

(d) *Emergency situation.* Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, and regardless of an employee's grade level, the agency may determine that an emergency situation exists that directly threatens human life or safety, serious damage to property, or serious disruption to the operations of an activity, and there is no recourse other than to assign qualified employees to temporarily perform work or duties in connection with the emergency. In such a designated emergency—

(1) *Nonexempt employee.* The exemption status of a nonexempt employee remains nonexempt whether the employee performs nonexempt work or exempt work during the emergency; and

(2) *Exempt employee.* The exemption status of an exempt employee must be determined on a workweek basis. The exemption status determination of exempt employees will result in the employee either remaining exempt or becoming nonexempt for that workweek, as described in paragraphs (d)(2)(i) and (d)(2)(ii) of this section.

(i) *Remain exempt.* An exempt employee remains exempt for any workweek in which the employee performs exempt work or duties for 80 percent or more of the worktime in a given workweek.

(ii) *Become nonexempt.* An exempt employee becomes nonexempt for any workweek in which the employee performs nonexempt work or duties for more than 20 percent of the worktime in a given workweek.

[62 FR 67247, Dec. 23, 1997; 63 FR 2304, Jan. 14, 1998]

§ 551.209 Foreign exemption criteria.

(a) *Application.* When the *foreign exemption* applies, the minimum wage, overtime, and child labor provisions of the Act do not apply to *any* employee who spends *all* hours of work in a given workweek in an exempt area. When an employee meets one of the two criteria in paragraph (b) of this section, the foreign exemption applies until the employee spends *any* hours of work in any nonexempt area as defined in § 551.102.

(b) *Foreign exemption applies.* If an employee meets one of the two following criteria, the employee is subject to the foreign exemption of the Act and the minimum wage, overtime, and

child labor provisions of the Act do not apply:

(1) The employee is permanently stationed in an exempt area and spends *all* hours of work in a given workweek in one or more exempt areas; or

(2) The employee is not permanently stationed in an exempt area, but spends *all* hours of work in a given workweek in one or more exempt areas.

(c) *Foreign exemption does not apply.* For any given workweek, the minimum wage, overtime, and child labor provisions of the Act apply to an employee permanently stationed in an exempt area who spends *any* hours of work in any nonexempt area. For that workweek, the employee is not subject to the foreign exemption, and the agency must determine the exemption status of such an employee as described paragraphs (c)(1) and (c)(2) of this section. The foreign exemption does not resume until the employee again meets one of the criteria in paragraph (b) of this section.

(1) *Same duties.* If the duties performed during that workweek are consistent with the primary or grade-controlling duties of the employee's official position description, the agency must designate the employee the same FLSA exemption status as if the employee were permanently stationed in any nonexempt area.

(2) *Different duties.* If the duties performed during that workweek are not consistent with the primary or grade-controlling duties of the employee's official position description—

(i) The agency must first designate the employee the same FLSA exemption status as the employee would have been designated based on the duties included in the employee's official position description if the employee were permanently stationed in any nonexempt area; and

(ii) The agency must determine the employee's exemption status for that workweek by applying § 551.208.

(d) *Resumption of foreign exemption.* When an employee returns to any exempt area from performing any hours of work in any nonexempt area, the employee is not subject to the foreign exemption until the employee meets

§ 551.210

one of the criteria in paragraph (b) of this section.

§ 551.210 Exemption of employees receiving availability pay.

The following employees are exempt from the hours of work and overtime pay provisions of the Act:

(a) A criminal investigator receiving availability pay under § 550.181 of this chapter; and

(b) A pilot employed by the United States Customs Service who is a law enforcement officer as defined in section 5541(3) of title 5, United States Code, and who receives availability pay under section 5545a(i) of title 5, United States Code.

§ 551.211 Statutory exclusion.

A customs officer who receives overtime pay under subsection (a) or premium pay under subsection (b) of section 267 of title 19, United States Code, for time worked may not receive pay or other compensation for that work under any other provision of law. As used in section 5, the term “customs officer” means a United States Customs Service supervisory or non-supervisory customs inspector or a supervisory or nonsupervisory canine enforcement officer.

Subpart C—Minimum Wage Provisions

BASIC PROVISION

§ 551.301 Minimum wage.

(a)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (a)(2) of this section and § 551.311, an agency shall pay each of its employees wages at rates not less than the minimum wage specified in section 6(a)(1) of the Act for all hours of work as defined in subpart D of this part.

(2) The minimum wage provisions of the Act do not apply to a criminal investigator receiving availability pay under § 550.181.

(b) An employee has been paid in compliance with the minimum wage provisions of this subpart if the employee’s hourly regular rate of pay, as defined in § 551.511(a) of this part, for the workweek is equal to or in excess

5 CFR Ch. I (1–1–01 Edition)

of the rate specified in section 6(a)(1) of the Act.

[45 FR 85664, Dec. 30, 1980, as amended at 59 FR 66154, Dec. 23, 1994]

SUBMINIMUM WAGE

§ 551.311 Subminimum wage.

An agency may, if it meets certain criteria published by the Office of Personnel Management, employ certain groups of less than fully productive employees (e.g., handicapped patient workers) at rates less than the minimum wage specified in section 6(a)(1) of the Act.

[45 FR 85664, Dec. 30, 1980]

Subpart D—Hours of Work

SOURCE: 45 FR 85664, Dec. 30, 1980, unless otherwise noted.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 551.401 Basic principles.

(a) All time spent by an employee performing an activity for the benefit of an agency and under the control or direction of the agency is “hours of work.” Such time includes:

(1) Time during which an employee is required to be on duty;

(2) Time during which an employee is suffered or permitted to work; and

(3) Waiting time or idle time which is under the control of an agency and which is for the benefit of an agency.

(b) For an employee, as defined in 5 U.S.C. 5541(2), hours in a paid nonwork status (e.g., paid leave, holidays, compensatory time off, or excused absences) are “hours of work” under this part.

(c) Hours in an unpaid nonwork status (e.g., leave without pay, furlough, absence without leave) are not “hours of work” under this part.

(d) Time that is considered hours of work under this part shall be used only to determine an employee’s entitlement to minimum wages or overtime pay under the Act, and shall not be used to determine hours of work for pay administration under title 5, United States Code, or any other authority.