

of 1954, as amended (primarily section 161a); the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App 2); and the Commission's regulations in title 10, U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, part 7.

Dated: March 23, 2004.

**Andrew L. Bates,**

*Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. E4-693 Filed 3-26-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

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## OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request for Reclearance of a Revised Information Collection: Forms RI 20-7 and RI 30-3

**AGENCY:** Office of Personnel  
Management.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, May 22, 1995), this notice announces that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget a request for reclearance of a revised information collection. RI 20-7, Representative Payee Application, is used by the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) to collect information from persons applying to be fiduciaries for annuitants or survivor annuitants who appear to be incapable of handling their own funds or for minor children. RI 30-3, Information Necessary for a Competency Determination, collects medical information regarding the annuitant's competency for OPM's use in evaluating the annuitant's condition.

Approximately 12,480 RI 20-7 forms will be completed annually. Each form requires approximately 30 minutes to complete. The annual burden is 6,240 hours. Approximately 250 RI 30-3 forms will be completed annually. Each form requires approximately 1 hour to complete. The total annual burden is 6,490 hours.

For copies of this proposal, contact Mary Beth Smith-Toomey on (202) 606-8358, FAX (202) 418-3251 or via e-mail to [mbtoomey@opm.gov](mailto:mbtoomey@opm.gov). Please include a mailing address with your request.

**DATES:** Comments on this proposal should be received within 30 calendar days from the date of this publication.

**ADDRESSES:** Send or deliver comments to—

Ronald W. Melton, Chief, Operation  
Support Group, Center for Retirement  
and Insurance Services, U.S. Office of

Personnel Management, 1900 E Street,  
NW., Room 3349A, Washington, DC  
20415-3540;

and

Joseph Lackey, OPM Desk Officer,  
Office of Information & Regulatory  
Affairs, Office of Management &  
Budget, New Executive Office  
Building, NW., Room 10235,  
Washington, DC 20503.

*For Information Regarding  
Administrative Coordination—Contact:*  
Cyrus S. Benson, Team Leader,  
Publications Team, Support Group,  
(202) 606-0623.

Office of Personnel Management.

**Kay Coles James,**

*Director.*

[FR Doc. 04-6924 Filed 3-26-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-38-P

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## OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

### Excepted Service

**AGENCY:** Office of Personnel  
Management.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This gives notice of OPM decisions granting authority to make appointments under Schedules A, B and C in the excepted service as required by 5 CFR 6.6 and 213.103.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Delores Everett, Center for Leadership and Executive Resources Policy, Division for Strategic Human Resources Policy, 202-606-1050.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Appearing in the listing below are the individual authorities established under Schedule C between February 1, 2004 and February 29, 2004. Future notices will be published on the fourth Tuesday of each month, or as soon as possible thereafter. A consolidated listing of all authorities as of June 30 is published each year.

#### Schedule A

No Schedule A appointments for February 2004.

#### Schedule B

No Schedule B appointments for February 2004.

#### Schedule C

The following Schedule C appointments were approved for February 2004:

Section 213.3303 Executive Office of  
the President  
Office of National Drug Control Policy

QQGS00016 Staff Assistant to the  
Associate Director, Legislative Affairs.  
Effective February 05, 2004

QQGS00026 Staff Assistant to the Press  
Secretary (Assistant Director).  
Effective February 06, 2004

Office of Science and Technology Policy  
TSGS60021 Confidential Assistant to  
the Chief of Staff. Effective February  
27, 2004

Section 213.3304 Department of State  
DSGS60736 Staff Assistant to the  
Assistant Secretary. Effective  
February 02, 2004

DSGS60737 Special Assistant to the  
Legal Adviser. Effective February 02,  
2004

DSGS60746 Legislative Management  
Officer to the Assistant Secretary for  
Legislative and Intergovernmental  
Affairs. Effective February 02, 2004

DSGS60740 Staff Assistant to the Under  
Secretary for Public Diplomacy and  
Public Affairs. Effective February 06,  
2004

DSGS60744 Special Assistant to the  
Under Secretary for Arms Control and  
Security Affairs. Effective February  
11, 2004

