

other administratively appropriate action.

* * * * *

(5) If OA declines to provide a requested service or holds a request in abeyance under paragraph (b)(3) of this section, OA will notify the parties in writing of the action taken and the basis for it. A request held in abeyance retains its original date of receipt by OA. OA will reconsider a request held in abeyance upon a party's submission of a court order, agreement, written authorization, or other information bearing on the basis for the abeyance, and will periodically review requests held in abeyance. A party that has paid a fee for a request that OA declines or holds in abeyance may, upon request, receive a refund of the fee or a credit toward future FMCS arbitration services.

* * * * *

(g) OA will charge a fee for all requests for lists, panels, and other major services. Payments for these services must be received with the request for services before the service is delivered and may be paid by either labor or management or both. A schedule of fees is published by FMCS.

■ 4. Amend § 1404.12 by revising paragraph (b) to read as follows:

§ 1404.12 Selection by parties and appointment of arbitrators.

* * * * *

(b) Where the parties' collective bargaining agreement permits each party to separately notify OA of its ranked order of preference, or is silent on the manner of selecting arbitrators, FMCS will ask each party to advise OA of its order of preference by numbering each name on the panel and submitting the numbered list in writing to OA. Upon receiving the rank order from one party, OA will notify the other party that it has fourteen (14) days in which to submit its selections. Where both parties respond, the name that has the lowest combined number will be appointed. If the other party fails to respond, the first party's choice will be honored. This paragraph is subject to § 1404.9(b) and does not require OA to make an appointment where OA determines that the appointment would be inconsistent with applicable law, a court order, or FMCS's statutory or regulatory authority. A party's failure to submit its ranked preferences does not by itself establish that an appointment would be inconsistent with applicable law, a court order, or FMCS's statutory or regulatory authority.

* * * * *

Dated: October 27, 2026.

Anna Davis,

General Counsel, Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

[FR Doc. 2026-22083 Filed 10-28-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6732-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

[Docket Number USCG-2026-1075]

RIN 1625-AA00

Safety Zone; Firework Display; Cumberland River, Hendersonville, TN

AGENCY: Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing a safety zone for certain navigable waters of the Sanders Ferry, near Hendersonville, TN. This safety zone is necessary to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment from potential hazards during a fireworks show at various times from October 29, 2026, through October 31, 2026. This rulemaking prohibits entry of vessels or persons into this safety zone during enforcement periods unless specifically authorized by the Captain of the Port, Ohio Valley or their designated representative.

DATES: This rule is effective from 7:15 a.m. local time on October 29, 2026, through 5:30 p.m. local time on October 31, 2026.

ADDRESSES: To view available documents, go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for USCG-2026-1075.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions about this rule, contact MST3 Zachary T. Epps, Sector Ohio Valley Waterways Management Division, U.S. Coast Guard; telephone (206) 815-7006, or email STL-SMB-MSDNASHVILLE@USCG.MIL.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Table of Abbreviations

CFR Code of Federal Regulations
 COTP Captain of the Port
 DHS Department of Homeland Security
 FR Federal Register
 NPRM Notice of proposed rulemaking
 § Section
 U.S.C. United States Code

II. Background and Authority

On July 17, 2026, an organization notified the Coast Guard that it will

sponsor two fireworks displays launched from a barge on the Cumberland River near Sanders Ferry Park in Hendersonville, Tennessee. The first fireworks display (including a 15-minute safety buffer before and afterwards) is scheduled to occur on October 29, 2026, from approximately 7:15 a.m. until 8:15 a.m., Central Time. The second fireworks display is scheduled to occur on October 31, 2026, from approximately 4:45 p.m. until 5:30 p.m., Central Time. On October 16, 2026, the Coast Guard published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) titled Safety Zone; Cumberland River, Hendersonville, TN (91 FR 65698). In that NPRM, we stated why we issued the NPRM and invited comments on our proposed regulatory action related to this fireworks display.

Under the authority in 46 U.S.C. 70034, the COTP has determined that this rule is necessary to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment from potential hazards associated with the fireworks. No vessel or person will be permitted to enter the safety zone without obtaining permission from COTP or their designated representative.

Because of the hazards associated with this event, the Coast Guard finds that under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), good cause exists for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register** because it is impracticable and contrary to the public interest. We must establish this safety zone by October 29, 2026, to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment.

III. Discussion of Comments and the Rule

During the comment period that ended on October 23, 2026, we received two comments. Two commenters identified inconsistencies in the NPRM concerning the dates and times of the planned fireworks displays and associated safety-zone enforcement periods. Specifically, the commenters noted that the NPRM contained conflicting references to October 30 and October 31 for the second enforcement period, as well as inconsistent morning enforcement periods for October 29. One commenter also requested clarification regarding the difference between the overall effective period and the periods when the safety zone would be actively enforced; the basis for pre- and post-display safety buffers; the applicable local time zone; notice to mariners; and procedures for requesting entry into the safety zone.

