Subpart A—General

§ 1.1 Overview.

This part describes the organization of the United States Department of Transportation and provides for the performance of duties imposed upon, and the exercise of powers vested in, the Secretary of Transportation by law.

§ 1.2 Organization of the Department.

(a) The Secretary of Transportation is the head of the Department.

(b) The Department comprises the Office of the Secretary of Transportation (OST), the Office of the Inspector General (OIG), and the following Operating Administrations, each headed by an Administrator who reports directly to the Secretary:

(1) The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

(2) The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

(3) The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA).

(4) The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA).

(5) The Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

(6) The Maritime Administration (MARAD).


(8) The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA).

(9) The Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA).

(10) The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC).

§ 1.3 Exercise of authority.

(a) In exercising powers and performing duties delegated by this part or redelegated pursuant thereto, officials of the Department of Transportation are governed by applicable laws, Executive Orders and regulations and by policies, objectives, plans, standards, procedures, 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, the Under Secretary, the General Counsel, an Assistant Secretary, the Inspector General, 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.

(b) Subject to the reservations of authority to the Secretary of Transportation in section 1.21, the Deputy Secretary, the Under Secretary, the General Counsel, the Assistant Secretaries, the Inspector General, and the Administrators exercise the powers and perform the duties delegated to them under this part.

(c) For delegations of authority vested in the Secretary by Executive Order 13526 (see also E.O. 12958 and 12065) originally to classify documents as secret and confidential, see § 8.11 of this subtitle. Previous delegations of authority to Department of Transportation officials to originally classify information as secret and confidential are hereby rescinded.

Subpart B—Office of the Secretary

§ 1.11 Overview.

This subpart sets forth the OST’s key responsibilities, its basic organizational structure, and the line of Secretarial succession in time of need. It also describes the key responsibilities of OST officials, and sets forth delegations and reservations of authority to those officials.

§ 1.13 OST Key Responsibilities.

(a) The OST is responsible for:

(1) Providing leadership in formulating and executing well-balanced national and international transportation objectives, policies, and programs to ensure the Nation has safe, economically competitive transportation systems that support U.S. interests, that are maintained in a state of good repair, that foster environmental sustainability, and that support livable communities;

(2) Chairing the Department’s Safety Council;