DSGS60745 Special Assistant to the  
Assistant Secretary. Effective  
February 11, 2004

DSGS60725 Press Officer to the  
Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs.  
Effective February 12, 2004

DSGS60748 Attorney-Advisor to the  
Assistant Secretary for  
Administration. Effective February 13,  
2004

DSGS60742 Public Affairs Specialist to  
the Assistant Secretary for Public  
Affairs. Effective February 18, 2004

DSGS60747 Staff Assistant to the Under  
Secretary for Public Diplomacy and  
Public Affairs. Effective February 19,  
2004

DSGS60751 Special Assistant to the  
Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy  
and Public Affairs. Effective February  
20, 2004

DSGS60752 Special Assistant to the  
Under Secretary for Arms Control and  
Security Affairs. Effective February  
20, 2004

DSGS60749 Special Assistant to the  
Deputy Assistant Secretary. Effective  
February 26, 2004

Section 213.3305 Department of the  
Treasury

DYGS00440 Public Affairs Specialist to  
the Director, Public Affairs. Effective  
February 04, 2004

DYGS60421 Special Assistant to the  
Assistant Secretary (Deputy Under  
Secretary) Legislative Affairs.  
Effective February 20, 2004

DYGS60395 Deputy Executive  
Secretary to the Executive Secretary.  
Effective February 27, 2004

- Section 213.3306 Department of Defense  
DDGS16790 Defense Fellow to the Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for White House Liaison. Effective February 04, 2004  
DDGS16791 Public Affairs Specialist to the Public Affairs Specialist. Effective February 04, 2004  
DDGS16784 Defense Fellow to the Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for White House Liaison. Effective February 19, 2004  
Section 213.3307 Department of the Army  
DWGS60076 Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Army (Civil Works). Effective February 24, 2004  
Section 213.3310 Department of Justice  
DJGS00207 Special Assistant to the Director, Office on Violence against Women to the Director of the Violence against Women Office. Effective February 02, 2004  
Section 213.3311 Department of Homeland Security  
DMGS00189 Assistant Director for Legislative Affairs for Emergency Preparedness and Response to the Chief of Staff. Effective February 02, 2004  
DMOT00190 Director, Stakeholder and Industry Affairs to the Administrator. Effective February 03, 2004  
DMGS00191 Director of Scheduling and Advance to the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations. Effective February 05, 2004  
DMGS00193 Special Assistant to the Under Secretary for Border and Transportation Security. Effective February 05, 2004  
DMGS00195 Policy Analyst to the Director, Office for Domestic Preparedness. Effective February 05, 2004  
DMGS00192 Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff. Effective February 06, 2004  
DMGS00172 Counsel to the General Counsel. Effective February 11, 2004  
DMGS00194 Director of Communications for Immigration and Customs Enforcement to the Chief of Staff. Effective February 13, 2004  
DMGS00171 Staff Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Infrastructure Protection. Effective February 19, 2004  
DMGS00174 Special Assistant for Special Projects to the Chief of Staff. Effective February 23, 2004  
DMGS00200 Deputy White House Liaison to the White House Liaison. Effective February 23, 2004  
DMGS00201 Business Liaison to the Special Assistant. Effective February 23, 2004  
DMGS00198 Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Plans, Programs and Budgets. Effective February 24, 2004  
Section 213.3312 Department of the Interior  
DIGS01590 Special Assistant—Advance to the Director of Scheduling and Advance. Effective February 23, 2004  
Section 213.3313 Department of Agriculture  
DAGS00602 Confidential Assistant to the Under Secretary for Rural Development. Effective February 02, 2004  
DAGS00604 Confidential Assistant to the Director, Office of Business and Program Integration. Effective February 03, 2004  
DAGS00605 Confidential Assistant to the Administrator for Risk Management. Effective February 11, 2004  
DAGS00606 Confidential Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations. Effective February 11, 2004  
DAGS00611 Director to the Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service. Effective February 18, 2004  
DAGS00609 Special Assistant to the Associate Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights. Effective February 19, 2004  
DAGS00607 Confidential Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations. Effective February 23, 2004  
DAGS00603 Staff Assistant to the White House Liaison. Effective February 27, 2004  
Section 213.3314 Department of Commerce  
DCGS00573 Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Promotion Services. Effective February 04, 2004  
DCGS00657 Confidential Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Export Enforcement. Effective February 05, 2004  
DCGS00608 Confidential Assistant to the Chief of Staff to the Under Secretary. Effective February 11, 2004  
DCGS00660 Public Affairs Director to the Assistant Secretary for Trade Development. Effective February 12, 2004  
DCGS00486 Deputy Director of Speechwriting to the Director for Speechwriting. Effective February 27, 2004  
DCGS00488 Special Assistant to the Director, Executive Secretariat. Effective 26, 2004  
Section 213.3315 Department of Labor  
DLGS60253 Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary of Labor. Effective February 06, 2004  
DLGS60235 Legislative Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs. Effective February 26, 2004  
Section 213.3316 Department of Health and Human Services  
DHGS60031 Speechwriter to the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs. Effective February 11, 2004  
Section 213.3317 Department of Education  
DBGS00305 Special Assistant to the Director, Office of Public Affairs (Communications Director). Effective February 02, 2004  
DBGS00304 Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategy/Policy to the Chief of Staff. Effective February 05, 2004  
DBGS00306 Deputy Assistant Secretary to the Assistant Secretary for Legislation and Congressional Affairs. Effective February 06, 2004  
DBGS00308 Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Intergovernmental, Constituent Relations and Corporate Liaison. Effective February 12, 2004  
DBGS00307 Special Assistant to the Director, Faith-Based and Community Initiatives Center. Effective February 23, 2004  
DBGS00312 Confidential Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education. Effective February 27, 2004  
Section 213.3318 Environmental Protection Agency  
EPGS03612 Policy Advisor to the Administrator. Effective February 11, 2004  
EPGS03613 Senior Advance Coordinator to the Deputy Associate Administrator for the Office of Public Affairs. Effective February 27, 2004  
Section 213.3325 United States Tax Court  
JCGS60072 Trial Clerk to the Chief Judge. Effective February 02, 2004  
Section 213.3327 Department of Veterans Affairs  
DVGS60004 Associate Dean, Veterans Administration Learning University/Special Assistant to the Secretary to the Dean, Veterans Affairs Learning University. Effective February 18, 2004  
Section 213.3330 Securities and Exchange Commission  
SEOT60003 Confidential Assistant to a Commissioner. Effective February 05, 2004  
Section 213.3331 Department of Energy  
DEGS00394 Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Policy to the Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs. Effective February 03, 2004  
DEGS00400 Policy Advisor to the Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy. Effective February 04, 2004

DEGS00402 Advance Representative to the Director, Office of Scheduling and Advance. Effective February 05, 2004

DEGS00401 Special Assistant to the Director, Office of Scheduling and Advance. Effective February 11, 2004

DEGS00403 Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff. Effective February 18, 2004

Section 213.3332 Small Business Administration

SBGS60190 Deputy Chief of Staff to the Chief of Staff. Effective February 05, 2004

SBGS60019 Special Assistant to the Deputy Administrator. Effective February 11, 2004

SBGS60545 Assistant Administrator to the Associate Administrator for Field Operations. Effective February 11, 2004

SBGS60546 Senior Advisor to the Ombudsman to the National Ombudsman. Effective February 12, 2004

SBGS60004 Senior Advisor for Women's Issues to the Deputy Administrator. Effective February 20, 2004

Section 213.3337 General Services Administration

GS60094 Congressional Relations Officer to the Associate Administrator for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs. Effective February 19, 2004

Section 213.3339 United States International Trade Commission

TCGS00033 Staff Assistant to a Commissioner. Effective February 04, 2004

TCGS00031 Executive Assistant to a Commissioner. Effective February 06, 2004

TCGS00013 Staff Assistant (Economics) to the Chairman. Effective February 18, 2004

Section 213.3344 Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission

SHGS00002 Confidential Assistant to the Commission Member (Chairman). Effective February 11, 2004