In response to these comments, the Coast Guard has revised the

enforcement periods to accurately reflect the scheduled fireworks displays. The safety zone will be enforced from 7:15 a.m. until 8:15 a.m., on October 29, 2026, and from 4:45 p.m. until 5:30 p.m., on October 31, 2026. It is always standard that in Coast Guard safety zone rulemaking documents refer to the local time at the location of the safety zone, in this case that is Central Daylight Time (CDT). These enforcement periods include a 15-minute safety buffer before and after each fireworks display to allow for final safety preparations, fireworks-launch operations, monitoring for falling debris, post-display safety assessment, and cleanup.

The Coast Guard has also corrected the conflicting references to an October 30 enforcement period and clarified that the safety zone will not be continuously enforced between the two specified enforcement periods. In other words, this safety zone will be enforced for one hour on October 29, 2026, from 7:15 a.m. until 8:15 a.m., and 45 minutes on October 31, 2026, from 4:45 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. The Coast Guard will provide notice of enforcement through a Broadcast Notice to Mariners on VHF-FM channel 16. The Broadcast Notice to Mariners will include information regarding the enforcement periods and may include sponsor contact information for event-related coordination, as appropriate. Only the Captain of the Port (COTP), Ohio Valley or the COTP's designated representative may authorize entry into the safety zone.

This rule establishes a safety zone on all navigable waters of the Cumberland River from mile marker 221.7 to mile marker 222 near Sanders Ferry Park in Hendersonville, Tennessee. During the stated enforcement periods, no vessel or person may enter the safety zone without obtaining permission from COTP or the COTP's designated representative.

IV. Regulatory Analyses

We developed this rule after considering numerous statutes and Executive orders related to rulemaking. Below we summarize our analysis based on a number of these statutes and Executive orders.

A. Impact on Small Entities

The Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 (RFA), 5 U.S.C. 601–612, as amended, requires Federal agencies to consider the potential impact of regulations on small entities during rulemaking. The term “small entities” comprises small businesses, not-for-profit organizations that are independently owned and operated and are not dominant in their

fields, and governmental jurisdictions with populations of less than 50,000. Section 605 of the RFA allows an agency to certify a rule, in lieu of preparing an analysis, if the rulemaking is not expected to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

The Coast Guard certifies that, although some small entities may intend to transit the safety zone above, this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. This safety zone will only impact a small, designated area for one hour on October 29, 2026, and for 45 minutes on October 31, 2026. It will be enforced during times when vessel traffic is normally low. In addition, the Coast Guard will issue a Broadcast Notice to Mariners via VHF FM marine channel 16, which will allow small entities to adjust their transit plans, and the rule allows vessels to request permission to enter the zone from the COTP.

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104–121), if this rule will affect your small business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction and you have questions, contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

Small businesses may send comments to the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman and the Regional Small Business Regulatory Fairness Boards by calling 1–888–REG–FAIR (1–888–734–3247).

B. Collection of Information

This rule will not call for a new collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520).

C. Federalism and Indian Tribal Governments

We have analyzed this rule under Executive Order 13132, Federalism, and have determined that it is consistent with the fundamental federalism principles and preemption requirements described in that Order.

Also, this rule does not have tribal implications under Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, because it does not have a substantial direct effect on one or more Indian tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian tribes.

D. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

As required by The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1531–1538), the Coast Guard certifies that this rule will not result in an annual expenditure of \$100,000,000 or more (adjusted for inflation) by a State, local, or tribal government, in the aggregate, or by the private sector.

E. Environment

We have analyzed this rule under Department of Homeland Security Directive 023–01, Rev. 1, associated implementing instructions, and Environmental Planning COMDTINST 5090.1 (series), which guide the Coast Guard in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), and have determined that this action is one of a category of actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment.

This rule is a safety zone. It is categorically excluded from further review under paragraph L60(a) establish or increase size of Appendix A, Table 1 of DHS Instruction Manual 023–01–001–01, Rev. 1. A Record of Environmental Consideration supporting this determination is available in the docket.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 165

Harbors, Marine safety, Navigation (water), Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Security measures, Waterways.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 33 CFR part 165 as follows:

PART 165—REGULATED NAVIGATION AREAS AND LIMITED ACCESS AREAS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 165 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 46 U.S.C. 70034, 70051, 70124; 33 CFR 1.05–1, 6.04–1, 6.04–6, and 160.5; DHS Delegation No. 00170.1, Revision No. 01.4.

■ 2. Add § 165.T08–1075 to read as follows:

§ 165.T08–1075 Safety Zone; Cumberland River, Hendersonville, TN.

(a) *Location.* The following area is a safety zone: all navigable waters of the Cumberland River from mile marker 221.7 to mile marker 222.

(b) *Definitions.* As used in this section, *designated representative* means a Coast Guard Patrol Commander, including a Coast Guard coxswain, petty officer, or other officer operating a Coast Guard vessel and a Federal, State, and local officer

designated by or assisting the Captain of the Port (COTP), Ohio Valley in the enforcement of the safety zone.

