

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration**

[Docket No. FMCSA–2020–0004]

**Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Vision****AGENCY:** Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.**ACTION:** Notice of denials.

**SUMMARY:** FMCSA announces its decision to deny applications from 130 individuals who requested an exemption from the vision standard in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) to operate a CMV in interstate commerce.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Christine A. Hydock, Chief, Medical Programs Division, (202) 366–4001, [fmcsamedical@dot.gov](mailto:fmcsamedical@dot.gov), FMCSA, Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W64–224, Washington, DC 20590–0001. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. If you have questions regarding viewing materials in the docket, contact Docket Operations, (202) 366–9826.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****I. Public Participation***A. Viewing Documents and Comments*

To view comments, as well as any documents mentioned in this notice as being available in the docket, go to <http://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=FMCSA-2020-0004> and choose the document to review. If you do not have access to the internet, you may view the docket online by visiting the Docket Operations in Room W12–140 on the ground floor of the DOT West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

*B. Privacy Act*

In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL–14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at [www.transportation.gov/privacy](http://www.transportation.gov/privacy).

**II. Background**

FMCSA received applications from 130 individuals who requested an exemption from the vision standard in the FMCSRs.

FMCSA has evaluated the eligibility of these applicants and concluded that granting these exemptions would not provide a level of safety that would be equivalent to, or greater than, the level of safety that would be obtained by complying with § 391.41(b)(10).

**III. Basis for Exemption Determination**

Under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), FMCSA may grant an exemption from the FMCSRs for no longer than a 5-year period if it finds such exemption would likely achieve a level of safety that is equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved absent such exemption. FMCSA grants exemptions from the FMCSRs for a 2-year period to align with the maximum duration of a driver's medical certification.

The Agency's decision regarding these exemption applications is based on medical reports about the applicants' vision, as well as their driving records and experience driving with the vision deficiency.

**IV. Conclusion**

The Agency has determined that these applicants do not satisfy the eligibility criteria or meet the terms and conditions of the Federal exemption and granting these exemptions would not provide a level of safety that would be equivalent to, or greater than, the level of safety that would be obtained by complying with § 391.41(b)(10). Therefore, the 130 applicants in this notice have been denied exemptions from the physical qualification standards in § 391.41(b)(10).

Each applicant has, prior to this notice, received a letter of final disposition regarding his/her exemption request. Those decision letters fully outlined the basis for the denial and constitute final action by the Agency. This notice summarizes the Agency's recent denials as required under 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(4) by periodically publishing names and reasons for denial.

The following four applicants did not have sufficient driving experience over the past three years under normal highway operating conditions:

Jason D. Ainley (MO)  
Judge M. Arnold (OK)  
Yves F. Bresse (AK)  
Herman W. Zigmond (TX)

The following 54 applicants had no experience operating a CMV:

Ramzi Alqam (IL)  
James E. Balsbaugh (TN)  
Joseph E. Bean (MI)  
Joshua J. Borden (GA)  
Shawn H. Campbell (IN)

Michael T. Carlton (AL)  
Muhammad S. Chaudhry (MD)  
Matthew V. Cordero (NM)  
Cathy L. Daugherty (PA)  
Cody J. Davis (NM)  
Trenell V. Dunson (MI)  
Pedro A. Garcia (TX)  
Chimezie Godwin (CA)  
Christopher B. Green (AL)  
Steven A. Gwinn (IN)  
Adnane Habbaoui (OH)  
DeWayne S. Harbin (IN)  
Wayne C. Hill (AR)  
Jesse C. Hohman (PA)  
Ryan A. Hunt (MN)  
Eric P. Huoppi (ME)  
Michael J. Jager (WI)  
Jody T. Jaramillo (OR)  
Marquitta A. Justice (KY)  
Michael J. Kindred (NY)  
Abigal R. Knight (NY)  
Dominic A. Lewis (DC)  
Tyrone Mays (WI)  
Jonathan P. McDougal (AL)  
Roy D. Meeks (TN)  
Susan A. Muza (NJ)  
Monte F. Nitek (WI)  
Simone W. Norden (MA)  
Sikotilani Palanite (ND)  
Dylan N. Paradis (ME)  
David F. Ramacitti (IL)  
Denzel M. Rawls (NY)  
Richard A. Reed (KY)  
Jordan D. Riesberg (IA)  
Ana M. Rodriguez (WI)  
Jose A. Romero Hernandez (FL)  
Michael P. Ruxton (NC)  
Ronald L. Smith (NV)  
Christopher M. Strickland (WA)  
Joseph Svetich (IL)  
Mark Thibault (CT)  
Gary W. Thom (MN)  
Patricia C. Towles (NJ)  
Konstantinos Trahanas (IL)  
Jason E. Travers (CA)  
Bryon C. Westrup (SD)  
Dana Williams (IL)  
Michael A. Williams (NH)  
Antonio T. Woodson (VA)

The following 28 applicants did not have three years of experience driving a CMV on public highways with their vision deficiencies:

