

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

SES Performance Review Board Members

AGENCY: Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the names of the members of the SES Performance Review Board of EEOC for FY 1998 and 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Patricia Cornwell Johnson, Director, Office of Human Resources, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 1801 L Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20507, (202) 663-4306.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the requirement of section 4314(c)(1), Chapter 43 Title 5 U.S.C., membership of the SES Performance Review Board is as follows: Ms. Gwendolyn Reams, Associate General Counsel, Appellate Services, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (Chairperson); Mr. Spencer H. Lewis, Director, New York District Office, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; Mr. Federico Costales, Director, Miami District Office, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; Ms. Peggy Mastroianni, Associate Legal Counsel, Coordination and Guidance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (Alternate).

Signed at Washington, D.C. on this 19th day of April 1999.

For the Commission.

Ida L. Castro,
Chairwoman.

[FR Doc. 99-10569 Filed 4-27-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6570-06-M

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*) (BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR Part 225), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a bank holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or the power to vote shares of a bank or bank holding company and all of the banks and nonbanking companies owned by the bank holding company, including the companies listed below.

The applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, are available for immediate

inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The application also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)). If the proposal also involves the acquisition of a nonbanking company, the review also includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act. Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than May 24, 1999.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis (JoAnne F. Lewellen, Assistant Vice President) 90 Hennepin Avenue, P.O. Box 291, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55480-0291:

1. *First Interstate BancSystem, Inc.*, Billings, Montana; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of Security State Bank Shares, Polson, Montana, and thereby indirectly acquire Security State Bank and Trust Company, Polson, Montana.

B. Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City (D. Michael Manies, Assistant Vice President) 925 Grand Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri 64198-0001:

1. *FirstBank Holding Company of Colorado ESOP*, Lakewood, Colorado, and *FirstBank Holding Company of Colorado*, Lakewood, Colorado; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of FirstBank of Adams County, Thornton, Colorado.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, April 23, 1999.

Robert deV. Frierson,
Associate Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 99-10643 Filed 4-27-99; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Notice of Proposals to Engage in Nonbanking Activities or to Acquire Companies that are Engaged in Nonbanking Activities

The companies listed in this notice have given notice under section 4 of the Bank Holding Company Act (12 U.S.C. 1843) (BHC Act) and Regulation Y (12 CFR Part 225) to engage *de novo*, or to acquire or control voting securities or assets of a company that engages either directly or indirectly, in a nonbanking activity. These activities will be conducted worldwide.

Each notice is available for inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The notice also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the question whether the proposal complies with the standards of section 4 of the BHC Act.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding the applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than May 21, 1999.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of New York (Betsy Buttrill White, Senior Vice President) 33 Liberty Street, New York, New York 10045-0001, and **Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago** (Philip Jackson, Applications Officer) 230 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60690-1413:

1. *Barclays PLC and Barclays Bank PLC*, both of London, England; *Bayerische Hypo- und Vereinsbank AG*, Munich, Germany; *Deutsche Bank AG*, Frankfurt, Germany; and *Stichting Prioriteit ABN AMRO Holding*, *Stichting Administratiekantoor ABN AMRO Holding*, *ABN AMRO Holding N.V.*, and *ABN AMRO Bank N.V.*, all of Amsterdam, The Netherlands (collectively, *Notificants*) to engage *de novo* in digital certification and data processing and data transmission activities, as described below. *Notificants* also propose to engage in activities that they maintain are incidental to permissible digital certification and data processing and data transmission activities.

Notificants propose to acquire more than 5 percent of the outstanding voting interests in *Global Trust Organization, LLC*, New York, New York (Company), a *de novo* limited liability company. Other investors in Company would include national banks and state member banks. Company would serve as the rulemaking authority for a network of participating financial institutions (Network), which would include *Notificants*, future equity investors in Company, and other financial institutions that elect to participate in the Network (collectively, *Participants*). The Network is designed to allow *Participants* to certify electronically the identity of parties conducting business or communicating electronically through the internet or otherwise. *Participants* in the Network would, among other things, issue to customers "digital certificates" that authenticate messages electronically sent by the customer, and confirm the validity of digital certificates issued by *Participants*. *Participants* also may issue warranties to customers who request

verification of digital certificates issued by Participants, and post collateral to secure claims under any warranty issued by the Participant.

