

### § 104.3

### 28 CFR Ch. I (7–1–08 Edition)

search for and recover victims, the immediate aftermath shall include the period from the crashes until 96 hours after the crashes.

(c) *Physical harm.* (1) The term *physical harm* shall mean a physical injury to the body that was treated by a medical professional within 24 hours of the injury having been sustained, or within 24 hours of rescue, or within 72 hours of injury or rescue for those victims who were unable to realize immediately the extent of their injuries or for whom treatment by a medical professional was not available on September 11, or within such time period as the Special Master may determine for rescue personnel who did not or could not obtain treatment by a medical professional within 72 hours; and

(2) In every case not involving death, the physical injury must be verified by contemporaneous medical records created by or at the direction of the medical professional who provided the medical care.

(d) *Personal Representative.* The term *Personal Representative* shall mean the person determined to be the Personal Representative under §104.4 of this part.

(e) *Present at the site.* The term *present at the site* (i.e., the World Trade Center, Pentagon, or Shanksville, Pennsylvania site) shall mean physically present at the time of the crash or in the immediate aftermath:

(1) In the buildings or portions of buildings that were destroyed as a result of the airplane crashes; or

(2) In any area contiguous to the crash sites that the Special Master determines was sufficiently close to the site that there was a demonstrable risk of physical harm resulting from the impact of the aircraft or any subsequent fire, explosions, or building collapses (generally, the immediate area in which the impact occurred, fire occurred, portions of buildings fell, or debris fell upon and injured persons).

[66 FR 66282, Dec. 21, 2001, as amended at 67 FR 11245, Mar. 13, 2002]

#### § 104.3 Other definitions.

(a) *Beneficiary.* The term *beneficiary* shall mean a person to whom the Personal Representative shall distribute

all or part of the award under §104.52 of this Part.

(b) *Dependents.* The Special Master shall identify as dependents those persons so identified by the victim on his or her federal tax return for the year 2000 (or those persons who legally could have been identified by the victim on his or her federal tax return for the year 2000) unless:

(1) The claimant demonstrates that a minor child of the victim was born or adopted on or after January 1, 2001;

(2) Another person became a dependent in accordance with then-applicable law on or after January 1, 2001; or

(3) The victim was not required by law to file a federal income tax return for the year 2000.

(c) *Spouse.* The Special Master shall identify as the spouse of a victim the person reported as spouse on the victim's federal tax return for the year 2000 unless:

(1) The victim was married or divorced in accordance with applicable state law on or after January 1, 2001; or

(2) The victim was not required by law to file a federal income tax return for the year 2000.

(d) *The Act.* *The Act*, as used in this part, shall mean Public Law 107–42, 115 Stat. 230 (“Air Transportation Safety and System Stabilization Act”), 49 U.S.C. 40101 note.

(e) *Victim.* The term *victim* shall mean an eligible injured claimant or a decedent on whose behalf a claim is brought by an eligible Personal Representative.

[66 FR 66282, Dec. 21, 2001, as amended at 67 FR 11245, Mar. 13, 2002]

#### § 104.4 Personal Representative.

(a) *In general.* The Personal Representative shall be:

(1) An individual appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction as the Personal Representative of the decedent or as the executor or administrator of the decedent's will or estate.

(2) In the event that no Personal Representative or executor or administrator has been appointed by any court of competent jurisdiction, and such issue is not the subject of pending litigation or other dispute, the Special Master may, in his discretion, determine that the Personal Representative

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for purposes of compensation by the Fund is the person named by the decedent in the decedent's will as the executor or administrator of the decedent's estate. In the event no will exists, the Special Master may, in his discretion, determine that the Personal Representative for purposes of compensation by the Fund is the first person in the line of succession established by the laws of the decedent's domicile governing intestacy.

(b) *Notice to beneficiaries.* Any purported Personal Representative must, before filing an Eligibility Form, provide written notice of the claim (including a designated portion of the Eligibility Form) to the immediate family of the decedent (including, but not limited to, the decedent's spouse, former spouses, children, other dependents, and parents), to the executor, administrator, and beneficiaries of the decedent's will, and to any other persons who may reasonably be expected to assert an interest in an award or to have a cause of action to recover damages relating to the wrongful death of the decedent. Personal delivery or transmission by certified mail, return receipt requested, shall be deemed sufficient notice under this provision. The claim forms shall require that the purported Personal Representative certify that such notice (or other notice that the Special Master deems appropriate) has been given. In addition, as provided in §104.21(b)(5) of this part, the Special Master may publish a list of individuals who have filed Eligibility Forms and the names of the victims for whom compensation is sought, but shall not publish the content of any such form.

(c) *Objections to Personal Representatives.* Objections to the authority of an individual to file as the Personal Representative of a decedent may be filed with the Special Master by parties who assert a financial interest in the award up to 30 days following the filing by the Personal Representative. If timely filed, such objections shall be treated as evidence of a "dispute" pursuant to paragraph (d) of this section.

(d) *Disputes as to identity.* The Special Master shall not be required to arbitrate, litigate, or otherwise resolve any dispute as to the identity of the Personal Representative. In the event of a

dispute over the appropriate Personal Representative, the Special Master may suspend adjudication of the claim or, if sufficient information is provided, calculate the appropriate award and authorize payment, but place in escrow any payment until the dispute is resolved either by agreement of the disputing parties or by a court of competent jurisdiction. Alternatively, the disputing parties may agree *in writing* to the identity of a Personal Representative to act on their behalf, who may seek and accept payment from the Fund while the disputing parties work to settle their dispute.

### § 104.5 Foreign claims.

In the case of claims brought by or on behalf of foreign citizens, the Special Master may alter the requirements for documentation set forth herein to the extent such materials are unavailable to such foreign claimants.

### § 104.6 Amendments to this part.

Claimants are entitled to have their claims processed in accordance with the provisions of this Part that were in effect at the time that their claims were submitted under §104.21(d). All claims will be processed in accordance with the current provisions of this Part, unless the claimant has notified the Special Master that he or she has elected to have the claim resolved under the regulations that were in effect at the time that the claim was submitted under §104.21(d).

[67 FR 11245, Mar. 13, 2002]

## Subpart B—Filing for Compensation; Application for Advance Benefits

### § 104.21 Filing for compensation.

(a) *Compensation form; "filing."* Except for applications for Advance Benefits pursuant to §104.22, no claim may be considered until the claimant has submitted both an "Eligibility Form" and either a "Personal Injury Compensation Form" or a "Death Compensation Form." A claim shall be deemed "filed" for purposes of section 405(b)(3) of the Act (providing that the Special Master shall issue a determination not later than 120 days after the