

functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

2. Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

4. Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Standard Form 1153, Claim for Unpaid Compensation of Deceased Civilian Employee, is used to collect information from individuals who have been designated as beneficiaries of the unpaid compensation of a deceased Federal employee or who believe that their relationship to the deceased entitles them to receive the unpaid compensation of the deceased Federal employee. OPM needs this information to adjudicate the claim and properly assign a deceased Federal employee's unpaid compensation to the appropriate individual(s).

Analysis

Agency: Merit System Accountability and Compliance, Office of Personnel Management.

Title: Standard Form 1153, Claim for Unpaid Compensation of Deceased Civilian Employee.

OMB Number: 3206-0234.

Affected Public: Individuals.

Number of Respondents: 4,400.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 15 minutes.

Total Burden Hours: 1,100 hours.

U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

Katherine Archuleta,

Director.

[FR Doc. 2015-05124 Filed 3-4-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-58-P

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Excepted Service

AGENCY: U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice identifies Schedule A, B, and C appointing authorities applicable to a single agency that were established or revoked from December 1, 2014, to December 31, 2014.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Senior Executive Resources Services, Senior Executive Services and Performance Management, Employee Services, (202) 606-2246.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with 5 CFR 213.103, Schedule A, B, and C appointing authorities available for use by all agencies are codified in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). Schedule A, B, and C appointing authorities applicable to a single agency are not codified in the CFR, but the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) publishes a notice of agency-specific authorities established or revoked each month in the **Federal Register** at www.gpo.gov/fdsys/. OPM also publishes an annual notice of the consolidated listing of all Schedule A, B, and C appointing authorities, current as of June 30, in the **Federal Register**.

Schedule A

06. Department of Defense (Schedule A, 213.3106)

(b) Entire Department (including the Office of the Secretary of Defense and

the Departments of the Army, Navy, and Air Force)—

(11) Not to exceed 3,000 positions that require unique cybersecurity skills and knowledge to perform cyber risk and strategic analysis, incident handling and malware/vulnerability analysis, program management, distributed control systems security, cyber incident response, cyber exercise facilitation and management, cyber vulnerability detection and assessment, network and systems engineering, enterprise architecture, investigation, investigative analysis and cyber-related infrastructure inter-dependency analysis. This authority may be used to make permanent, time-limited and temporary appointments in the following occupational series: Security (GS-0080), computer engineers (GS-0854), electronic engineers (GS-0855), computer scientists (GS-1550), operations research (GS-1515), criminal investigators (GS-1811), telecommunications (GS-0391), and IT specialists (GS-2210). Within the scope of this authority, the U.S. Cyber Command is also authorized to hire miscellaneous administrative and program (GS-0301) series when those positions require unique cybersecurity skills and knowledge. All positions will be at the General Schedule (GS) grade levels 09-15 or equivalent. No new appointments may be made under this authority after December 31, 2015.

Schedule B

No Schedule B authorities to report during December 2014.

Schedule C

The following Schedule C appointing authorities were approved during December 2014.

Agency name	Organization name	Position title	Authorization no.	Effective date
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	Office of Civil Rights	Special Assistant	DA150022	12/1/2014
	Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs.	Confidential Assistant	DA150023	12/12/2014
	Rural Business Service	Deputy Administrator, Rural Business Cooperative Service.	DA150025	12/12/2014
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ...	International Trade Administration	Deputy Director, Office of Advisory Committees, Industry and Analysis.	DC150024	12/5/2014
	Office of the Deputy Secretary	Special Assistant	DC150026	12/9/2014
	Office of Business Liaison	Special Advisor	DC150027	12/9/2014
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE	Office of the Chief of Staff	Director of Scheduling	DC150031	12/12/2014
	Office of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs).	Research Assistant	DD150012	12/5/2014
		Speechwriter	DD150030	12/8/2014

