

Federal Maritime Commission

§ 540.9

such bond shall be in an amount calculated as in the introductory text of § 540.5.

(c) In the case of a surety bond which is to cover an individual voyage, such bond shall be in an amount determined by the Commission to equal the gross passenger revenue for that voyage.

(d) The liability of the surety under the rules of this subpart to any passenger shall not exceed the amount paid by any such passenger, except that, no such bond shall be terminated while a voyage is in progress.

[49 FR 36313, Sept. 14, 1984, as amended at 55 FR 1824, Jan. 19, 1990]

§ 540.7 Evidence of financial responsibility.

Where satisfactory proof of financial responsibility has been given or a satisfactory bond has been provided, a Certificate (Performance) covering specified vessels shall be issued evidencing the Commission's finding of adequate financial responsibility to indemnify passengers for nonperformance of water transportation. The period covered by the Certificate (Performance) shall be indeterminate, unless a termination date has been specified thereon.

§ 540.8 Denial, revocation, suspension, or modification.

(a) Prior to the denial, revocation, suspension, or modification of a Certificate (Performance), the Commission shall advise the applicant of its intention to deny, revoke, suspend, or modify and shall state the reasons therefor. If the applicant, within 20 days after the receipt of such advice, requests a hearing to show that the evidence of financial responsibility filed with the Commission does meet the rules of this subpart, such hearing shall be granted by the Commission, except that a Certificate (Performance) shall become null and void upon cancellation or termination of the surety bond, evidence of insurance, guaranty, or escrow account.

(b) A Certificate (Performance) may be denied, revoked, suspended, or modified for any of the following reasons:

(1) Making any willfully false statement to the Commission in connection with an application for a Certificate (Performance);

(2) Circumstances whereby the party does not qualify as financially responsible in accordance with the requirements of the Commission;

(3) Failure to comply with or respond to lawful inquiries, rules, regulations or orders of the Commission pursuant to the rules of this subpart.

(c) If the applicant, within 20 days after notice of the proposed denial, revocation, suspension, or modification under paragraph (b) of this section, requests a hearing to show that such denial, revocation, suspension, or modification should not take place, such hearing shall be granted by the Commission.

§ 540.9 Miscellaneous.

(a) If any evidence filed with the application does not comply with the requirements of this subpart, or for any reason fails to provide adequate or satisfactory protection to the public, the Commission will notify the applicant stating the deficiencies thereof.

(b) Any financial evidence submitted to the Commission under the rules of this subpart shall be written in the full and correct name of the person to whom the Certificate (Performance) is to be issued, and in case of a partnership, all partners shall be named.

(c) The Commission's bond (Form FMC-132A), guaranty (Form FMC-133A), and application (Form FMC-131) forms are hereby incorporated as a part of the rules of this subpart. Any such forms filed with the Commission under this subpart must be in duplicate.

(d) Any securities or assets accepted by the Commission (from applicants, insurers, guarantors, escrow agents, or others) under the rules of this subpart must be physically located in the United States.

(e) Each applicant, insurer, escrow agent and guarantor shall furnish a written designation of a person in the United States as legal agent for service of process for the purposes of the rules of this subpart. Such designation must be acknowledged, in writing, by the designee. In any instance in which the designated agent cannot be served because of its death, disability, or unavailability, the Secretary, Federal Maritime Commission, will be deemed to be the agent for service of process. A

party serving the Secretary in accordance with the above provision must also serve the Certificant, insurer, escrow agent, or guarantor, as the case may be, by registered mail at its last known address on file with the Commission.

(f) [Reserved]

(g) Financial data filed in connection with the rules of this subpart shall be confidential except in instances where information becomes relevant in connection with hearings which may be requested by applicant pursuant to §540.8 (a) or (b).

(h) Every person who has been issued a Certificate (Performance) must submit to the Commission a semiannual statement of any changes that have taken place with respect to the information contained in the application or documents submitted in support thereof. Negative statements are required to indicate no change. Such statements must cover every 6-month period of the fiscal year immediately subsequent to the date of the issuance of the Certificate (Performance), and include a statement of the highest unearned passenger vessel revenue accrued for each month in the 6-month reporting period. In addition, the statements will be due within 30 days after the close of every such 6-month period.

