DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Drug Enforcement Administration

21 CFR Parts 1300, 1301, 1304, 1305, 1306, and 1317

[Docket No. DEA–1250]

Renaming Narcotic Treatment Program (NTP) to Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) in DEA Regulations

AGENCY: Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice.

ACTION: Final rule, technical amendment.

SUMMARY: This final rule updates Drug Enforcement Administration regulations to change the name of Narcotic Treatment Programs to Opioid Treatment Programs. This action is a nomenclature change and makes no substantive changes to the definition of a narcotic drug in the Controlled Substances Act or the definition of a narcotic treatment program in the implementing regulations.

DATES: This final rule is effective November 25, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Heather E. Achbach, Regulatory Drafting and Policy Support Section, Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration; Telephone: (571) 776–3882.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Legal Authority

The Controlled Substances Act (CSA) grants the Attorney General authority to promulgate rules and regulations relating to the registration and control of the manufacture, distribution, and dispensing of controlled substances; [1] as well as the maintenance and submission of records and reports [2] that are necessary and appropriate for the efficient execution of his statutory functions.[3] The Attorney General is further authorized by the CSA to promulgate rules and regulations relating to the registration and control of importers and exporters of controlled substances.[4] The Attorney General has delegated these authorities to the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).[5]

The CSA and its implementing regulations are designed to prevent, detect, and eliminate the diversion of controlled substances into the illicit market while ensuring an adequate supply is available for the legitimate medical, scientific, research, and industrial needs of the United States. Controlled substances have the potential for abuse and dependence and are controlled to protect the public health and safety. Through the enactment of the CSA, Congress has established a closed system of distribution by making it unlawful to handle any controlled substance except in a manner authorized by the CSA. To maintain this closed system of distribution, the CSA imposes registration requirements on handlers of controlled substances.

The CSA authorizes the Administrator of DEA (by delegation of authority from the Attorney General) to promulgate and enforce any rules, regulations, and procedures which he may deem necessary and appropriate for the efficient execution of his functions under the CSA.[6]

DEA publishes the implementing regulations for these statutes in 21 CFR part 1300 to end.

Technical Amendment

The CSA requires practitioners who dispense schedule II narcotic drugs to individuals for maintenance treatment or detoxification treatment to obtain a separate registration with DEA.[7] DEA regulations currently refer to these programs as Narcotic Treatment Programs (NTPs), and DEA defines an NTP as ''a program engaged in maintenance and/or detoxification treatment with narcotic drugs.'' [8] These programs are certified through the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), which regulates the services provided through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Unlike DEA, HHS and SAMHSA refer to these programs as ''opioid treatment programs'' or ''OTPs,'' defined as ''a program engaged in OUD [Opioid Use Disorder] treatment of individuals with MOUD [Medication for Opioid Use Disorder] registered under 21 U.S.C. 823(h)(1).'' [9] The HHS definition requires the program be registered with DEA to dispense maintenance or detoxification treatment medication as required by 21 U.S.C. 823(h)(1), which is within the CSA.

To operate a treatment program, registrants must comply with both DEA and HHS/SAMHSA requirements. This includes meeting SAMHSA accreditation requirements as an OTP, being licensed by the State in which the registrant operates, and obtaining a DEA registration number as an NTP. DEA believes that this nomenclature change will align the terminology used by DEA and HHS, as well as other Federal agencies and State counterparts, to simplify the certification and licensure process for entities engaging in OUD treatments. Neither the term OTP nor the term NTP is defined by the CSA; DEA is authorized to update its nomenclature to create the standard term of OTP within its regulations.[10] DEA regulations define an NTP as a program engaged in maintenance and/or detoxification treatment with narcotic drugs. This final rule makes no change to that definition or to the term ''narcotic drug'' as used throughout DEA regulations.

Regulatory Analysis

Administrative Procedure Act

An agency may find good cause to exempt a rule from certain provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), including those requiring the publication of a prior notice of proposed rulemaking and the opportunity for public comment, if such actions are determined to be unnecessary, impracticable, or contrary to the public interest.[11] The ''unnecessary'' prong of the APA good cause provision covers amendments that are '' 'minor or merely technical' and of little public interest,'' [12] or that involve ''routine determination[s], insignificant in nature and impact, and inconsequential to the industry . . . and to the public.'' [13] This rule contains only a technical amendment: it merely updates the nomenclature currently used by DEA for registrants engaged in OUD treatments to reduce confusion to registrants and align DEA's terminology with the terms ''opioid treatment program'' and ''OTP,'' as defined by HHS and SAMHSA. Therefore, DEA finds there is good cause within the meaning of the APA to issue this amendment as a final rule without prior notice and an opportunity for public comment.