Agency name	Organization name	Position title	Authorization no.	Effective date
DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE. DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY	Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs).	Special Assistant for International Security Affairs.	DD150037	12/10/2014
	Office of the General Counsel	Special Counsel (2)	DD150033	12/4/2014
	Office of Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs).	Special Assistant	DD150032	12/11/2014
	Office of the Under Secretary	Special Assistant	DD150034	12/16/2014
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ...	Office of the Secretary	Deputy Chief of Staff (2)	DF150011	12/5/2014
	Office of Communications and Outreach.	Special Assistant	DN150008	12/5/2014
	Office of the Secretary	Confidential Assistant	DN150009	12/5/2014
	Office of the General Counsel	Confidential Assistant	DN150004	12/12/2014
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY	Office of the Under Secretary	Deputy Director	DB150026	12/11/2014
	Office of Nuclear Energy	Confidential Assistant	DB150028	12/11/2014
	Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy.	Chief of Staff	DB150031	12/12/2014
	Office of the Chairman	Deputy Director	DB150027	12/11/2014
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION. GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION.	Office of Nuclear Energy	Confidential Assistant	DB150036	12/19/2014
	Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy.	Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor	DE150013	12/2/2014
	Office of the Chairman	Special Advisor for Technology	DE150017	12/12/2014
	Public Buildings Service	Program Analyst	DR150004	12/17/2014
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.	Office of the Chairman	Special Assistant	GS150008	12/11/2014
	Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs.	Special Assistant	DH150044	12/12/2014
	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Legislation.	Special Assistant for Oversight	DH150048	12/12/2014
	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs.	External Engagement Coordinator	DM150035	12/3/2014
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy.	Policy Advisor	DM150040	12/5/2014
	Immediate Office of the Deputy Secretary.	Special Assistant	DM150041	12/5/2014
	Office of the Secretary	Senior Policy Advisor	DU150009	12/1/2014
	Office of Public and Indian Housing.	Chief of Staff/Senior Advisor	DU150008	12/16/2014
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.	Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations.	Congressional Relations Specialist	DU150016	12/29/2014
	Office of Public Affairs	Director of Speechwriting	DU150019	12/29/2014
	United States Fish and Wildlife Service.	Chief of Staff—To the Assistant Secretary for Fish Wildlife and Parks.	DI150016	12/3/2014
	Office of the Secretary	Special Assistant	DL150015	12/2/2014
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy.	Director of Public Engagement	DL150017	12/5/2014
	National Endowment for the Arts ..	Senior Policy Advisor	DL150018	12/11/2014
	National Endowment for the Humanities.	White House Liaison/Advisor	NA150002	12/5/2014
	Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs.	Director of Congressional Affairs ..	NH150002	12/12/2014
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR	Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs.	Confidential Assistant	BO150007	12/11/2014
	Bureau of Public Affairs	Staff Assistant	DS150009	12/10/2014
	Office of Financial Markets	Senior Advisor	DY150014	12/3/2014
	Office of the Secretary	Special Assistant	BO150007	12/11/2014

The following Schedule C appointing authorities were revoked during December 2014.

Agency name	Organization name	Position title	Authorization No.	Vacate date
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ... DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.	Office of White House Liaison	Special Assistant	DC140087	12/14/2014
	Federal Emergency Management Agency.	Special Assistant	DM140127	12/5/2014
	Immediate Office of the Deputy Secretary.	Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary.	DM140108	12/13/2014

Agency name	Organization name	Position title	Authorization No.	Vacate date
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy.	Policy Advisor	DM140227	12/13/2014
	Office of Public and Indian Housing.	Special Assistant	DU090110	12/27/2014
	Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations.	General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations.	DU130050	12/27/2014
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY	Office of the Under Secretary of the Navy.	Special Assistant	DN120047	12/13/2014
NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION.	Office of General Counsel	Special Assistant	NN120002	12/13/2014

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

U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

Katherine Archuleta,

Director.

[FR Doc. 2015–05185 Filed 3–4–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325–39–P

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

January 2015 Pay Schedules

AGENCY: U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The President has signed an Executive order containing the 2015 pay schedules for certain Federal civilian employees. Pursuant to the President's alternative plan issued under 5 U.S.C. 5303(b) and 5304a on August 29, 2014, the Executive order authorizes a 1-percent across-the-board increase for statutory pay systems and provides that locality percentages remain at 2014 levels. This notice serves as documentation for the public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lisa Dismond, Pay and Leave, Employee Services, U.S. Office of Personnel Management; (202) 606–2858 or *pay-leave-policy@opm.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 19, 2014, the President signed Executive Order 13686 (79 FR 77361), which implemented the January 2015 pay adjustments. The Executive order provides an across-the-board increase of 1 percent in the rates of basic pay for the statutory pay systems.