(i) [Reserved]

(j) The amount of: (1) Insurance as specified in §540.5(a), (2) the escrow account as specified in §540.5(b), (3) the guaranty as specified in §540.5(c), or (4) the surety bond as specified in §540.6, shall not be required to exceed 15 million dollars (U.S.).

(k) Every person in whose name a Certificate (Performance) has been issued shall be deemed to be responsible for any unearned passage money or deposits in the hands of its agents or of any other person or organization authorized by the certificant to sell the certificant's tickets. Certificants shall promptly notify the Commission of any arrangements, including charters and subcharters, made by it or its agent with any person pursuant to which the certificant does not assume responsibility for all passenger fares and deposits collected by such person or organization and held by such person or organization as deposits or payment for

services to be performed by the certificant. If responsibility is not assumed by the certificant, the certificant also must inform such person or organization of the certification requirements of Public Law 89-777 and not permit use of its name or tickets in any manner unless and until such person or organization has obtained the requisite Certificate (Performance) from the Commission.

[49 FR 36313, Sept. 14, 1984, as amended at 55 FR 34568, Aug. 23, 1990]

FORM FMC-131 TO SUBPART A OF PART
540

FORM FMC-131

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20573

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF FINANCIAL
RESPONSIBILITY

In compliance with the provisions of Public Law 89-777 and 46 CFR part 540, application is hereby made for a Certificate of Financial Responsibility (check one or both as applicable):

for indemnification of passengers for nonperformance. Initial application Certificate has previously been applied for (if so, give date of application and action taken thereon).

to meet liability incurred for death or injury to passengers or other persons. Initial application Certificate has previously been applied for (if so, give date of application and action taken thereon).

Instructions

Submit two (2) typed copies of the application to the Secretary, Federal Maritime Commission, Washington, DC 20573. The application is in four parts: Part I—General; Part II—Performance; Part III—Casualty and Part IV—Declaration. Applicants must answer all questions in part I and part IV, then parts II and/or part III as appropriate. Instructions relating to part II and part III are contained at the beginning of the respective part. If the information required to be submitted under 46 CFR part 540 has been previously submitted under other rules and regulations of the Commission, state when and for what reason such information was submitted. If previously submitted, it is not necessary to resubmit. If additional space is required, supplementary sheets may be attached.

Federal Maritime Commission

Pt. 540, Subpt. A, Form FMC-131

PART I—GENERAL

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS

1. (a) Legal business name:
 (b) English equivalent of legal name if customarily written in language other than English:
 (c) Trade name or names used:
2. (a) State applicant's legal form of organization, i.e., whether operating as an individual, corporation, partnership, association, joint stock company, business trust, or other organized group of persons (whether incorporated or not), or as a receiver, trustee, or other liquidating agent, and describe current business activities and length of time engaged therein.
 (b) If a corporation, association, joint stock company, business trust, or other organization, give:
 Name of State or country in which incorporated or organized.
 Date of the incorporation or organization.
 (c) If a partnership, give name and address of each partner:
3. Give following information regarding any person or company controlling, controlled by, or under common control with you (answer only if applying as a self-insurer under part II or part III).

Name	Address	Business and relationship to you
.....
.....

4. In relation to the passenger transportation engaged in by you to or from U.S. ports:
 Do you own all the vessels? Yes No
 (If "No" indicate the nature of the arrangements under which those not owned by you are available to you (e.g., bareboat, time, voyage, or other charter, or arrangement).)
5. Name of each passenger vessel having accommodations for 50 or more passengers and embarking passengers at U.S. ports:

Name	Country of registry	Registration No.	Maximum number of berth or stateroom accommodations
.....
.....

6. Submit a copy of passenger ticket or other contract evidencing the sale of passenger transportation.
7. Name and address of applicant's U.S. agent or other person authorized to accept legal service in the United States.

PART II—PERFORMANCE

Answer items 8-15 if applying for Certificate of Financial Responsibility for Indem-

- nification of Passengers for Nonperformance. If you are filing evidence of insurance, escrow account, guaranty or surety bond under subpart A of 46 CFR part 540 and providing at least fifteen (15) million dollars (U.S.) of coverage, you need not answer questions 10-15.
8. If you are providing at least fifteen (15) million dollars (U.S.) of coverage, state type of evidence and name and address of applicant's insurer, escrow agent, guarantor or surety (as appropriate).
 - 9.* A Certificate (Performance) is desired for the following proposed passenger voyage or voyages: (Give itinerary and indicate whether the Certificate is for a single voyage, multiple voyages or all voyages scheduled annually.)