Similarly, the APA provides that a delayed effective date is unnecessary when the agency finds good cause for dispensing with the delay. The APA's delayed-effective-date provision is

[1] 21 U.S.C. 821.

[2] 21 U.S.C 827.

[3] 21 U.S.C. 871(b).

[4] 21 U.S.C. 958(f).

[5] 28 CFR 0.100(b).

[6] 21 U.S.C. 871(b), 958(f).

[7] 21 U.S.C. 823(h); *see also* 21 U.S.C. 802(29) (defining *maintenance treatment*), 802(30) (defining *detoxification treatment*).

[8] *See* 21 CFR 1300.01(b); *see also id.* (defining *mobile narcotic treatment program*).

[9] 42 CFR 8.2.

[10] *See* 21 U.S.C. 871.

[11] 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B).

[12] *N.C. Growers' Ass'n, Inc.* v. *United Farm Workers,* 702 F.3d 755, 766 (4th Cir. 2012) (citation omitted).

[13] *Nat. Res. Def. Council* v. *Nat'l Highway Traffic Safety Admin.,* 894 F.3d. 95, 114 (2d Cir. 2018) (citation omitted).

intended ''to give affected parties time to adjust their behavior before the final rule takes effect.'' [14] Here, regulated parties will not need any time to adjust their behavior to the changes made in this final rule because the rule does no more than update DEA terminology to reduce confusion for registrants by aligning DEA's language with HHS and SAMHSA language. As such, this final rule shall become effective on the date of publication of this action in the **Federal Register**.

In addition, the APA excepts from the requirements of notice and comment and a delayed effective date those rules that are non-substantive.[15] Substantive rules make ''substantive changes in prior regulations'' or ''create new law, rights, or duties.'' [16] Here, as already explained, this final rule makes no substantive changes in DEA's regulations because this rule simply updates DEA regulations to reduce confusion for registrants and align DEA's terminology with the terms ''opioid treatment program'' and ''OTP,'' as defined by HHS and SAMHSA.

Executive Orders 12866, 13563, and 14192

DEA has determined that this rulemaking is not a ''significant regulatory action'' under section 3(f) of Executive Order (E.O.) 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review. Accordingly, this final rule has not been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (''OMB'') for review. This final rule has been drafted and reviewed in accordance with E.O. 12866, ''Regulatory Planning and Review,'' section 1(b), Principles of Regulation; E.O. 13563 ''Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review,'' section 1(b), General Principles of Regulation; and E.O. 14192, ''Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation.'' This final rule is not subject to E.O. 14192 because it is not a significant regulatory action under section 3(f) of E.O. 12866.

As stated above, this final rule is a nomenclature change to update language in DEA regulations to match the language currently used by other agencies. This final rule will not change any definitions, require any new applications, or make any substantive changes to the regulations. The purpose of this final rule is to reduce confusion regarding the term NTP, and it will have no economic impact.

Executive Order 12988, Civil Justice Reform

This final rule meets the applicable standards set forth in sections 3(a) and 3(b)(2) of E.O. 12988, to eliminate ambiguity, minimize litigation, establish clear legal standards, and reduce burden.

Executive Order 13132, Federalism

This final rule does not have federalism implications warranting the application of E.O. 13132. The final rule does not have substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the Federal government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments

This final rule does not have tribal implications warranting the application of Executive Order 13175. This final rule does not have substantial direct effects 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.

Executive Order 14267, Reducing Anti-Competitive Regulatory Barriers

This final rule does not reduce competition, entrepreneurship, and innovation.

Executive Order 14294, Fighting Overcriminalization of Federal Regulations

Executive Order 14294 specifies that all notices of proposed rulemaking and final rules published in the **Federal Register**, the violation of which may constitute criminal regulatory offenses, should include a statement identifying that the rule or proposed rule is a criminal regulatory offense, the authorizing statute, and the mens rea requirement for each element of the offense. Because this final rule does not involve a criminal regulatory offense, E.O. 14294 does not apply.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) (5 U.S.C. 601–612) applies to rules that are subject to notice and comment under section 553(b) of the APA. As explained above, DEA determined that there is good cause to exempt this final rule from notice and comment. This final rule is a nomenclature change that makes no change to any process. Consequently, the RFA does not apply to this final rule.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995

In accordance with the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) of 1995, 2 U.S.C. 1532, DEA has determined that this final rule would not result in any Federal mandate that may result ''in the expenditure by State, local, and tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of $100,000,000 or more (adjusted annually for inflation) in any 1 year.'' Therefore, neither a Small Government Agency Plan nor any other action is required under UMRA.

