



National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, D.C. 20594

November 1, 2021

Sharon Block, Acting Administrator
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Re: Emergency Justification Letter for NTSB Form—Request for a Medical Exception to the COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement

Dear Acting Administrator Block:

To comply with the September 9, 2021, Executive Order (E.O.) 14043 (*Requiring Coronavirus Disease 2019 Vaccination for Federal Employees*) and October 2021 guidance from the Safer Federal Workforce Task Force, the NTSB submits this Emergency Justification Letter, respectfully requesting that OIRA process NTSB Form—Request for a Medical Exception to the COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement—as an emergency clearance request under 5 C.F.R. § 1320.13. The agency is waiving Notice in the Federal Register (FR) and thus seeks OIRA approval not to publish in the FR.

The NTSB acknowledges that under the normal Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) clearance, the NTSB is to publish 60-day and 30-Day FR Notices, soliciting public comment before seeking OIRA approval. However, to meet the requirements of the E.O. and Task Force recommendations, the NTSB cannot meet the established review period. Thus, the NTSB has a specific and compelling need for emergency clearance; if this request is not granted, the NTSB will be delayed in making determinations on requests from its employees for medical exceptions to the vaccine mandate.

Once the agency receives OMB approval for the Form, the NTSB will submit an Information Collection Request under the regular PRA process. But in the meantime, the agency is enclosing the requisite documents for the emergency clearance: (1) a copy of the NTSB Form; and (2) Supporting Statement A that includes cost and burden information with a link to the agency's existing SORN (NTSB-28, Employee Medical Folders). Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sharon Bryson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sharon Bryson
NTSB COVID-19 Lead