Vessel	Voyage date	Voyage itinerary
.....
.....

10. Items 11-14 are optional methods; answer only the one item which is applicable to this application. Check the appropriate box below:
 Insurance (item 11).
 Escrow (item 12).
 Surety bond (item 13).
 Guaranty (item 14).

11. (a) Total amount of performance insurance which is to be computed in accordance with 46 CFR 540.5. (Evidence of insurance must be filed with the Federal Maritime Commission before a Certificate (Performance) may be issued.)
 (b) Method by which insurance amount is determined (attach data substantiating that amount is not less than that prescribed in 46 CFR 540.5).
 (c) Name and address of applicant's insurer for performance policy.
12. (a) Name and address of applicant's escrow agent. (Applicant may pledge cash or U.S. Government securities, in lieu of a surety bond, to fulfill the indemnification provisions of Pub. L. 89-777.)
 (b) Total escrow deposit which is to be computed in accordance with 46 CFR 540.5. (Escrow agreement must be filed with the Federal Maritime Commission before a Certificate (Performance) will be issued.) Cash \$ _____. U.S. Government Securities \$ _____.

- (c) Method by which escrow amount is determined (attach data substantiating that amount is not less than that prescribed by 46 CFR 540.5).
13. (a) Total amount of surety bond in accordance with 46 CFR 540.6. (The bond must be filed with the Federal Maritime Commission before a Certificate (Performance) may be issued.)

*The filing of sailing schedules will be acceptable in answers to this question.

Pt. 540, Subpt. A, Form FMC-132A

46 CFR Ch. IV (10-1-06 Edition)

(b) Method by which bond amount is determined (attach data substantiating that amount is not less than that prescribed in 46 CFR 540.6).

(c) Name and address of applicant's surety on performance bond.

14. (a) Total amount of guaranty which is to be computed in accordance with 46 CFR 540.5. (Guaranty must be filed with the Federal Maritime Commission before a Certificate (Performance) may be issued.)

(b) Method by which guaranty amount is determined (attach data substantiating that amount is not less than that prescribed in 46 CFR 540.5).

(c) Name and address of applicant's guarantor.

PART III—CASUALTY

Answer Items 16-22 if Applying for Certificate of Financial Responsibility To Meet Liability Incurred for Death or Injury to Passengers or Other Persons

16. (a) Name of passenger vessel subject to section 2 of Public Law 89-777 operated by you to or from U.S. ports which has largest number of berth or stateroom accommodations.

(b) State the maximum number of berth or stateroom accommodations.

17. Amount of death or injury liability coverage based on number of accommodations aboard vessel named in item 16 above, calculated in accordance with 46 CFR 540.24.

Items 18-22 Are Optional Methods: Answer Only the One Item Which is Applicable to This Application

18. (a) Total amount of applicant's insurance. (Evidence of the insurance must be filed with the Federal Maritime Commission before a Certificate (Casualty) will be issued.)

(b) Name and address of applicant's insurer.

19. (a) Total amount of surety bond. (Bond must be filed with the Federal Maritime Commission before a Certificate (Casualty) will be issued.)

(b) Name and address of applicant's surety for death or injury bond.

20. (a) Total amount of escrow deposit. (Escrow agreement must be filed with the Federal Maritime Commission before a Certificate (Casualty) will be issued.)

(b) Name and address of applicant's escrow agent.

21. (a) Total amount of guaranty. (Guaranty must be filed with the Federal Maritime Commission before a Certificate (Casualty) will be issued.)

(b) Name and address of applicant's guarantor.

22. If applicant intends to qualify as a self-insurer for a Certificate (Casualty) under 46

CFR 540.24(c), attach all data, statements and documentation required therein.

PART IV—DECLARATION

This application is submitted by or on behalf of

(a) Name.

(b) Name and title of official.

(c) Home office—Street and number.

(d) City.

(e) State or country.

(f) ZIP Code.

(g) Principal office in the United States—Street and number.

(h) City.

(i) State.

I declare that I have examined this application, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct and complete.