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

This final rule does not impose a new collection of information requirement or modify an existing collection of information requirement under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3501–3521. This final rule does not impose new or modify existing recordkeeping or reporting requirements on State or local governments, individuals, businesses, or organizations. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Congressional Review Act

This final rule is not a major rule as defined by Subtitle E of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Act of 1996 (known as the Congressional Review Act or CRA). Because this is a rule of agency organization, procedure, or practice that does not substantially affect the rights or obligations of non-agency parties, the reporting requirement under 5 U.S.C. 801 does not apply.

List of Subjects

21 CFR Part 1300

Chemicals, Drug traffic control.

21 CFR Part 1301

Administrative practice and procedure, Drug traffic control, Exports, Imports, Security measures.

21 CFR Part 1304

Drug traffic control, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

21 CFR Part 1305

Drug traffic control, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

21 CFR Part 1306

Drug traffic control, Prescription drugs.

21 CFR Part 1317

Drug traffic control, Security measures.

[14] *Riverbend Farms, Inc.* v. *Madigan,* 958 F.2d 1479, 1485 (9th Cir. 1992).

[15] 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(A), (d).

[16] *Minard Run Oil Co.* v. *U.S. Forest Serv.,* 670 F.3d 236, 255 (3d Cir. 2011), *as amended* (Mar. 7, 2012) (citation omitted).

For the reasons set forth above, DEA amends CFR parts 1300, 1301, 1304, 1305, 1306, and 1317 to read as follows:

PART 1300—DEFINITIONS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 1300 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 21 U.S.C. 802, 821, 822, 829, 871(b), 951, 958(f).

■ 2. In § 1300.01 amend paragraph (b) by
■ a. Revising the definitions of ''Collection'' and ''Compounder'';
■ b. Removing the definition of ''Mobile narcotic treatment program'';
■ c. Adding, in alphabetical order, the definition of ''Mobile Opioid Treatment Program'';
■ d. Removing the definition of ''Narcotic treatment program''; and
■ e. Adding, in alphabetical order, the definition of ''Opioid treatment program''.

The additions read as follows:

§ 1300.01 Definitions relating to controlled substances.

* * * * *

(b) * * *

Collection means to receive a controlled substance for the purpose of destruction from an ultimate user, a person lawfully entitled to dispose of an ultimate user decedent's property, or a long-term care facility on behalf of an ultimate user who resides or has resided at that facility. The term *collector* means a registered manufacturer, distributor, reverse distributor, opioid treatment program, hospital/clinic with an on-site pharmacy, or retail pharmacy that is authorized under this chapter to so receive a controlled substance for the purpose of destruction.

* * * * *

Compounder means any person engaging in maintenance or detoxification treatment who also mixes, prepares, packages or changes the dosage form of a narcotic drug listed in Schedules II, III, IV, or V for use in maintenance or detoxification treatment by another opioid treatment program.

* * * * *

Mobile Opioid Treatment Program means an opioid treatment program (OTP) operating from a motor vehicle, as defined in this section, that serves as a mobile component (conveyance) and is operating under the registration of the OTP, and engages in maintenance and/or detoxification treatment with narcotic drugs in schedules II–V, at a location or locations remote from, but within the same State as, its registered location. Operating a mobile OTP is a coincident activity of an existing OTP, as listed in § 1301.13(e) of this chapter.

* * * * *

Opioid treatment program means a program engaged in maintenance and/or detoxification with narcotic drugs.

* * * * *

PART 1301—REGISTRATION OF MANUFACTURERS, DISTRIBUTORS, AND DISPENSER OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

■ 3. The authority citation for part 1301 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 21 U.S.C. 821, 822, 823, 824, 831, 871(b), 875, 877, 886a, 951, 952, 956, 957, 958, 965 unless otherwise noted.

