

Dated: January 27, 2004.

Teresa R. Pierce,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 04-2024 Filed 1-30-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meetings

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the Government in the Sunshine Act, Pub. L. 94-409, that the Securities and Exchange Commission will hold the following meetings during the week of February 2, 2004: An Open Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 4, 2004 at 10 a.m. A Closed Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 5, 2004 at 10 a.m.

Commissioners, Counsel to the Commissioners, the Secretary to the Commission, and recording secretaries will attend the Closed Meeting. Certain staff members who have an interest in the matters may also be present.

The General Counsel of the Commission, or his designee, has certified that, in his opinion, one or more of the exemptions set forth in 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(3), (5), (7), (9B), and (10) and 17 CFR 200.402(a)(3), (5), (7), (9ii), and (10), permit consideration of the scheduled matters at the Closed Meeting.

Commissioner Glassman, as duty officer, voted to consider the items listed for the closed meeting in a closed session.

The subject matter of the Open Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 4, 2004 will be:

1. The Commission will hear oral argument on an appeal by Orlando Joseph Jett ("Jett") and the Division of Enforcement (the "Division") from an initial decision of an administrative law judge. Jett formerly was a government bond trader with former registered broker-dealer Kidder Peabody ("Kidder"). The Division alleges that Jett committed fraud in connection with a trading scheme involving U.S. Treasury zero coupon bonds by which he booked hundreds of millions of dollars of illusory profits for Kidder and earned millions of dollars in bonuses.

The law judge dismissed the fraud charges because, although she found Jett's conduct fraudulent, she concluded that the fraud was not committed "in connection with" the purchase or sale of securities. The law judge also found that Jett aided and abetted Kidder's recordkeeping violations caused by the inclusion of the illusory profits in its financial statements. The law judge barred Jett from association with any broker or dealer and ordered him to pay a civil money penalty of \$200,000, to disgorge \$8.21

million, plus prejudgment interest, and to cease and desist from committing or causing any violations or future violations of the applicable securities laws.

Jett appeals the law judge's findings of recordkeeping violations and contests the judge's findings that he engaged in a scheme to defraud. The Division appeals the law judge's decision with respect to the failure to find violations of the antifraud provisions.

Among the issues likely to be considered are:

1. Whether respondent committed the alleged violations; and
2. If so, whether sanctions should be imposed in the public interest.

For further information, please contact the Office of the Secretary at (202) 942-7070.

The subject matters of the Closed Meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 5, 2004 will be:

- Formal orders of investigation; Institution and settlement of administrative proceedings of an enforcement nature;
- Institution and settlement of injunctive actions;
- Litigation matter; and
- Adjudicatory matter.

At times, changes in Commission priorities require alterations in the scheduling of meeting items. For further information and to ascertain what, if any, matters have been added, deleted or postponed, please contact:

The Office of the Secretary at (202) 942-7070.

Dated: January 28, 2004.

Jonathan G. Katz,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 04-2139 Filed 1-29-04; 12:34 pm]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 4599]

Office of Visa Services; 60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Form DS-117; Application To Determine Returning Resident Status; OMB Control #1405-0091

AGENCY: Department of State.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of State is seeking Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the information collection described below. The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment in the **Federal Register** preceding submission to OMB. This process is conducted in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

The following summarizes the information collection proposal to be submitted to OMB:

Type of Request: Extension of currently approved collection.

Originating Office: Bureau of Consular Affairs, Department of State (CA/VO).

Title of Information Collection: Application to Determine Returning Resident Status.

Frequency: On occasion.

Form Number: DS-117.

Respondents: Aliens applying for special immigrant classification as a returning resident.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 875 per year.

Average Hours Per Response: 30 minutes.

Total Estimated Burden: 438 hours per year.

Public comments are being solicited to permit the agency to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency.
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of technology.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Public comments, or requests for additional information regarding the collection listed in this notice should be directed to Brendan Mullarkey of the Office of Visa Services, U.S. Department of State, 2401 E St., NW., RM L-703, Washington, DC 20520, who may be reached at 202-663-1166.

Dated: January 13, 2004.

Janice L. Jacobs,

Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Visa Services, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 04-2052 Filed 1-30-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 4600]

30-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: DS-2028 Overseas Schools—Grant Status Report; OMB Control Number 1405-0033

AGENCY: Department of State.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of State has submitted the following information collection request to the Office of

Management and Budget (OMB) for approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Comments should be submitted to OMB within 30 days of the publication of this notice.

The following summarizes the information collection proposal submitted to OMB:

Type of Request: Request an extension of a currently approved collection.

Originating Office: A/OPR/OS.

Title of Information Collection: Overseas Schools—Grant Status Report.

Frequency: Annually.

Form Number: DS–2028.

Respondents: Overseas schools grantees.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 185.

Average Hours Per Response: .25.

Total Estimated Burden: 46.25.

Public comments are being solicited to permit the agency to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility.
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of technology.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Copies of the proposed information collection and supporting documents may be obtained from Keith D. Miller, Department of State, Office of Overseas Schools, Room H328 SA–1, Washington, DC 20522–0132 who may be reached on (202) 261–8200. Public comments and questions should be directed to the State Department Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Washington, DC 20530, who may be reached on (202) 395–3897.

Dated: December 30, 2003.

Peggy M. Philbin,

Executive Director, Bureau of Administration, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 04–2053 Filed 1–30–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710–24–P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0335]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Veterans Health 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 Veterans Health Administration (VHA), 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 includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before March 3, 2004.

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 to: denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov. Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0335.”

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) 395–7316. Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0335” in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Dental Record Authorization and Invoice for Outpatient Services, VA Form 10–2570d.

OMB Control Number: 2900–0335.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.
Abstract: VA Form 10–2570b, Examination Procedure Instructions for Participating Fee Dentist, and VA Form 10–2570c, Treatment Procedure Instructions for the Participating Fee Dentist, have been combined with VA Form 10–2570d, Dental Record Authorization and Invoice for Outpatient Services. VA Form 10–2570d is essential to the proper administration of VA outpatient fee dental program. The associated instructions make it possible to communicate with clarity the required procedures, peculiarities, and precautions associated with VA

authorizations for contracting with private dentists for the provision of dental treatment for eligible veteran beneficiaries. Since most of the veterans who are authorized fee dental care are geographically inaccessible to VA dental clinics, it is necessary to request information as to the veteran's oral condition, treatment needs and the usual customary fees for these services from the private fee dentist whom the veteran has selected. The form lists the dental treatment needs of the veteran patient, the cost to VA to provide such services, and serves as an invoice for payment.

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 October 14, 2003, at pages 59243–59244.

Affected Public: Business and other for profit.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 4,153 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 20 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 12,460.

Dated: January 15, 2004.

By direction of the Secretary:

Jacqueline Parks,

IT Specialist, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 04–2041 Filed 1–30–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0406]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits 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 Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), 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 includes the actual data collection instrument.