William D. Ahrens (NE)  
George G. Bartholomew (AK)  
Steven L. Bublitz (MN)  
Nikola J. Bukvich (IL)  
Ronald G. Cichy (WI)  
Walter R. Conover (NJ)  
David E. Dickinson (CA)  
Kenneth A. Dunkelberger (OR)  
Matthew L. Farley (WA)  
Wade A. Farrell (MT)  
Andrew T. Grenman (IL)  
Paul A. Hanson (MN)  
Allen M. Jean (PA)  
Michael A. Kauffmann (TX)  
Craig Lauer (MN)

Daryl A. Lee (IN)  
Trey K. Legg (NE)  
Sabah K. Noori (NY)  
Dale K. Norris (MN)  
Larry M. Pratt (WI)  
Rodney J. Redmon (FL)  
Todd M. Roth (IN)  
Kenneth W. Schmidt (PA)  
Keith L. Spence (CT)  
Latonia B. Spicer (NC)  
Ronald E. Sutton (VA)  
Larry M. Tabish (MT)  
Forrest K. Williams (MO)

The following seven applicants did not have 3 years of recent experience driving a CMV on public highways with their vision deficiencies:

Lawrence A. DiVetro (NV)  
Madeline C. Duran (NM)  
Jack M. Elliott (KS)  
Johnnie R. Johnson (OK)  
William C. Kelley (WI)  
Jon A. Stevens (MN)  
Trent C. Tønner (IN)

The following seven applicants did not have sufficient driving experience over the past 3 years under normal highway operating conditions (gaps in driving record):

Alfredo E. Carrillo Posada (CO)  
Gregory B. Gosha (AL)  
Kelvin A. Hulett (MS)  
Leon J. Kirksey (MD)  
Jerred R. Murray (NY)  
Thomas A. Paukowits (MI)  
Rogelio Rocha Monjaraz (MD)

The following applicant was charged with moving violations in conjunction with CMV accidents:

Michael W. Leverett (MI)

The following applicant had his commercial driver's license suspended during the 3-year period in relation to a moving violation:

Thomas M. Bakeberg (SD)

The following applicant contributed to accident(s) in which the applicant was operating a CMV, which is a disqualifying offense:

Bruce E. Hemmer (WI)

The following two applicants did not hold a license which allowed operation of vehicles over 26,000 lbs. for all or part of the 3-year period:

Norman D. Mosley (NJ); and Robert L. Strange (NC)

The following 13 applicants were denied for multiple reasons:

Gema L. Alvarado (UT)  
Eduardo Arguelles (TX)  
John N. Azzopardi (MT)  
Frank L. Crenshaw (OH)  
Tommie L. Dailey (AL)  
Giovanni Gualdrón (NJ)  
Monica M. Hernandez (CA)  
Roman I. Hrabovskiy (NJ)

Johnny M. Kruprzak (OH)  
Elvin E. Martin (PA)  
Kevin D. Melvin (NY)  
Michael C. Shelp (NY)  
Raymond F. Sitter (ND)

The following two applicants have not had stable vision for the preceding 3-year period:

William C. Hurtgen (WI); and  
James N. Robbins (FL)

The following applicant does not meet the vision standard in his better eye:

Keith D. Smith (FL)

The following nine applicants drove interstate while restricted to intrastate driving:

Norlan A. Acosta (MD)  
Adam J. Crull (WA)  
Trina L. Garcia (CA)  
Jureco M. Hall (MD)  
Nathan J. Plumley (NY)  
Izone W. Pulley (MD)  
Sonya Rankins (CA)  
Arthur L. Spaventa (PA)  
Marlon A. Wilson (CT)

Issued on: January 16, 2020.

**Larry W. Minor,**

*Associate Administrator for Policy.*

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**BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2015-0118]

#### Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Epilepsy and Seizure Disorders

**AGENCY:** Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of final disposition.

**SUMMARY:** FMCSA announces its decision to renew an exemption for one individual from the requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) that interstate commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers have “no established medical history or clinical diagnosis of epilepsy or any other condition which is likely to cause loss of consciousness or any loss of ability to control a CMV.” The exemption enables this individual who has had one or more seizures and is taking anti-seizure medication to continue to operate CMVs in interstate commerce.

**DATES:** The exemption was applicable on October 22, 2019. The exemption expires on October 22, 2021.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Christine A. Hydock, Chief, Medical

Programs Division, (202) 366-4001, [fmcsamedical@dot.gov](mailto:fmcsamedical@dot.gov), FMCSA, Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W64-224, Washington, DC 20590-0001. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. If you have questions regarding viewing or submitting material to the docket, contact Docket Operations, (202) 366-9826.

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##### II. Background

On December 4, 2019, FMCSA published a notice announcing its decision to renew an exemption for one individual from the epilepsy and seizure disorders prohibition in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(8) to operate a CMV in interstate commerce and requested comments from the public (84 FR 66454). The public comment period ended on January 3, 2020, and no comments were received.

FMCSA has evaluated the eligibility of this applicant and determined that renewing the exemption would achieve a level of safety equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved by complying with § 391.41(b)(8).

The physical qualification standard for drivers regarding epilepsy found in § 391.41(b)(8) states that a person is physically qualified to drive a CMV if that person has no established medical history or clinical diagnosis of epilepsy or any other condition which is likely