■ 4. Amend § 1301.13 by revising paragraphs (e)(1)(viii) and (e)(4) to read as follows:

§ 1301.13 Application for registration; time for application; expiration date; registration for independent activities; application forms; fees, contents and signature; coincident activities.

* * * * *

(e) * * *

(1) * * *

Business activity	Controlled substances	DEA application forms	Application fee ($)	Registration period (years)	Coincident activities allowed
*	*	*	*	*	* *
(viii) Opioid Treatment Program (including compounder).	Narcotic Drugs in Schedules II–V.	New—363 ..... Renewal—363a.	296	1	May operate one or more mobile opioid treatment programs as defined under § 1300.01(b), provided approval has been obtained under § 1301.13(e)(4).
*	*	*	*	*	* *

* * * * *

(4) For any opioid treatment program (OTP) intending to operate a mobile OTP, the registrant must notify the local DEA office, in writing, of its intent to do so, and the OTP must receive explicit written approval from the local DEA office prior to operating the mobile OTP. The mobile OTP may only operate in the same State in which the OTP is registered.

(i) Registrants are not required to obtain a separate registration for conveyances (mobile components) utilized by the registrant to transport controlled substances away from registered locations for dispensing at unregistered locations as a part of a mobile OTP. Vehicles must possess valid county/city and State information (*e.g.,* a vehicle information number (license plate number)) on file at the registered location of the OTP. Registrants are also required to provide proper city/county and State licensing and registration to DEA at the time of inspection, and prior to transporting controlled substances away from their registered location.

(ii) A mobile OTP is not permitted to reverse distribute, share, or transfer controlled substances from one mobile component to another mobile component while deployed away from the registered location. OTPs with mobile components are not allowed to modify their registrations to authorize their mobile components to act as collectors under 21 CFR 1301.51 and 1317.40. Mobile components of OTPs may not function as hospitals, long-term care facilities, or emergency medical service vehicles, and will not transport patients.

(iii) A mobile OTP may operate at any remote location or locations within the same State as its registered location, including correctional facilities, so long as doing so is otherwise consistent with applicable Federal, State, tribal, and local laws and regulations, and so long as the local DEA office, when notified pursuant to this section, does not otherwise direct.

* * * * *

■ 5. Amend § 1301.44 by revising paragraph (b) to read as follows:

§ 1301.44 Burden of Proof.

* * * * *

(b) At any hearing on the granting or denial of an applicant to be registered to conduct an opioid treatment program or as a compounder, the applicant shall have the burden of proving that the requirements for each registration

pursuant to section 303(g) of the Act (21 U.S.C. 823(g)) are satisfied.

* * * * *

■ 6. Amend § 1301.51 by revising paragraph (b) introductory text to read as follows:

§ 1301.51 Modification in registration.

* * * * *

(b) Any manufacturer, distributor, reverse distributor, opioid treatment program, hospital/clinic with an on-site pharmacy, or retail pharmacy registered pursuant to this part, may apply to modify its registration to become authorized as a collector by submitting a written request to the Registration Unit, Drug Enforcement Administration. See the Table of DEA Mailing Addresses in § 1321.01 of this chapter for the current mailing address. Additionally, such request may be submitted on-line at *www.DEAdiversion.usdoj.gov.*

* * * * *

■ 7. Amend § 1301.72 by revising the section heading and paragraph (e) to read as follows:

§ 1301.72 Physical security controls for non-practitioners; opioid treatment programs and compounders for opioid treatment programs; mobile opioid treatment programs; storage areas.

* * * * *

(e) *Mobile Opioid Treatment Programs.* (1) For any conveyance operated as a mobile opioid treatment program (OTP), a safe must be installed and used to store narcotic drugs in schedules II–V for the purpose of maintenance or detoxification treatment, when not located at the registrant's registered location. The safe must conform to the requirements set forth in paragraph (a)(1) of this section. The mobile component must also be equipped with an alarm system that conforms to the requirements set forth in paragraph (a)(1)(iii) of this section. The storage area of the mobile component must conform to the accessibility requirements in paragraph (d) of this section. The storage area for controlled substances in a mobile component of an OTP must not be accessible from outside of the vehicle. Personnel transporting the controlled substances on behalf of the mobile OTP are required to retain control over all controlled substances when transferring them between the registered location and the conveyance, while en route to and from the dispensing location or locations, and when dispensing at the dispensing location or locations. At all other times during transportation, all controlled substances must be properly secured in the safe. Upon completion of the operation of the mobile OTP on a given day, the conveyance must be immediately returned to the registered location, and all controlled substances must be removed from the conveyance and secured within the registered location. After the conveyance has returned to the registered location and the controlled substances have been removed, the conveyance may be parked until its next use at the registered location or any secure, fenced-in area, once the local DEA office has been notified of the location of this secure, fenced-in area. All OTPs with mobile components shall be required to establish a standard operating procedure to ensure, if the mobile component becomes inoperable (mechanical failure, accidents, fire, etc.), that all controlled substances on the inoperable conveyance are accounted for, removed from the inoperable conveyance, and secured at the registered location.