Company would develop, maintain, and enforce the rules governing the operation of, and participation in, the Network, and provide other services designed to facilitate the certification activities of Participants and operation of the Network. These activities would include issuing digital certificates to Participants and maintaining a current database of digital certificates that have been issued. Company and Participants would engage in a wide range of data processing and data transmission activities in connection with their proposed activities. A more complete description of the proposed activities of Company, Notificants, and other Participants is contained in the notices.

Section 4(c)(8) of the BHC Act provides that a bank holding company may, with Board approval, engage in any activity that the Board has determined (by order or regulation) to be so closely related to banking or managing or controlling banks as to be a proper incident thereto. The Board previously has determined that certain data processing and data transmission services are closely related to banking for purposes of section 4(c)(8) of the BHC Act, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(14) of Regulation Y. Notificants contend that all of the proposed activities are so closely related to banking as to be a proper incident thereto, or are activities that are incidental to permissible activities, pursuant to § 225.21(a)(2) of Regulation Y.

In determining whether the proposal satisfies the proper incident to banking standard of section 4(c)(8) of the BHC Act, the Board must consider whether consummation of the proposal can "reasonably be expected to produce benefits to the public, such as greater convenience, increased competition, or gains in efficiency, that outweigh possible adverse effects, such as undue concentration of resources, decreased or unfair competition, conflicts of interests, or unsound banking practices." 12 U.S.C. 1843(c)(8). Notificants contend that consummation of the proposal will facilitate the development of electronic commerce and will have a beneficial effect on competition for identity certification and related services.

In publishing the proposal for comment, the Board does not take a position on the issues raised by the proposal. Notice of the proposal is published solely to seek the views of interested persons on the issues presented by the proposal and does not

represent a determination by the Board that the proposal meets, or is likely to meet, the standards of the BHC Act. The notices are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Banks indicated above and at the offices of the Board of Governors. Any request for a hearing on the notices must be accompanied by a statement of reasons explaining why a written presentation would not suffice in lieu of a hearing, identifying specifically any questions of fact that are in dispute, summarizing the evidence that would be presented at a hearing, and indicating how the party commenting would be aggrieved by approval of the proposal.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, April 23, 1999.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Associate Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 99-10642 Filed 4-27-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

Appointments to the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission

AGENCY: General Accounting Office.

ACTION: Notice of appointments.

SUMMARY: The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 establishes the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, with members to be appointed by the Comptroller General. A recent amendment to the Act expanded the membership of the Commission from 15 to 17. This notice announces five appointments to fill the vacancies occurring this year, and two appointments to carry out the expansion.

DATES: Appointments effective May 1, 1999.

ADDRESSES: The General Accounting Office is at 441 G St. NW, Washington, DC 20548. The Office of the Chairman of the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission is at Suite 800, 1730 K St., NW, Washington DC 20006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: General Accounting Office: Paul T. Wagner, 202-512-7257; Medicare Payment Advisory Commission: Murray N. Ross, 202-653-7220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This announces the appointment of seven members of the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, effective May 1, 1999.

The Commission originally comprised 15 members, appointed by the Comptroller General. A recent amendment expanded the membership of the Commission to 17. Members are generally appointed to 3-year terms,

except that some terms of members are staggered in order to spread term expiration dates.

All terms now end on April 30 of the year in which they expire. This year, the terms of five of the original members will expire.

To fill the five impending vacancies, expand the Commission's membership to 17, and to comply with the requirement for staggered terms, we announce the following seven appointments, effective May 1, 1999:

Beatrice S. Braun, M.D.; Floyd D. Loop, M.D.; Janet Newport; Carol Raphael; and Mary K. Wakefield, Ph.D.; to 3-year terms, which expire April 30, 2002; Spencer Johnson, to a 2-year term, which expires April 30, 2001; and Donald T. "Ted" Lewers, M.D., to a 1-year term, which expires April 30, 2000.

David M. Walker,

Comptroller General of the United States.

[FR Doc. 99-10621 Filed 4-27-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 1610-02-U

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

Emergency Clearance: Public Information Collection Requirements Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

In compliance with the requirements of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) the following request for emergency review. We are requesting an emergency review because the collection of this information is needed prior to the expiration of the normal time limits under OMB's regulations at 5 CFR Part 1320 and is essential to the mission of the Department. The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 authorized the Department of Labor (DoL) to implement a new grant program to fund state and local efforts to get the hardest-to-serve welfare recipients into employment. The statute directs the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, to develop a plan to evaluate how Welfare-to-Work (WtW) grants to states and tribes have been used. An interim evaluation report is due to Congress by January 1, 1999, and a final report is due by January 1, 2001.

Implementation of the WtW programs among grantees has proven slower than