Section 213.3384 Department of Housing and Urban Development

DUGS60494 Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary. Effective February 09, 2004

Section 213.3394 Department of Transportation

DTGS60460 Director of Public Affairs to the Administrator. Effective February 04, 2004

**Authority:** 5 U.S.C. 3301 and 3302; E.O. 10577, 3 CFR 1954—1958 Comp., P.218.

Office of Personnel Management.  
**Kay Coles James,**  
*Director.*  
 [FR Doc. 04-6923 Filed 3-26-04; 8:45 am]  
**BILLING CODE 6325-39-P**

## POSTAL SERVICE

### Plan for Secure Postage Meter Technology

**AGENCY:** Postal Service.  
**ACTION:** Revision of final plan.

**SUMMARY:** The Postal™ Service published a schedule for the withdrawal from the market of postage meters involving technology defined as within “phases III and IV” of the Postal Service’s Plan for Secure Postage Meter Technology. The schedule and definition of these phases were published in the **Federal Register** on February 13, 2002 (Vol. 67, No. 30, pages 6766–6767). This notice revises the postage meter retirement schedule by extending the final date for placement of enhanced Computerized Meter Resetting System (CMRS) letterpress meters, identified in the **Federal Register** notice as phase IV meters, to December 31, 2004. No other changes are made to the plan as stated in the **Federal Register**.

**DATES:** This notice is effective March 29, 2004.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Wayne Wilkerson by fax at (703) 292-4073.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Phases III and IV of the Postal Service Plan for Secure Postage Meter Technology describe the retirement of postage meters which employ letterpress printing technology. To address customer concerns regarding the availability of postage meters employing digital printing technology and capable of operating at sufficient speeds to meet the needs of market segments now using phase IV letterpress postage meters, the Postal Service is extending the date for final placements of phase IV meters to December 31, 2004. However, the final date for removal of these meters from the market remains December 31, 2008. To avoid any misunderstanding, we are reprinting in this notice the entire Postal Service Plan for the Retirement of Letterpress Postage Meters with the revised date for ending the placement of phase IV meters.

### Revision of the Final Postal Service Plan for the Retirement of Letterpress Postage Meters

(The changes are shown in italicized text.)

Phases III and IV of the Postal Service Plan for Secure Postage Meter Technology affect *postage* meters that use *letterpress printing technology* and are reset *remotely* under the Computerized Meter Resetting System (CMRS). The affected meters print indicia *with letterpress technology and may or may not have* a digital display. If such a meter has an additional feature that automatically disables the meter if it is not reset within a specified time period or when certain preprogrammed criteria are met, it is called an enhanced meter. Phase III of the proposed plan required that the users of nonenhanced CMRS letterpress meters be notified *by the manufacturer* of the schedule for the retirement of their meters by December 31, 2001 *and* placement of nonenhanced CMRS letterpress meters *could not continue after* December 31, 2002. These meters must be off the market and withdrawn from service by December 31, 2006. Prior to the signing of a contract for the new placement of any nonenhanced CMRS non-digitally printing meter, the manufacturer placing the meter must notify the customer that the meter must be withdrawn from service by December 31, 2006. Phase IV of the plan *required* that the customers of enhanced CMRS letterpress meters be notified of the schedule for the retirement of their meters by June 30, 2003. The placement of enhanced CMRS letterpress meters *is scheduled to cease by* December 31, 2004, and these meters must be off the market and withdrawn from service by December 31, 2008. Prior to the signing of a contract for the new placement of any enhanced CMRS non-digitally printing meter, the manufacturer placing the meter must notify the customer that the meter must be withdrawn from service by December 31, 2008.

**Neva Watson,**  
*Attorney, Legislative.*  
 [FR Doc. 04-6887 Filed 3-26-04; 8:45 am]  
**BILLING CODE 7710-12-P**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Rel. No. IC-26390; File No. 812-13073]

### Allstate Life Insurance Company, et al.; Notice of Application

March 23, 2004.

**AGENCY:** Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”).

**ACTION:** Notice of application for an order of exemption pursuant to section 17(b) of the Investment Company Act of