(2) With regard to the requirement of paragraph (e)(1) of this section, that upon completion of the operation of the mobile OTP on a given day, the conveyance must be immediately returned to the registered location, and all controlled substances must be removed from the conveyance and secured within the registered location, an OTP may apply for an exception to this requirement as provided in this paragraph.

■ 8. Amend § 1301.73 by revising the section heading to read as follows:

§ 1301.73 Physical security controls for non-practitioners; compounders for opioid treatment programs; manufacturing and compounding areas.

* * * * *

■ 9. Amend § 1301.74 by revising the section heading, paragraphs (i), (j), (k), (l), (m), and (n) to read as follows:

§ 1301.74 Other security controls for non-practitioners; opioid treatment programs and compounders for opioid treatment programs; mobile opioid treatment programs.

* * * * *

(i) Narcotics dispensed or administered at an opioid treatment program will be dispensed or administered directly to the patient by either:

(1) The licensed practitioner;

(2) A registered nurse under the direction of the licensed practitioner;

(3) A licensed practical nurse under the direction of the licensed practitioner; or

(4) A pharmacist under the direction of the licensed practitioner.

(j) Persons enrolled in any opioid treatment program (OTP), including those receiving treatment at a mobile OTP, will be required to wait in an area that is physically separated from the narcotic storage and dispensing area by a physical entrance such as a door or other entryway. Patients must wait outside of a mobile OTP component if that conveyance does not have seating or a reception area that is separated from the narcotic storage and dispensing area. This requirement will be enforced by the program practitioner and OTP employees.

(k) All OTPs, including mobile OTPs, must comply with standards established by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (after consultation with the Administrator) respecting the quantities of narcotic drugs which may be provided to persons enrolled in an OTP or mobile OTP for unsupervised use (*e.g.,* take home or non-directly observed therapy).

(l) DEA may exercise discretion regarding the degree of security required in OTPs, including mobile OTPs, based on such factors as the location of a program, the number of patients enrolled in a program, and the number of practitioners, staff members, and security guards. Personnel that are authorized to dispense controlled substances for narcotic treatment must ensure proper security measures and patient dosage. Similarly, DEA will consider such factors when evaluating existing security or requiring new security at an opioid treatment program or mobile OTP.

(m) Any controlled substances being transported for disposal from the dispensing location of a mobile OTP shall be secured and disposed of in compliance with part 1317, and all other applicable Federal, State, tribal, and local laws and regulations.

(n) A conveyance used as part of a mobile OTP may only be supplied with narcotic drugs by the registered OTP that operates such conveyance. Persons permitted to dispense controlled substances to mobile OTPs shall not:

(1) Receive controlled substances from other mobile OTPs or any other entity;

(2) Deliver controlled substances to other mobile OTPs or any other entity; or

(3) Conduct reverse distribution of controlled substances on a mobile OTP.

* * * * *

PART 1304—RECORDS AND REPORTS OF REGISTRANTS

■ 10. The authority citation for part 1304 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 21 U.S.C. 821, 823(j), 827, 831, 871(b), 958(e)–(g), and 965, unless otherwise noted.

■ 11. Amend § 1304.04 by revising paragraph (f) introductory text to read as follows:

§ 1304.04 Maintenance of records and inventories.

* * * * *

(f) Each registered manufacturer, distributor, importer, exporter, mobile opioid treatment program, opioid treatment program and compounder for opioid treatment program shall maintain inventories and records of controlled substances as follows:

* * * * *

■ 12. Amend § 1304.24 by revising the section heading and paragraphs (a) introductory text, (b), and (d) to read as follows:

§ 1304.24 Records for maintenance treatment programs, mobile opioid treatment programs, and detoxification treatment programs.

