

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before December 22, 2003 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to R. Joseph Durbala, Internal Revenue Service, room 6411, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to Allan Hopkins, at (202) 622-6665, or at Internal Revenue Service, room 6407, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224, or through the Internet, at Allan.M.Hopkins@irs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Information Return for Transfers Associated With Certain Personal Benefit Contracts.

OMB Number: 1545-1702.

Form Number: 8870.

Abstract: Section 537 of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 added section 170(f)(10) to the Internal Revenue Code. Section 170(f)(10)(F) requires an organization to report annually: (1) Any premiums paid after February 8, 1999, to which section 170(f)(10) applies; (2) the name and taxpayer identification number (TIN) of each beneficiary under each contract to which the premiums relate; and (3) any other information the Secretary of the Treasury may require. A charitable organization described in section 170(c) or a charitable remainder trust described in section 664(d) that paid premiums after February 8, 1999, or certain life insurance, annuity, and endowment contracts (personal benefit contracts) must complete and file Form 8870.

Current Actions: There are no changes being made to the form at this time.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Responses: 5,000.

Estimated Time Per Response: 14 hours, 50 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 74,200.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and

tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: October 16, 2003.

R. Joseph Durbala,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-26807 Filed 10-22-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

[FI-43-94]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request For Regulation Project

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning an existing final regulation, FI-43-94 (TD 8649), Regulations Under Section 1258 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; Netting Rule for Certain Conversion Transactions (§ 1.1258-1).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before December 22, 2003 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to R. Joseph Durbala, Internal Revenue

Service, room 6411, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection should be directed to Allan Hopkins, at (202) 622-6665, or at Internal Revenue Service, room 6407, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224, or through the Internet, at Allan.M.Hopkins@irs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Regulations Under Section 1258 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; Netting Rule for Certain Conversion Transactions.

OMB Number: 1545-1452.

Regulation Project Number: FI-43-94.

Abstract: Internal Revenue Code section 1258 recharacterizes capital gains from conversion transactions as ordinary income to the extent of the time value element. This regulation provides that certain gains and losses may be netted for purposes of determining the amount of gain recharacterized. To be eligible for netting relief, the taxpayer must identify on its books and records all the positions that are part of the conversion transaction. This must be done before the close of the day on which the positions become part of the conversion transaction.

Current Actions: There is no change to this existing regulation.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations, and not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 50,000.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 6 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 5,000

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a

matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: October, 15, 2003.

R. Joseph Durbala,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-26808 Filed 10-22-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0524]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Office of Policy and Planning, Department of Veterans Affairs

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-21), this notice announces that the Office of Policy and Planning (OPPA), Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden and it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATE: Comments must be submitted on or before November 24, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE SUBMISSION CONTACT: Denise McLamb, Records Management Service (005E3), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8030 or FAX (202) 273-5981 or e-mail: denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0524").

Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's Desk Officer, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New

Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-7316. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0524".

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: VA Police Officer Pre-Employment Screening Checklist, VA Form 0120.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 0120 is used to document pre-employment screening and special background checks for police officer applicants. Prior to employment of a qualified applicant, each VA medical center is required to conduct a FBI arrest record inquiry and to contact listed former employers for information. The form is completed by each VA facility and serves as a record of pre-employment screening to determine the qualification and suitability of the applicant. It is the policy of VA that no person be employed as a VA police officer who has been convicted of a serious crime or whose history reflects a disregard for laws and regulations, questionable character, or a pattern of misconduct or poor work habits.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The *Federal Register* Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on June 3, 2003, at page 33229.

Affected Public: State, Local or Tribal Government.

Estimated Time Per Respondent and Annual Burden: 250 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 10 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,500.

Dated: October 8, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary.

Jacqueline Parks,

IT Specialist, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 03-26687 Filed 10-22-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0571]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: National Cemetery Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-21), this notice announces that the National Cemetery Administration (NCA), Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden and it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before November 24, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE SUBMISSION CONTACT: Denise McLamb, Records Management Service (005E3), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8030, Fax (202) 273-5981 or e-mail: denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0571" in any correspondence.

Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, (202) 395-7613. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0571" in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Generic Clearance for the National Cemetery Administration (NCA) and the Office of Inspector General (IG) Customer Satisfaction Surveys.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0571.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Executive Order 12862, Setting Customer Service Standards, requires Federal agencies and Departments to identify and survey its customers to determine the kind and quality of services they want and their level of satisfaction with existing service. NCA and IG use customer satisfaction surveys to gauge customer perceptions of VA services as well as customer expectations and desires. The results of these information collections lead to improvements in the quality of VA service delivery by helping to shape the direction and focus of specific programs and services.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The *Federal Register* Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection