

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

SGSG60094 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<sup>TM</sup> 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