

(b) Acting in his or her own name and title, each Assistant Secretary, the Inspector General, or the General Counsel, within his or her sphere of responsibility, is authorized to identify and define the requirements for, and to recommend to the Secretary, new or revised Departmental policies, plans, and proposals. Each of these officers is authorized to issue Departmental standards, criteria, systems and procedures that are consistent with applicable laws, Executive Orders, Government-wide regulations and policies established by the Secretary, and to inspect, review, and evaluate Departmental program performance and effectiveness and advise the Secretary regarding the adequacy thereof.

(c) Except for nondelegable statutory duties, including those which devolve as a result of succession to act as Secretary of Transportation, each Deputy Assistant Secretary, the Deputy Inspector General, and the Deputy General Counsel is authorized to act for and perform the duties of his or her principal in the absence or disability of the principal and as otherwise directed by the principal.

(d) *Inspector General.* The Inspector General shall report to and be under the general supervision of the Secretary and Deputy Secretary. In accordance with the statutory intent of the Inspector General Act to create an independent and objective unit, the Inspector General is authorized to make such investigations and reports relating to the administration of the programs and operations of the Department as are, in the judgment of the Inspector General, necessary and desirable. Neither the Secretary nor the Deputy Secretary shall prevent or prohibit the Inspector General from initiating, carrying out, or completing any audit or investigation, or from issuing any subpoena during the course of any audit or investigation.

[Amdt. 1-113, 40 FR 43901, Sept. 24, 1975, as amended by Amdt. 1-157, 45 FR 83404, Dec. 18, 1980; 69 FR 60563, Oct. 12, 2004]

#### § 1.25 Relationships.

(a) *Normal staff role.* Normally, the functions of the Assistant Secretaries are staff and advisory in nature. In performing their functions, the Assistant Secretaries are responsible for con-

tinuing liaison and coordination among themselves and with the operating administrations to:

(1) Avoid unnecessary duplication of effort by or in conflict with the performance of similar activities by the operating administrations and the other Assistant Secretaries pursuant to their Secretarial delegations of authority; and

(2) Assure that the views of the operating administrations are considered in developing Departmental policies, plans, and proposals.

The Assistant Secretaries are also available to assist, as appropriate, the operating administrations in implementing Departmental policy and programs. As primary staff advisors to the Secretary, the Assistant Secretaries are concerned with transportation matters of the broadest scope, including modal, intermodal, and other matters of Secretarial interest.

(b) *Exceptions.* There are exceptions to the normal staff role described in paragraph (a) of this section. In selected instances, the Secretary has specifically delegated to Assistant Secretaries authority which they may exercise on the Secretary's behalf. For example, the Secretary has delegated authority to the Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy and the Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs, as appropriate, to decide on most requests to intervene or appear before administrative agencies, subject to the concurrence of the General Counsel. Also, from time to time, activities of an operational character may be delegated to an Assistant Secretary when the nature of the function or its stage of development makes it untimely to effect assignment to an operating administration.

[Amdt. 1-113, 40 FR 43901, Sept. 24, 1975, as amended by Amdt. 1-157, 45 FR 83405, Dec. 18, 1980; Amdt. 1-261, 59 FR 10063, Mar. 3, 1994]

#### § 1.26 Secretarial succession.

(a) The following officials, in the order indicated, shall act as Secretary of Transportation, in case of the absence or disability of the Secretary, until the absence or disability ceases, or in the case of a vacancy, until a successor is appointed. Notwithstanding

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the provisions of this section, the President retains discretion, to the extent permitted by the law, to depart from this order in designating an acting Secretary of Transportation.

- (1) Deputy Secretary.
  - (2) Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy.
  - (3) General Counsel.
  - (4) Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs.
  - (5) Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy.
  - (6) Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs.
  - (7) Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs.
  - (8) Assistant Secretary for Administration.
  - (9) Federal Aviation Administrator.
  - (10) Federal Aviation Administration Regional Administrator, Southwest Region.
  - (11) Federal Aviation Administration Regional Administrator, Great Lakes Region.
- (b) Without regard to the foregoing, a person directed to perform the duties of the Secretary pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3347 shall act as Secretary of Transportation.

[Amdt. 1-157, 45 FR 83405, Dec. 18, 1980, as amended by Amdt. 1-184, 48 FR 44079, Sept. 27, 1983; Amdt. 1-261, 59 FR 10063, Mar. 3, 1994; Amdt. 1-291, 62 FR 55357, Oct. 24, 1997; 68 FR 35184, June 12, 2003; 73 FR 14728, Mar. 19, 2008]

## Subpart C—Delegations

### § 1.41 Purpose.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, this subpart provides for the exercise of the powers and performance of the duties vested in the Secretary of Transportation by law.

(b) For delegations of authority vested in the Secretary by Executive Order 11652 originally to classify documents as secret or confidential, see § 8.11 of this subtitle.

### § 1.42 Exercise of authority.

In exercising powers and performing duties delegated by this subpart or re-delegated pursuant thereto, officials of the Department of Transportation are governed by applicable laws, Executive orders and regulations and by policies, objectives, plans, standards, proce-

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dures, and limitations as may be issued from time to time by or on behalf of the Secretary, or, with respect to matters under their jurisdictions, by or on behalf of the Deputy Secretary, an Assistant Secretary, the Inspector General, the General Counsel, or an Administrator. This includes, wherever specified, the requirement for advance notice to, prior coordination with, or prior approval by an authority other than that of the official proposing to act.

[Amdt. 1-114, 41 FR 1288, Jan. 7, 1976, as amended by Amdt. 1-157, 45 FR 83405, Dec. 18, 1980]

### § 1.43 General limitations and reservations.

(a) All powers and duties that are not delegated by the Secretary in this subpart, or otherwise vested in officials other than the Secretary, are reserved to the Secretary. Except as otherwise provided, the Secretary may exercise powers and duties delegated or assigned to officials other than the Secretary.

(b) Except as provided in § 1.42 and subject to paragraph (a) of this section and § 1.44, the Deputy Secretary, the Assistant Secretaries, the Inspector General, the General Counsel, and the Administrators exercise the powers and perform the duties delegated to them under this subpart.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a), the delegation of authority in § 1.56b of this title to the Designated Senior Career Official in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs to make decisions in certain aviation hearing cases is exclusive, and may not be exercised by any other Departmental official, including the Secretary. The Secretary reserves (and delegates to the Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs) only the authority to make discretionary review of any such decision and to approve it or to remand it for reconsideration by the Designated Senior Career Official, with a full written explanation of the basis for the remand.

[Amdt. 1-157, 45 FR 83405, Dec. 18, 1980, as amended by Amdt. 1-199, 49 FR 50996, Dec. 31, 1984; Amdt. 1-261, 59 FR 10061, 10063, Mar. 3, 1994]