By _____
(Signature of official)

(Date)

Comments:

[49 FR 36313, Sept. 14, 1984, as amended at 55 FR 34568, Aug. 23, 1990; 67 FR 44776, July 5, 2002]

FORM FMC-132A TO SUBPART A OF PART 540

FORM FMC-132A

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Surety Co. Bond No. _____
FMC Certificate No. _____

PASSENGER VESSEL SURETY BOND (46 CFR PART 540)

Know all men by these presents, that we _____ (Name of applicant), of _____ (City), _____ (State and country), as Principal (hereinafter called Principal), and _____ (Name of surety), a company created and existing under the laws of _____ (State and country) and authorized to do business in the United States as Surety (hereinafter called Surety) are held and firmly bound unto the United States of America in the penal sum of _____, for which payment, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves and our heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents.

Whereas the Principal intends to become a holder of a Certificate (Performance) pursuant to the provisions of subpart A of part 540 of title 46, Code of Federal Regulations and has elected to file with the Federal Maritime Commission such a bond to insure financial responsibility and the supplying transportation and other services subject to subpart

Federal Maritime Commission

Pt. 540, Subpt. A, Form FMC-133A

A of part 540 of title 46, Code of Federal Regulations, in accordance with the ticket contract between the Principal and the passenger, and

Whereas this bond is written to assure compliance by the Principal as an authorized holder of a Certificate (Performance) pursuant to subpart A of part 540 of title 46, Code of Federal Regulations, and shall inure to the benefit of any and all passengers to whom the Principal may be held legally liable for any of the damages herein described.

Now, therefore, the condition of this obligation is such that if the Principal shall pay or cause to be paid to passengers any sum or sums for which the Principal may be held legally liable by reason of the Principal's failure faithfully to provide such transportation and other accommodations and services in accordance with the ticket contract made by the Principal and the passenger while this bond is in effect for the supplying of transportation and other services pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of subpart A of part 540 of title 46, Code of Federal Regulations, then this obligation shall be void, otherwise, to remain in full force and effect.

The liability of the Surety with respect to any passenger shall not exceed the passage price paid by or on behalf of such passenger.

The liability of the Surety shall not be discharged by any payment or succession of payments hereunder, unless and until such payment or payments shall amount in the aggregate to the penalty of the bond, but in no event shall the Surety's obligation hereunder exceed the amount of said penalty. The Surety agrees to furnish written notice to the Federal Maritime Commission forthwith of all suits filed, judgments rendered, and payments made by said Surety under this bond.

This bond is effective the _____ day of _____, 19____, 12:01 a.m., standard time at the address of the Principal as stated herein and shall continue in force until terminated as hereinafter provided. The Principal or the Surety may at any time terminate this bond by written notice sent by certified mail to the other and to the Federal Maritime Commission at its office in Washington, D.C., such termination to become effective thirty (30) days after actual receipt of said notice by the Commission, except that no such termination shall become effective while a voyage is in progress. The Surety shall not be liable hereunder for any refunds due under ticket contracts made by the Principal for the supplying of transportation and other services after the termination of this bond as herein provided, but such termination shall not affect the liability of the Surety hereunder for refunds arising from ticket contracts made by the Principal for the supplying of transportation and other services prior to the date such termination becomes effective.

In witness whereof, the said Principal and Surety have executed this instrument on _____ day of _____, 19____.

PRINCIPAL

Name _____
By _____
(Signature and title)

Witness _____

SURETY

[SEAL] Name _____
By _____
(Signature and title)

Witness _____

Only corporations or associations of individual insurers may qualify to act as surety, and they must establish to the satisfaction of the Federal Maritime Commission legal authority to assume the obligations of surety and financial ability to discharge them.

