

§ 102-117.190

General Services Administration
Federal Supply Service
Audit Division (FBA)
1800 F Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20405

(b) For all property shipments subject to the cargo preference laws (see § 102-117.140), a copy of the ocean carrier's bill of lading, showing all freight charges, must be sent to MARAD within 30 days of vessel loading.

§ 102-117.190 Where do I file a claim for loss or damage to property?

You must file a claim for loss or damage to property with the TSP.

§ 102-117.195 Are there time limits affecting filing of a claim?

Yes, several statutes limit the time for administrative or judicial action against a TSP. Refer to part 102-118 of this chapter for more information and the time limit tables.

Subpart F—Shipping Hazardous Material (HAZMAT)

§ 102-117.200 What is HAZMAT?

HAZMAT is a substance or material the Secretary of Transportation determines to be an unreasonable risk to health, safety and property when transported in commerce. Therefore, there are restrictions on transporting HAZMAT (49 U.S.C. 5103 *et seq.*).

§ 102-117.205 What are the restrictions for transporting HAZMAT?

Agencies that ship HAZMAT are subject to the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Transportation regulations, as well as applicable State and local government rules and regulations.

§ 102-117.210 Where can I get guidance on transporting HAZMAT?

The Secretary of Transportation prescribes regulations for the safe transportation of HAZMAT in intrastate, interstate, and foreign commerce in 49 CFR parts 171 through 180. The Environmental Protection Agency also prescribes regulations on transporting HAZMAT in 40 CFR parts 260 through 266. You may also call the HAZMAT information hotline at 1-800-467-4922

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(Washington, DC area, call 202-366-4488).

Subpart G—Shipping Household Goods

§ 102-117.215 What are household goods (HHG)?

Household goods (HHG) are the personal effects of Government employees and their dependents.

§ 102-117.220 What choices do I have to ship HHG?

(a) You may choose to ship HHG by:

(1) Using the commuted rate system;
(2) GSA's Centralized Household Goods Traffic Management Program (CHAMP);

(3) Contracting directly with a TSP, (including a relocation company that offers transportation services) using the acquisition procedures under the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) (see § 102-117.35);

(4) Using another agency's contract with a TSP (see §§ 102-117.40 and 102-117.45);

(5) Using a rate tender under the Federal transportation procurement statutes (49 U.S.C. 10721 or 13712) (see § 102-117.35).

(b) As an alternative to the choices in paragraph (a) of this section, you may request the Department of State to assist with shipments of HHG moving to, from, and between foreign countries or international shipments originating in the continental United States. The nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate may assist with arrangements of movements originating abroad. For further information contact:

Department of State
Transportation Operations
2201 C Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20520

NOTE TO § 102-117-220: Agencies must use the commuted rate system for civilian employees who transfer between points inside the continental United States unless it is evident from the cost comparison that the Government will incur a savings (\$100 or more) using another choice listed. The use of

Federal Management Regulation

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household goods rate tenders is not authorized when household goods are shipped under the commuted rate system.

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§ 102-117.225 What is the difference between a contract or a rate tender and a commuted rate system?

(a) Under a contract or a rate tender, the agency prepares the bill of lading and books the shipment. The agency is the shipper and pays the TSP the applicable charges. If loss or damage occurs, the agency may either file a claim on behalf of the employee directly with the TSP, or help the employee in filing a claim against the TSP.

(b) Under the commuted rate system an employee arranges for shipping HHG and is reimbursed by the agency for the resulting costs. Use this method only within the continental United States (not Hawaii or Alaska). The agency reimburses the employee according to the Commuted Rate Schedule published by the GSA. The Commuted Rate Schedule (without rate table) is available on the Internet at <http://www.policyworks.gov>.

(c) For rate table information or a subscription for the Commercial Relocation Tariff contact:

American Moving and Storage Association
1611 Duke Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-3482
Tel. 703-683-7410

(d) For further information or assistance, you may contact:

General Services Administration
National Customer Service Center
1500 Bannister Road
Kansas City, MO 64131
<http://www.kc.gsa.gov/fsstt>

§ 102-117.230 Must I compare costs between a contract or a rate tender and the commuted rate system before choosing which method to use?

Yes, you must compare the cost between a contract or a rate tender, and the commuted rate system before you make a decision.

§ 102-117.235 How do I get a cost comparison?

(a) You may calculate a cost comparison internally according to 41 CFR 302-8.3.

(b) You may request GSA to perform the cost comparison if you participate in the CHAMP program by sending GSA the following information as far in advance as possible (preferably 30 calendar days):

- (1) Name of employee;
- (2) Origin city, county and State;
- (3) Destination city, county, and State;
- (4) Date of household goods pick up;
- (5) Estimated weight of shipments;
- (6) Number of days storage-in-transit (if applicable); and
- (7) Other relevant data.

(c) For more information on cost comparisons contact:

General Services Administration
Federal Supply Service
1500 Bannister Road
Kansas City, MO 64131
<http://www.kc.gsa.gov/fsstt>

NOTE TO § 102-117.235(C): GSA may charge an administrative fee for agencies not participating in the CHAMP program.

§ 102-117.240 What is my agency's financial responsibility to an employee who chooses to move all or part of his/her HHG under the commuted rate system?

(a) Your agency is responsible for reimbursing the employee what it would cost the Government to ship the employee's HHG by the most cost-effective means available or the employee's actual moving expenses, whichever is less.

(b) The employee is liable for the additional cost when the cost of transportation arranged by the employee is more than what it would cost the Government.

NOTE TO § 102-117.240: For more information on how to ship household goods, refer to 41 CFR 302-8.3.

§ 102-117.245 What is my responsibility in providing guidance to an employee who wishes to use the commuted rate system?

You must counsel employees that they may be liable for all costs above the amount reimbursed by the agency if they select a TSP that charges more than provided under the Commuted Rate Schedule.