

§ 835.11

Only factual testimony is authorized; no expert or opinion testimony shall be given.

[63 FR 71608, Dec. 29, 1998]

§ 835.11 Obtaining Board accident reports, factual accident reports, and supporting information.

It is the responsibility of the individual requesting testimony to obtain desired documents. There are a number of ways to obtain Board accident reports, factual accident reports, and accompanying accident docket files. Our rules at parts 801 and 837 of this chapter explain our procedures, as will our web site, at www.nts.gov. Or, you may call our Public Inquiries Branch, at (800) 877-6799. Documents will not be supplied by witnesses at depositions, nor will copying services be provided by deponents.

[63 FR 71608, Dec. 29, 1998]

PART 837—PRODUCTION OF RECORDS IN LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Sec.

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AUTHORITY: 49 U.S.C. 1101 *et seq.*; 40101 *et seq.*; 5 U.S.C. 301.

SOURCE: 62 FR 27703, May 21, 1997, unless otherwise noted.

§ 837.1 Purpose and scope.

(a) This part sets forth procedures to be followed when requesting material for use in legal proceedings (including administrative proceedings) in which the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB or Board) is not a party, and procedures to be followed by the employee upon receipt of a subpoena, order, or other demand (collectively referred to here as a demand) by a court or other competent authority or by a private litigant. "Material," as used in this part, means any type of physical or documentary evidence, including but not limited to paper documents, electronic media, videotapes, audiotapes, etc.

(b) The purposes of this part are to:

49 CFR Ch. VIII (10-1-02 Edition)

(1) Conserve the time of employees for conducting official business;

(2) Minimize the possibility of involving the NTSB in controversial issues not related to its mission;

(3) Maintain the impartiality of the Board among private litigants;

(4) Avoid spending the time and money of the United States for private purposes; and

(5) To protect confidential, sensitive information, and the deliberative processes of the Board.

§ 837.2 Applicability.

This part applies to requests to produce material concerning information acquired in the course of performing official duties or because of the employee's official status. Specifically, this part applies to requests for: material contained in NTSB files; and any information or material acquired by an employee of the NTSB in the performance of official duties or as a result of the employee's status. Two sets of procedures are here established, dependent on the type of material sought. Rules governing requests for employee testimony, as opposed to material production, can be found at 49 CFR part 835. Document production shall not accompany employee testimony, absent compliance with this part and General Counsel approval.

§ 837.3 Published reports, material contained in the public accident investigation dockets, and accident database data.

(a) Demands for material contained in the NTSB's official public docket files of its accident investigations, or its computerized accident database(s) shall be submitted, in writing, to the Public Inquiries Branch. Demands for specific published reports and studies should be submitted to the National Technical Information Service. The Board does not maintain stock of these items. Demands for information collected in particular accident investigations and made a part of the public docket should be submitted to the Public Inquiries Branch or, directly, to our contractor. For information regarding the types of documents routinely issued by the Board, see 49 CFR part 801.