

**Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

A. by order approve the proposed rule change, or

B. institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

#### IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying at the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-Phlx-00-20 and should be submitted by January 4, 2001.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>13</sup>

**Margaret H. McFarland,**  
*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 00-31898 Filed 12-13-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

#### SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Applicant No. 99000418]

##### **Bluestem Capital Partners III, L.P.; Notice Seeking Exemption Under Section 312 of the Small Business Investment Act, Conflicts of Interest**

Notice is hereby given that Bluestem Capital Partners III, L.P. (Bluestem III), 122 South Phillips Ave., Suite 300, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, 57104, an applicant for a Federal License under

the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as amended ("the Act"), in connection with the financing of a small concern, has sought an exemption under section 312 of the Act and section 107.730, Financings which Constitute Conflicts of Interest of the Small Business Administration ("SBA") rules and regulations (13 CFR 107.730 (2000)). Bluestem III proposes to provide convertible debt security financing to Paragon Solutions, Inc., 3625 Brookside Parkway, Suite 300, Alpharetta, GA 30022. The financing is contemplated for the purpose of providing working capital to Paragon Solutions, Inc. to fund its current operations and the expansion of its sales force and management team within the U.S.

The financing is brought within the purview of Sec. 107.730(a)(1) of the Regulations because Bluestem Capital Partners II, L.P., an Associate of Bluestem III, currently owns greater than 10 percent of Paragon Solutions, Inc. and therefore Paragon Solutions, Inc. is considered an Associate of Bluestem III as defined in Sec. 107.50 of the SBA Regulations.

Notice is hereby given that any interested person may submit written comments on the transaction to the Associate Administrator for Investment, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 Third Street, SW., Washington, DC 20416.

Dated: December 1, 2000.

**Don A. Christensen,**

*Associate Administrator for Investment.*

[FR Doc. 00-31786 Filed 12-13-00; 8:45 am]

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#### SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Applicant No. 99000414]

##### **Selby Venture Partners II, L.P.; Notice Seeking Exemption Under Section 312 of the Small Business Investment Act, Conflicts of Interest**

Notice is hereby given that Selby Venture Partners II, L.P., 2460 Sand Hill Road, Suite 200, Menlo Park, California 94025, an applicant for a Federal License under the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as amended ("the Act"), in connection with the financing of a small concern, has sought an exemption under section 312 of the Act and section 107.730, Financings which Constitute Conflicts of Interest of the Small Business Administration ("SBA") rules and regulations (13 CFR 107.730 (2000)). Selby Venture Partners II, L.P. proposes to provide equity financing to Pulsent Corporation, 1455

McCarthy Blvd., Milpitas, California 95035. The financing is contemplated for working capital and research and development.

The financing is brought within the purview of Sec. 107.730(a)(1) of the Regulations because Selby Venture Partners, L.P., an Associate of Selby Venture Partners II, L.P., currently owns greater than 10 percent of Pulsent Corporation and therefore Pulsent Corporation is considered an Associate of Selby Venture Partners II, L.P. as defined in Sec. 107.50 of the regulations.

Notice is hereby given that any interested person may submit written comments on the transaction to the Associate Administrator for Investment, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 Third Street, SW., Washington, DC 20416.

Dated: December 1, 2000.

**Don A. Christensen,**

*Associate Administrator for Investment.*

[FR Doc. 00-31785 Filed 12-13-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

#### SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Disaster #3309]

##### **State of Oklahoma (Amendment #1)**

In accordance with information received from the Federal Emergency Management Agency dated December 4, 2000, the above-mentioned Declaration is hereby amended to include Carter, Comanche, and Tillman Counties in the State of Oklahoma as a disaster area due to damages caused by severe storms and flooding beginning on October 21, 2000 and continuing through October 29, 2000.

In addition, applications for economic injury loans from small businesses located in the following contiguous counties may be filed until the specified date at the previously designated location: Cotton, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnston, Love, Marshall, and Murray Counties in Oklahoma; and Wichita and Wilbarger Counties in Texas.

Any counties contiguous to the above-named primary counties and not listed herein have been previously declared.

All other information remains the same, *i.e.*, the deadline for filing applications for physical damage is January 26, 2001, and for economic injury the termination date is August 27, 2001.

The economic injury number for Texas is 9J8900.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 59002 and 59008)

<sup>13</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

Dated: December 6, 2000.