FORM FMC-133A TO SUBPART A OF PART 540

FORM FMC-133A

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Guaranty No. _____
FMC Certificate No. _____

GUARANTY IN RESPECT OF LIABILITY FOR NONPERFORMANCE, SECTION 3 OF THE ACT

1. Whereas _____ (Name of applicant) (Hereinafter referred to as the "Applicant") is the Owner or Charterer of the passenger Vessel(s) specified in the annexed Schedule ("the Vessels"), which are or may become engaged in voyages to or from United States ports, and the Applicant desires to establish its financial responsibility in accordance with section 3 of Pub. L. 89-777, 89th Congress, approved November 6, 1966 ("the Act") then, provided that the Federal Maritime Commission ("FMC") shall have accepted, as sufficient for that purpose, the Applicant's application, supported by this Guaranty, and provided that FMC shall issue to the Applicant a Certificate (Performance) ("Certificate"), the undersigned Guarantor hereby guarantees to discharge the Applicant's legal liability to indemnify the passengers of the Vessels for nonperformance of transportation within the meaning of section 3 of the Act, in the event that such legal liability has not been discharged by the Applicant within 21 days after any such passenger has obtained a final judgment (after appeal, if any) against the Applicant from a United States Federal or State Court of competent jurisdiction, or has become entitled to payment of a specified sum by virtue of a compromise settlement agreement made with the Applicant, with the approval of the

Pt. 540, Subpt. A, App. A

46 CFR Ch. IV (10-1-06 Edition)

Guarantor, whereby, upon payment of the agreed sum, the Applicant is to be fully, irrevocably and unconditionally discharged from all further liability to such passenger for such nonperformance.

2. The Guarantor's liability under this Guaranty in respect to any passenger shall not exceed the amount paid by such passenger; and the aggregate amount of the Guarantor's liability under this Guaranty shall not exceed \$_____.

3. The Guarantor's liability under this Guaranty shall attach only in respect of events giving rise to a cause of action against the Applicant, in respect of any of the Vessels, for nonperformance of transportation within the meaning of Section 3 of the Act, occurring after the Certificate has been granted to the Applicant, and before the expiration date of this Guaranty, which shall be the earlier of the following dates:

(a) The date whereon the Certificate is withdrawn, or for any reason becomes invalid or ineffective; or

(b) The date 30 days after the date of receipt by FMC of notice in writing (including telex or cable) that the Guarantor has elected to terminate this Guaranty except that:

(i) If, on the date which would otherwise have been the expiration date under the foregoing provisions (a) or (b) of this Clause 3, any of the Vessels is on a voyage whereon passengers have been embarked at a United States port, then the expiration date of this Guaranty shall, in respect of such Vessel, be postponed to the date on which the last passenger on such voyage shall have finally disembarked; and

(ii) Such termination shall not affect the liability of the Guarantor for refunds arising from ticket contracts made by the Applicant for the supplying of transportation and other services prior to the date such termination becomes effective.

4. If, during the currency of this Guaranty, the Applicant requests that a vessel owned or operated by the Applicant, and not specified in the annexed Schedule, should become subject to this Guaranty, and if the Guarantor accedes to such request and so notifies FMC in writing (including telex or cable), then, provided that within 30 days of receipt of such notice, FMC shall have granted a Certificate, such Vessel shall thereupon be deemed to be one of the Vessels included in the said Schedule and subject to this Guaranty.

5. The Guarantor hereby designates _____, with offices at _____, as the Guarantor's legal agent for service of process for the purposes of the Rules of the Federal Maritime Commission, subpart A of part 540 of title 46, Code of Federal Regulations, issued under Section 3 of Pub. L. 89-777 (80 Stat. 1357, 1358), entitled "Security for the Protection of the Public."

(Place and Date of Execution)

(Type Name of Guarantor)

(Type Address of Guarantor)

By _____
(Signature and Title)

*Schedule of Vessels Referred to in Clause 1
Vessels Added to This Schedule in Accordance
With Clause 4*

**APPENDIX A TO SUBPART A OF PART
540—EXAMPLE OF ESCROW AGREEMENT
FOR USE UNDER 46 CFR
540.5(B)**

Escrow Agreement

1. Legal name(s), state(s) of incorporation, description of business(es), trade name(s) if any, and domicile(s) of each party.

2. Whereas, [name of the passenger vessel operator] ("Operator") and/or [name of the issuer of the passenger ticket] ("Ticket Issuer") wish(es) to establish an escrow account to provide for the indemnification of certain of its passengers utilizing [name vessel(s)] in the event of nonperformance of transportation to which such passengers would be entitled, and to establish the Operator's and/or Ticket Issuer's financial responsibility therefor; and

3. Whereas, [name of escrow agent] ("the Escrow Agent") wishes to act as the escrow agent of the escrow account established hereunder.