The publication of this notice satisfies the requirement in section 5(b) of Executive Order 13686 that the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) publish appropriate notice of the 2015 locality payments in the **Federal Register**.

Schedule 1 of Executive Order 13686 provides the rates for the 2015 General Schedule (GS) and reflects a 1-percent increase from 2014. Executive Order 13686 also includes the percentage

amounts of the 2015 locality payments, which remain at 2014 levels. (See Section 5 and Schedule 9 of Executive Order 13686.)

GS employees receive locality payments under 5 U.S.C. 5304. Locality payments apply in the United States (as defined in 5 U.S.C. 5921(4)) and its territories and possessions. In 2015, locality payments ranging from 14.16 percent to 35.15 percent apply to GS employees in the 34 locality pay areas. The 2015 locality pay area definitions can be found at: <http://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/2015/locality-pay-area-definitions/>.

The 2015 locality pay percentages became effective on the first day of the first pay period beginning on or after January 1, 2015 (January 11, 2015). An employee's locality rate of pay is computed by increasing his or her scheduled annual rate of pay (as defined in 5 CFR 531.602) by the applicable locality pay percentage. (See 5 CFR 531.604 and 531.609.)

Executive Order 13686 establishes the new Executive Schedule (EX), which incorporates a 1-percent increase required under 5 U.S.C. 5318 (rounded to the nearest \$100). By law, Executive Schedule officials are not authorized to receive locality payments.

Executive Order 13686 establishes the 2015 range of rates of basic pay for members of the Senior Executive Service (SES) under 5 U.S.C. 5382. The minimum rate of basic pay for the SES is \$121,956 in 2015. The maximum rate of the SES rate range is \$183,300 (level II of the Executive Schedule) for SES members who are covered by a certified SES performance appraisal system and \$168,700 (level III of the Executive Schedule) for SES members who are not covered by a certified SES performance appraisal system.

The minimum rate of basic pay for the senior-level (SL) and scientific and professional (ST) rate range was increased by 1 percent (\$121,956 in 2015), which is the amount of the across-the-board GS increase. The applicable maximum rate of the SL/ST

rate range is \$183,300 (level II of the Executive Schedule) for SL or ST employees who are covered by a certified SL/ST performance appraisal system and \$168,700 (level III of the Executive Schedule) for SL or ST employees who are not covered by a certified SL/ST performance appraisal system. Agencies with certified performance appraisal systems for SES members and employees in SL and ST positions must also apply a higher aggregate limitation on pay—up to the Vice President's salary (\$235,300 in 2015.)

Note: Section 738 of title VII of Division E of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (Public Law 113–235, December 16, 2014), continues the freeze on the payable pay rates for the Vice President and certain senior political appointees at 2013 levels during calendar year 2015. The section 738 pay freeze does not affect the 2015 rates (or ranges) of pay officially established by Executive Order 13686. Rather, it temporarily bars covered officials from receiving pay increases based on the 2015 increases in those officially established rates (or ranges).

Executive Order 13686 provides that the rates of basic pay for administrative law judges (ALJs) under 5 U.S.C. 5372 are increased by 1 percent, rounded to the nearest \$100 in 2015. The rate of basic pay for AL–1 is \$158,700 (equivalent to the rate for level IV of the Executive Schedule). The rate of basic pay for AL–2 is \$154,800. The rates of basic pay for AL–3/A through 3/F range from \$105,900 to \$146,600.

The rates of basic pay for members of Contract Appeals Boards are calculated as a percentage of the rate for level IV of the Executive Schedule. (See 5 U.S.C. 5372a.) Therefore, these rates of basic pay are increased by 1 percent in 2015.

On November 24, 2014, OPM issued a memorandum on behalf of the President's Pay Agent (the Secretary of Labor and the Directors of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and OPM) that continues GS locality payments for ALJs and certain other