**Allan I. Hoberman,**

*Acting Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.*

[FR Doc. 00-31787 Filed 12-13-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

### [Public Notice 3506]

#### **Bureau of Consular Affairs; Designation of Certain Posts for Special Fee Payment Procedures**

This public notice identifies the initial ten posts designated by the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Visa Services for two purposes related to the payment of immigrant visa fees. The first purpose relates to the revised procedure for payment of the fee for the processing of an application for an immigrant visa set forth in the **Federal Register** on September 8, 2000, (65 FR 54598). That regulation is being stayed in a public notice today until a new effective date of January 1, 2001.

The second purpose is to identify the posts for which a fee pursuant to Item 61 of the Schedule of Fees for Consular Services (22 CFR 22.1) will be assessed for advance review of and assistance with the Affidavit of Support that is required in certain immigrant visa cases. Notice of this fee requirement is being added to the visa regulation pertaining to the Affidavit of Support requirement in 22 CFR 40.41(b), being published today with an effective date of January 1, 2001.

The Department will publish further public notices as additional designations are made, until such time as both procedures have been made applicable worldwide.

The Deputy Assistant Secretary for Visa Services hereby designates the Foreign Service posts in the following cities: for participation in the initial stage of the new immigrant visa application processing fee payment system and the fee for review of and assistance with the Affidavit of Support required under section 213A of the Immigration and Nationality Act

Bogota, Colombia  
Ciudad Juarez, Mexico  
Freetown, Sierra Leone  
Georgetown, Guyana  
Guangzhou, China  
Manila, Philippines  
Montreal, Canada  
Port au Prince, Haiti  
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic  
Tirana, Albania.

Dated: November 28, 2000.

**George C. Lannon,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Visa Services.*

[FR Doc. 00-31743 Filed 12-13-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-06-P

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

### [Public Notice 3507]

#### **Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Request for Grant Proposals: NIS Secondary School Partnership Program**

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Citizen Exchanges, Youth Programs Division, of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition for the NIS Secondary School Partnership Program. Public and private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in IRS regulation 26 CFR 1.501(c) may submit proposals to either enhance or expand existing partnerships or develop new school partnership programs with Russia or Ukraine. All proposals must have a thematic focus and feature on-going joint project activity between the schools, a student exchange component, and an educator (teacher/administrator) exchange component. The maximum grant award will be \$150,000.

**Program Information:** The Secondary School Partnership Program is funded under the Freedom Support Act to assist young people in building an open society and developing democratic processes and institutions in the New Independent States (NIS). This program provides grants to link schools in the three countries noted above with schools in the United States. The U.S. recipient of the grant is responsible for recruiting, selecting, and organizing a U.S. network of a minimum of two secondary schools; strengthening an existing working relationship with an organization or agency of government in the NIS responsible for a network of at least two schools there; and linking the two networks in one-to-one school partnerships through thematic projects and substantive exchange activities.

**Overview:** The short-term goal of the school partnership program is to provide partial funding for linkages between U.S. and NIS schools featuring collaborative substantive projects and reciprocal student and educator exchanges with strong academic content. The long-term goals are to: (1) Develop lasting, sustainable institutional ties between U.S. and NIS schools and communities; (2) support democracy and educational reform in the NIS; (3) advance mutual understanding between the youth and

teachers of the U.S. and the NIS; and (4) promote partnerships developed through governmental, educational, and not-for-profit sector cooperation that serve the needs and interests of the schools.

The program has several defining features to help the participating schools develop their partnership:

- Each partnership has a project theme and the students and teachers in the two paired schools work on a joint project throughout the school year related to this theme;
- The two schools develop a relationship over the course of an academic year, through the planning process and the work on their joint project, which is highlighted by exchanges from three weeks to ten months in duration. Exchanges take place while the host school is in session.
- The student and teacher exchanges must be reciprocal.
- The program includes educators (teachers and/or administrators) in order to involve them in all aspects of the partnership and to provide them access to resources for curriculum development and educational training.
- During the exchange, participants attend class, are involved in school-based activities, work on their joint project, perform community service, visit educational and cultural sites, and reside with host families.

**DATES:** Grants may begin on or about July 15, 2001, and cover the 2001-2002 academic year. The exact starting date of the grant will be dependent on availability of funds.

**Guidelines:** A competitive proposal will present a project that builds upon previous contacts and interaction between the proposed schools to help ensure a solid foundation for the partnership. Partnerships should have an existence beyond the scope of this initiative; that is, there should be an inherent reason for the linkage apart from the availability of grant funds. Organizers and school networks in the U.S. and NIS should collaborate in planning and preparation. Applicants must have an NIS organizational partner that has its base of operation in the partner country and not in another country. Proposals should support a working relationship that will produce something tangible and lasting in addressing the interests of both sides, beyond the confines of the funded project, such as the development of educational materials. The proposal should specify measurable goals and objectives of the program.