(c) *Regulations.* (1) Under the general safety zone regulations in subpart C of this part, you may not enter the safety zone described in paragraph (a) of this section unless authorized by the COTP or the COTP's designated representative.

(2) To seek permission to enter, contact COTP or COTP's representative on VHF-FM channel 16 or by telephone at (800) 253-7465. Those in the safety zone must comply with all lawful orders or directions given to them by COTP or COTP's designated representative.

(d) *Enforcement periods.* This section is enforced from 7:15 a.m. until 8:15 a.m., on October 29, 2026, and from 4:45 p.m. until 5:30 p.m., on October 31, 2026.

Bradford E. Clark,

*Commander, U.S. Coast Guard, Acting,
Captain of the Port, Ohio Valley.*

[FR Doc. 2026-22078 Filed 10-28-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110-04-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

45 CFR Parts 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 307, 308, 309, and 310

RIN 0970-AD39

Reducing Bureaucracy and Burden for Child Support Enforcement Programs

AGENCY: Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS or the Department).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This final rule amends the Child Support regulations that were unnecessary or obsolete in the following sections: State Plan Approval and Grant Procedures, State Plan Requirements, Standards for Program Operations, Federal Financial Participation, Program Performance Measures, Standards, Financial Incentives, and Penalties, Computerized Support Enforcement Systems, Annual State Self-Assessment Review and Report, Tribal Child Support Enforcement (IV-D) Program, and Computerized Tribal IV-D Systems and Office Automation.

DATES: This rule is effective on November 30, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Adam N. Jones, Deputy Chief of Staff, Immediate Office of the Assistant

Secretary, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC, 202-417-0115 or Deregulation@acf.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Statutory Authority

This rule is published under the authority granted to the Secretary of Health and Human Services by section 1102 of the Social Security Act (the Act), 42 U.S.C. 1302. Section 1102 of the Act authorizes the Secretary to publish regulations, not inconsistent with the Act, which “may be necessary for efficient administration of the functions for which the Secretary is responsible under the Act.” This rule is also published in accordance with section 455(f) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. 655(f). Section 455(f) authorizes the Secretary to issue regulations governing the grants to Tribes and Tribal organizations operating child support programs.

II. Background

The Child Support Enforcement Program, established under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act, is a Federal-State-Tribal partnership designed to help children receive financial support from their noncustodial parents. The program operates through State and Tribal child support agencies that provide child support enforcement services including locating noncustodial parents, establishing paternity, establishing and enforcing support orders, and collecting and distributing child support payments. Since the program's establishment in 1975, OCSE has worked with States and Tribes to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of child support program operations. Over time, Congress has amended Title IV-D to expand and refine program responsibilities, and ACF has promulgated implementing regulations to support consistent national administration of the program while providing flexibility to States and Tribes. *See, e.g.*, 40 FR 27156 (June 26, 1975) (initial implementation of the Child Support Enforcement Program regulations); 54 FR 15761 (Apr. 19, 1989) (revising interstate and enforcement procedures to improve program effectiveness); 57 FR 30658 (July 10, 1992) (implementing Family Support Act amendments and strengthening automated processing and distribution requirements); 63 FR 44795 (Aug. 21, 1998) (implementing provisions of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 related to program automation); 69 FR 16638 (Mar. 30, 2004) (implementing direct funding of Tribal Child Support Enforcement

programs); and 81 FR 93492 (Dec. 20, 2016) (modernizing child support program operations and emphasizing family-centered enforcement approaches).

ACF has determined many of these regulations were originally adopted during periods of substantial statutory expansion of the Title IV-D program, when ACF sought to provide introductory program descriptions, restate newly enacted statutory requirements, promote national consistency during early implementation efforts, or codify administrative practices that were not yet well established among State agencies. *See, e.g.*, 40 FR 27156, 27160-61 (describing the need for foundational regulations to establish uniform State plan requirements during initial implementation of Title IV-D); 57 FR 30658, 30659-60 (explaining that several provisions were intended to clarify statutory responsibilities and standardize administration among States); 63 FR 44795, 44795-96 (stating that certain amendments were intended to codify statutory changes enacted by Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA) and provide operational guidance to States during implementation); and 81 FR 93492, 93493-95 (describing the purpose of regulatory amendments as improving program flexibility and modernizing existing practices). In several instances, prior preambles explained that the regulations were intended primarily to clarify statutory requirements, provide organizational context, or assist States during transitions following major legislative amendments.

ACF has also determined that many of those rationales no longer support maintaining these provisions in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) because the Title IV-D program has matured substantially and State and Tribal agencies now operate within a well-established statutory and administrative framework supported by decades of program guidance, policy issuances, automated systems requirements, and operational practice. In addition, Congress has amended Title IV-D numerous times to codify core program requirements directly in statute, thereby reducing any independent regulatory effect of certain provisions. As a result, ACF has concluded that retaining regulations that restate statutory text, provide historical or descriptive information without imposing substantive obligations, or address matters more appropriately administered through sub-regulatory guidance and technical