4. The Operator and/or Ticket Issuer will determine, as of the day prior to the opening date, the total amounts of U.S. unearned passenger revenues ("UPR") which it had in its possession. Unearned passenger revenues are defined as [incorporate the elements of 46 CFR 540.2(i)].

5. The Operator and/or Ticket Issuer shall on the opening date deposit an amount equal to UPR as determined above, plus a cash amount equal to [amount equal to no less than 10% of the Operator's and/or Ticket Issuer's UPR on the date within the 2 fiscal years immediately prior to the filing of the escrow agreement which reflects the greatest amount of UPR, except that the Commission, for good cause shown, may consider a time period other than the previous 2-fiscal-year requirement or other methods acceptable to the Commission to determine the amount of coverage required] ("initial deposit").

6. The Operator and/or Ticket Issuer may at any time deposit additional funds into the account.

Federal Maritime Commission

Pt. 540, Subpt. A, App. A

7. The Operator and/or Ticket Issuer shall, at the end of each business week, recompute UPR by first computing:

A. the amount by which UPR has decreased due to: (1) Refunds due to cancellations; (2) amount of cancellation fees assessed in connection with (1) above; and (3) the amount earned from completed cruises; and

B. the amount by which UPR has increased due to receipts from passengers for future water transportation and all other related accommodations and services not yet performed.

The difference between the above amounts is the amount by which UPR has increased or decreased ("new UPR"). If the new UPR plus the amount of the initial deposit exceeds the amount in the escrow account, the Operator and/or Ticket Issuer shall deposit the funds necessary to make the account balance equal to UPR plus the initial deposit. If the account balance exceeds new UPR plus the initial deposit, the balance shall be available to the Operator and/or Ticket Issuer. The information computed in paragraph 7 shall be furnished to the Commission and the Escrow Agent in the form of a recomputation certificate signed and certified by a competent officer of the Operator and/or Ticket Issuer. Copies sent to the Commission are to be addressed to the Director, Bureau of Tariffs, Certification and Licensing, Federal Maritime Commission, Washington, D.C. 20573.

8. A monthly report shall be prepared by the Escrow Agent and provided to the Operator and/or Ticket Issuer and the Commission within 15 days of the end of each month and shall list the investment assets of the account, their original cost, their current market value, and the beginning and ending balance of the account.

9. The Operator's and/or Ticket Issuer's independent auditors shall prepare quarterly reports, such reports to be furnished to the Escrow Agent and the Commission, and any shortfall is to be covered within one business day.

10. The Escrow Agent shall invest the funds of the account in qualified investments as directed by the Operator and/or Ticket Issuer. Some examples of qualified investments are, to the extent permitted by law:

(a) Government obligations of the United States or its agencies;

(b) Certificates of deposit, time deposits or acceptances of any bank, savings institution or trust company whose debt obligations are in the two highest categories rated by Standard and Poor's or Moody's, or which is itself rated in the two highest categories by Keefe, Brette and Woods;

(c) Commercial paper similarly rated;

(d) Certificates or time deposits issued by any bank, savings institution or trust company when fully insured by the FDIC or the FSLIC;

(e) Money market funds utilizing securities of the same quality as above; and/or

(f) Corporate bonds of the three highest categories, as rated by Standard and Poor's or Moody's.

11. Income derived from the investments shall be credited to the escrow account.

12. The purpose of the escrow agreement is to establish the financial responsibility of the Operator and/or Ticket Issuer pursuant to section 3 of Public Law 89-777, approved November 5, 1966, and the account is to be utilized to discharge the Operator's and/or Ticket Issuer's legal liability to indemnify passengers for nonperformance of transportation via the [name of vessel(s)]. The Escrow Agent is to make such payments on instructions from the Operator and/or Ticket Issuer, or, in the absence of such instructions, 21 days after final judgment against the Operator and/or Ticket Issuer in a U.S. Federal or State court having jurisdiction. The Operator and/or Ticket Issuer will pledge to each passenger holding a ticket for future passage on the Operator's/Ticket Issuer's vessel(s) an interest in the Escrow Account equal to the Fares amount shown on the face of such ticket. The Escrow Agent agrees to act as nominee for each passenger until transportation is performed or until passenger has been compensated.

13. Escrow Agent shall waive right to offset.

14. The Operator and/or Ticket Issuer will indemnify and hold Escrow Agent harmless.

15. Statement of the parties' agreement concerning warranty of *bona fides* by the Operator and/or Ticket Issuer and Escrow Agent.