(a) Each person registered or authorized (by § 1301.22 of this chapter) to maintain and/or detoxify controlled substance users in an opioid treatment program (OTP), including a mobile OTP, shall maintain records with the following information for each narcotic controlled substance:

* * * * *

(b) The records required by paragraph (a) of this section will be maintained in a dispensing log at the OTP site, or in the case of a mobile OTP, at the registered site of the OTP, and will be maintained in compliance with § 1304.22 without reference to § 1304.03.

(1) As an alternative to maintaining a paper dispensing log, an OTP or its mobile component may also use an automated/computerized data processing system for the storage and retrieval of the program's dispensing records, if the following conditions are met:

(i) The automated system maintains the information required in paragraph (a) of this section;

(ii) The automated system has the capability of producing a hard copy printout of the program's dispensing records;

(iii) The OTP or its mobile component prints a hard copy of each day's dispensing log, which is then initialed appropriately by each person who dispensed medication to the program's patients;

(iv) The automated system is approved by DEA;

(v) The OTP or its mobile component maintains an off-site back-up of all computer generated program information; and

(vi) The automated system is capable of producing accurate summary reports for both the registered site of the OTP and any mobile component, for any time-frame selected by DEA personnel during an investigation. If these summary reports are maintained in hard copy form, they must be kept in a systematically organized file located at the registered site of the OTP.

(2) The OTP must retain all records for the OTP as well as any mobile component two years from the date of execution, in accordance with § 1304.04(a). However, if the State in which the OTP is located requires that records be retained longer than two years, the OTP should contact its State opioid treatment authority for information about State requirements.

* * * * *

(d) Records of identity, diagnosis, prognosis, or treatment of any patients which are maintained in connection with the performance of an opioid treatment program shall be confidential, except that such records may be disclosed for purposes and under the circumstances authorized by part 1310 and 42 CFR part 2.

■ 13. Amend § 1304.25 by revising the introductory text to read as follows:

§ 1304.25 Records for treatment programs that compound narcotics for treatment programs and other locations.

Each person registered or authorized by § 1301.22 of this chapter to compound narcotic drugs for off-site use in an opioid treatment program shall maintain records which include the following information for each narcotic drug:

* * * * *

PART 1305—ORDERS FOR SCHEDULE I AND II CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

■ 14. The authority citation for part 1305 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 21 U.S.C. 821, 828, 871(b), unless otherwise noted.

15. Amend § 1305.06 by revising paragraph (e) to read as follows:

§ 1305.06 Persons entitled to fill orders for Schedule I and II controlled substances.

* * * * *

(e) A person registered as a compounder of narcotic substances for use at off-site locations in conjunction with an opioid treatment program at the compounding location, who is authorized to handle Schedule II narcotics, is authorized to fill either a DEA Form 222 or an electronic order for distribution of narcotic drugs to off-site opioid treatment programs only.

PART 1306—PRESCRIPTIONS

■ 16. The authority citation for part 1306 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 21 U.S.C. 821, 823(k), 829, 831, 871(b) unless otherwise noted.

■ 17. Amend § 1306.07 by revising paragraphs (a)(1) and (b) to read as follows:

§ 1306.07 Administering or dispensing of narcotic drugs.

(a) * * *

(1) The practitioner is separately registered with DEA as an opioid treatment program.

* * * * *

(b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a practitioner, who is not specifically registered to conduct an opioid treatment program, from dispensing (but not prescribing) narcotic drugs, in accordance with applicable Federal, State, and local laws relating to controlled substances, to one person or for one person's use at one time for the purpose of initiating maintenance treatment or detoxification treatment (or both).

* * *

* * * * *

PART 1317—DISPOSAL

■ 18. The authority citation for part 1317 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 21 U.S.C. 821, 822, 823, 827, 828, 871(b), and 958.

■ 19. Amend § 1317.05 by revising paragraphs (c)(2)(v) read as follows:

§ 1317.05 Registrant disposal.

* * * * *

(c) * * *

(2) * * *

(v) *Non-practitioner methods of destruction.* Collectors that are non-practitioners (*i.e.,* manufacturers, distributors, opioid treatment programs, and reverse distributors) shall dispose of sealed inner liners and their contents by utilizing any method in paragraph (b)(1), (b)(2), or (b)(4) of this section, or by delivering sealed inner liners and their contents to a distributor's registered location by common or contract carrier or by distributor pick-up at the collector's authorized collection location for destruction.

