

§ 25.131 Delegation of authority.

(a) The Chief Counsel is delegated the following authority:

(1) To carry out the functions of the Secretary and to exercise the Commandant's authority as commanding officer for all Coast Guard personnel in regard to claims brought under Article 139, Uniform Code of Military Justice (10 U.S.C. 939);

(2) To carry out the functions of an officer designated by the Secretary under the so-called "Foreign Claims Act", as amended (10 U.S.C. 2734);

(3) To request that the Department of Defense pay any meritorious claims arising under International Agreements in accordance with Title 10 U.S.C. 2734a and 2734b;

(4) To carry out the functions of the Secretary under the Act of October 9, 1962, as amended (10 U.S.C. 2737);

(5) To carry out the functions of the Secretary under the Act of August 16, 1937, as amended (14 U.S.C. 642);

(6) To carry out the functions of the Secretary under the Act of June 15, 1936, as amended (14 U.S.C. 646);

(7) To carry out the functions of the Secretary under the Act of August 4, 1949, as amended (14 U.S.C. 647);

(8) To carry out the functions of the Secretary under the Act of February 19, 1941, as amended (14 U.S.C. 830);

(9) To carry out the functions of the head of a Federal agency's designee under the Federal Tort Claims Act, as amended (28 U.S.C. 2672);

(10) To carry out the functions of the head of an agency under the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees' Claims Act, as amended (31 U.S.C. 3721);

(11) To carry out the functions of the head of an agency under the Federal Claims Collection Act of 1966, as amended (31 U.S.C. 3711);

(12) To carry out the functions of the head of the department under the Federal Medical Care Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 2651-2653);

(13) To review and approve for payment any voucher for payment of a claim for \$25 or less the authority for payment of which is questioned by a certifying or disbursing officer;

(14) To establish procedures consistent with the applicable statutes

and regulations for the administration of all claims.

NOTE: Under the Military Claims Act (10 U.S.C. 2733), the Secretary has authorized the Chief Counsel to settle and pay claims, see 49 CFR 1.46(j).

(b) The Director of Finance and Procurement is delegated the authority to carry out the functions of the head of an agency under the Federal Claims Collection Act of 1966, as amended (31 U.S.C. 3711).

[CGD 80-033, 46 FR 27109, May 18, 1981, as amended by CGD 82-112, 48 FR 4773, Feb. 3, 1983; USCG-2001-9286, 66 FR 33639, June 25, 2001]

§ 25.133 Redelegation of authority.

The authority delegated in § 25.131 and in 49 CFR 1.46(j) to the Chief Counsel may, unless otherwise limited, be redelegated in whole or in part to settlement authorities established by the Chief Counsel. Information concerning current settlement authorities is available from the offices indicated in § 25.103.

§ 25.135 Processing and settlement of claims in foreign countries.

(a) In certain countries, the Department of Defense has assigned single-service responsibility for the settlement of claims arising under the Foreign Claims Act, Military Claims Act, Nonscope of Employment Claims Act, Federal Medical Care Recovery Act, and Federal Claims Collection Act.

(b) In a country where single-service claims responsibility has been assigned, claims against the United States cognizable under the acts referenced in paragraph (a) of this section are processed and settled by the service assigned responsibility.

(c) A list of countries assigned to a single-service is available from the military attache at any United States embassy or consulate.

(d) In a country not assigned to a single-service, the rules for presenting claims may be found in § 25.111, and the claim will be settled by the Coast Guard.

Subpart B—Admiralty Claims

AUTHORITY: 14 U.S.C. 646; 14 U.S.C. 633; 49 CFR 1.46(b).

§ 25.201 Scope.

This subpart prescribes the requirements for the administrative settlement of maritime tort claims against the United States for death, personal injury, damage to or loss of property caused by a vessel or other property in the service of the Coast Guard, or a maritime tort committed by an agent of the Coast Guard, and for claims for towage and salvage services rendered to a Coast Guard vessel or property.

§ 25.203 Claims payable.

A claim is payable under this subpart if it is:

- (a) A claim for death, personal injury, damage to or loss of real or personal property arising from a maritime tort caused by an agent or employee of the Coast Guard, or a vessel or other property in the service of the Coast Guard, including an auxiliary facility operated under specific orders and acting within the scope of such orders; or
- (b) A claim for compensation for towage and salvage services rendered to a vessel in the service of the Coast Guard or to other property under the jurisdiction of the Coast Guard.

§ 25.205 Claims not payable.

A claim is not payable under this subpart if it:

- (a) Results from action by an enemy, or directly or indirectly from an act of the armed services of the United States in combat;
- (b) Is purely contractual in nature;
- (c) Is for death or personal injury of a United States employee for whom benefits are provided under the Federal Employees' Compensation Act, or any other system of compensation where contribution is made or insurance premiums paid directly or indirectly by the United States on behalf of the injured employee;
- (d) Is one for which a foreign country is responsible under Article VIII of the Agreement Regarding the Status of Forces of Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty, or other similar treaty agreement;
- (e) Arises from private or domestic obligations as distinguished from governmental transactions; or
- (f) Is for damage to or loss of personal property of military personnel or

civilian employees which is cognizable under the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees' Claims Act, as amended.

§ 25.207 Time limitation on claims.

(a) A settlement authority may administratively settle and approve a claim for final payment within two years from the date that the cause of action accrues. Otherwise, the claim is barred. This two-year period is not extended by presenting a claim nor by negotiations or correspondence. The existence of an administrative claim does not extend the two year statute of limitations in 46 U.S.C. 745.

(b) If a complaint is filed in a Federal District Court before the expiration of the two-year period, an administrative settlement may be negotiated by the settlement authority only with the consent of the Department of Justice. Payment is made upon final dismissal of the complaint.

Subpart C—Federal Tort Claims

AUTHORITY: 28 U.S.C. 2672; 28 CFR 14.11; 49 CFR 1.45(a)(2); 49 CFR 1.45(a)(3).

§ 25.301 Scope.

This subpart prescribes the requirements for the administrative settlement of claims against the United States arising out of Coast Guard activities under the Federal Tort Claims Act.

§ 25.303 Procedure.

A claim shall be presented and processed in accordance with 28 CFR Part 14. Should there be a conflict between the provisions of 33 CFR Part 25, Subpart A and the Department of Justice regulations in 28 CFR Part 14, the Department of Justice regulations govern.

Subpart D—Military Claims

AUTHORITY: 10 U.S.C. 2733; 49 CFR 1.46(j).

§ 25.401 Scope.

This subpart prescribes the requirements for the administrative settlement of claims against the United States arising out of the activities of