16. Statement of the parties' agreement concerning fees to be paid by the Operator and/or Ticket Issuer to Escrow Agent, reimbursable expenses to be paid by the Operator and/or Ticket Issuer to Escrow Agent. A statement that fees for subsequent terms of agreement are to be negotiated.

17. Statement of the parties' agreement concerning the term of agreement and renewal/termination procedures.

18. Statement of the parties' agreement concerning procedures for appointment of successor Escrow Agent.

19. Statement that disposition of funds on termination shall be to the Operator and/or Ticket Issuer, if evidence of the Commission's acceptance of alternative evidence of financial responsibility is furnished; otherwise, all passage fares held for uncompleted voyages are to be returned to the passengers. The Operator and/or Ticket Issuer shall pay all fees previously earned to the Escrow Agent.

20. The agreement may be enforced by the passengers, the Escrow Agent, the Operator and/or Ticket Issuer or by the Federal Maritime Commission.

§ 540.20

21. All assets maintained under the escrow agreement shall be physically located in the United States and may not be transferred, sold, assigned, encumbered, etc., except as provided in the agreement.

22. The Commission has the right to examine the books and records of the Operator and/or Ticket Issuer and the Escrow Agent, as related to the escrow account, and the agreement may not be modified unless agreed in writing by the Operator and/or Ticket Issuer and Escrow Agent and approved in writing by the Commission.

[57 FR 41891, Sept. 14, 1992]

Subpart B—Proof of Financial Responsibility, Bonding and Certification of Financial Responsibility To Meet Liability Incurred for Death or Injury to Passengers or Other Persons on Voyages

§ 540.20 Scope.

The regulations contained in this subpart set forth the procedures whereby owners or charterers of vessels having berth or stateroom accommodations for 50 or more passengers and embarking passengers at U.S. ports shall establish their financial responsibility to meet any liability which may be incurred for death or injury to passengers or other persons on voyages to or from U.S. ports. Included also are the qualifications required by the Commission for issuance of a Certificate (Casualty) and the basis for the denial, revocation, suspension, or modification of such Certificates.

§ 540.21 Definitions.

As used in this subpart, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) *Person* includes individuals, corporations, partnerships, associations, and other legal entities existing under or authorized by the laws of the United States or any state thereof or the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands or any territory or possession of the United States, or the laws of any foreign country.

(b) *Vessel* means any commercial vessel having berth or stateroom accommodations for 50 or more passengers

46 CFR Ch. IV (10–1–06 Edition)

and embarking passengers at U.S. ports.

(c) *Commission* means the Federal Maritime Commission.

(d) *United States* includes the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands or any territory or possession of the United States.

(e) *Berth or stateroom accommodations or passenger accommodations* includes all temporary and all permanent passenger sleeping facilities.

(f) *Certificate (Casualty)* means a Certificate of Financial Responsibility to Meet Liability Incurred for Death or Injury to Passengers or Other Persons on Voyages issued pursuant to this subpart.

(g) *Voyage* means voyage of a vessel to or from U.S. ports.

(h) *Insurer* means any insurance company, underwriter, corporation or association of underwriters, ship owners' protection and indemnity association, or other insurer acceptable to the Commission.

(i) *Evidence of insurance* means a policy, certificate of insurance, cover note, or other evidence of coverage acceptable to the Commission.

(j) For the purpose of determining compliance with § 540.22, *passengers embarking at United States ports* means any persons, not necessary to the business, operation, or navigation of a vessel, whether holding a ticket or not, who board a vessel at a port or place in the United States and are carried by the vessel on a voyage from that port or place.

§ 540.22 Proof of financial responsibility, when required.

No vessel shall embark passengers at U.S. ports unless a Certificate (Casualty) has been issued to or covers the owner or charterer of such vessel.

§ 540.23 Procedure for establishing financial responsibility.

(a) In order to comply with section 2 of Pub. L. 89-777 (80 Stat. 1357, 1358) enacted November 6, 1966, there must be filed an Application on Form FMC-131 for a Certificate of Financial Responsibility to Meet Liability Incurred for Death or Injury to Passengers or Other Persons on Voyages. Copies of Form FMC-131 may be obtained from the