendment cycle ending May 1, 2024. While continuing to address legislation or other matters requiring more immediate action, the Commission has decided to limit its consideration of specific guidelines amendments for this amendment cycle. Instead, in light of the 40th anniversary of the Sentencing Reform Act, the Commission anticipates undertaking a number of projects examining the degree to which current sentencing, penal, and correctional practices are effective in meeting the purposes of sentencing as set forth in the Sentencing Reform Act. See 28 U.S.C. 991(b)(2). The Commission expects to continue work on many of these priorities beyond the upcoming amendment cycle. The Commission invites comment on the proposed priorities set forth below, along with any additional priorities commenters believe the Commission should consider in the upcoming amendment cycle and beyond. Public comment should be sent to the Commission as indicated in the **ADDRESSES** section above.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 994(g), the Commission intends to consider the issue of reducing costs of incarceration and overcapacity of prisons, to the extent it is relevant to any identified priority.

The proposed priorities for the amendment cycle ending May 1, 2024, are as follows:

(1) Assessing the degree to which certain practices of the Bureau of Prisons are effective in meeting the purposes of sentencing as set forth in 18 U.S.C. 3553(a)(2) and considering any appropriate responses including possible consideration of recommendations or amendments.

(2) Promotion of court-sponsored diversion and alternatives-to-incarceration programs by expanding the availability of information and organic documents pertaining to existing programs (e.g., Pretrial Opportunity Program, Conviction And Sentence Alternatives (CASA) Program,

Special Options Services (SOS) Program) through the Commission's website and possible workshops and seminars sharing best practices for developing, implementing, and assessing such programs.

(3) Examination of the *Guidelines Manual*, including exploration of ways to simplify the guidelines and possible consideration of amendments that might be appropriate.

(4) Continuation of its multiyear study of the *Guidelines Manual* to address case law concerning the validity and enforceability of guideline commentary.

(5) Continued examination of the career offender guidelines, including (A) updating the data analyses and statutory recommendations set forth in the Commission's 2016 report to Congress, titled *Career Offender Sentencing Enhancements*; (B) devising and conducting workshops to discuss the scope and impact of the career offender guidelines, including discussion of possible alternative approaches to the "categorical approach" in determining whether an offense is a "crime of violence" or a "controlled substance offense"; and (C) possible consideration of amendments that might be appropriate.

(6) Examination of the treatment of youthful offenders under the *Guidelines Manual*, including possible consideration of amendments that might be appropriate.

(7) Implementation of any legislation warranting Commission action.

(8) Resolution of circuit conflicts as warranted, pursuant to the Commission's authority under 28 U.S.C. 991(b)(1)(B) and *Braxton v. United States*, 500 U.S. 344 (1991).

(9) Consideration of other miscellaneous issues coming to the Commission's attention.

(10) Further examination of federal sentencing practices on a variety of issues, possibly including: (A) the prevalence and nature of drug trafficking offenses involving methamphetamine; (B) drug trafficking offenses resulting in death or serious bodily injury; (C) comparison of sentences imposed in cases disposed of through trial versus plea; (D) continuation of the Commission's studies regarding recidivism; and (E) other areas of federal sentencing in need of additional research.

(11) Additional issues identified during the comment period.