■ 20. Amend § 1317.40 by revising paragraphs (a) and (b)(1) to remove the words ''narcotic treatment program'' and add, in their place, the words ''opioid treatment program.'' The revision reads as follows:

§ 1317.40 Registrants authorized to collect and authorized collection activities.

(a) Manufacturers, distributors, reverse distributors, opioid treatment programs, hospitals/clinics with an on-site pharmacy, and retail pharmacies that desire to be collectors shall modify their registration to obtain authorization to be a collector in accordance with § 1301.51 of this chapter.

(b) * * *

(1) Those registered locations of manufacturers, distributors, reverse distributors, opioid treatment programs, hospitals/clinics with an on-site pharmacy, and retail pharmacies that are authorized for collection; and

* * * * *

■ 21. Amend § 1317.75 by revising paragraphs (d)(2)(ii) and (f) to read as follows:

§ 1317.75 Collection receptacles.

* * * * *

(d) * * *

(2) * * *

(ii) At an opioid treatment program: A collection receptacle shall be located in a room: That does not contain any other controlled substances and is securely locked with controlled access;

* * * * *

(f) Except at an opioid treatment program, the small opening in the outer container of the collection receptable shall be locked or made otherwise inaccessible to the public when an employee is not present (*e.g.,* when the pharmacy is closed), or when the collection receptacle is not being regularly monitored by long-term care facility employees.

* * * * *

Signing Authority

This document of the Drug Enforcement Administration was signed on November 19, 2026, by DEA Administrator Terrance C. Cole. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DEA. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DEA Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of DEA. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Heather Achbach,

Federal Register Liaison Officer, Drug Enforcement Administration.

[FR Doc. 2026–23962 Filed 11–24–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410–09–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

[Docket Number USCG–2026–1455]

RIN 1625–AA00

Safety Zone; Brownsville Ship Channel, Brownsville, TX

AGENCY: Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary safety zone for navigable waters on the Brownsville Ship Channel. The safety zone is needed to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment from potential hazards associated with an over-sized dead ship tow transiting the area. Entry of vessels or persons into this zone is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the Captain of the Port, Sector Corpus Christi, or their designated representative.

DATES: This rule is effective without actual notice from November 25, 2026 through December 1, 2026. For the purposes of enforcement, actual notice will be used from November 24, 2026 until November 25, 2026. The rule will be subject to enforcement on only one day during the effective period when the vessel transits from the sea buoy to the International Shipbreaking Limited dock.

ADDRESSES: To view available documents go to *https://www.regulations.gov* and search for USCG–2026–1455.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions about this rule, call or email Lieutenant Commander Timothy Cardenas, Sector Corpus Christi Waterways Management Division, U.S. Coast Guard; telephone 800–874–2143, email *Timothy.J.Cardenas@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

The Coast Guard received notification that TradeWinds Towing, LLC will be conducting a dead ship towing operation within the Brownsville Ship Channel near Brownsville, TX. This operation will involve the transit of the decommissioned former United States naval vessel USS CARR from the sea buoy to the International Shipbreaking Limited Dock. Hazards from this operation include but are not limited to obstruction of vessel traffic, navigational limitations, and various other activities which create potential hazards for workers and the public. The Captain of the Port (COTP) Corpus Christi has determined that potential hazards associated with dead ship towing operations are a safety concern for anyone within the work area. Therefore, the COTP is issuing this rule under the authority in 46 U.S.C. 70034, which is needed to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment in the navigable waters within the safety zone.

Because of these potential hazards, the Coast Guard is issuing this rule without prior notice and comment. As is authorized by 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for not publishing a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) with respect to this rule because it is impracticable. The Coast Guard was notified of this event on October 6, 2026, but we must establish this safety zone by November 24, 2026, to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment. Therefore, we do not have enough time to solicit and respond to comments.

For the same reason, 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**.

III. Discussion of the Rule

This rule establishes a safety zone from November 24, 2026 through December 1, 2026. The safety zone will be enforced on one day during this period. The day and time of enforcement will depend on the weather conditions and the transit of the dead-ship tow operation, and will be announced to the public in advance. The safety zone will cover all navigable waters in the Brownsville Ship Channel within a 500 ft radius of the dead ship tow of the USS CARR by M/V CAITLIN. Vessels and persons will not be allowed to enter the zone during this time, unless authorized by the Captain of the Port.

IV. Regulatory Analyses

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