

Service; Kerry Lanham, Assistant Commissioner, Agency Services, Financial Management Service; Kenneth R. Papaj, Deputy Commissioner, Financial Management Service; Gregory D. Carper, Associate Director (Chief Financial Officer), Bureau of Engraving and Printing; Ronald W. Falter, Associate Director (Chief Information Officer), Bureau of Engraving and Printing; Thomas A. Ferguson, Director, Bureau of Engraving and Printing; Joel C. Taub, Associate Director (Management), Bureau of Engraving and Printing; Beverly O. Babers, Chief Human Capital Officer, Internal Revenue Service; Helen Bolton, Director, Management Services, Modernization and Information Technology Services, Internal Revenue Service; John M. Dalrymple, Deputy Commissioner for Operations Support, Internal Revenue Service; Cecil T. Hua, Director, Systems Engineering and Integration, Business Modernization and Information Technology Services, Internal Revenue Service; Henry O. Lamar, Commissioner, Wage and Investment Division, Internal Revenue Service; Deborah M. Nolan, Commissioner, Large and Mid-Sized Business Division, Internal Revenue Service; Kathy K. Petronchak, Director, Pre-Filing and Technical Guidance, Large and Mid-Sized Business Division, Internal Revenue Service; Evelyn A. Petschek, Chief of Staff, Internal Revenue Service; Estelle R. Tunley, Deputy Director, Submission Processing, Wage and Investment Division, Internal Revenue Service; Anne M. Meister, Deputy Commissioner, Bureau of the Public Debt; Frederick Van Zeck, Commissioner, Bureau of the Public Debt; James W. Carroll, Deputy General Counsel; Roberta K. McNerney, Assistant General Counsel (Banking & Finance); Kenneth R. Schmalzbach, Assistant General Counsel (General Law & Ethics); Carol A. Campbell, Division Counsel, Wage and Investment; Edward L. Patton, Deputy Associate Chief Counsel; William F. Baity, Deputy Director, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network. Additional Member: William J. Fox, Director, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network.

**DATES:** Membership is effective on the date of this notice.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dennis Cannon, Department of the Treasury, Director, Human Resources Strategy and Solutions, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Attention: Suite 12105, 1750 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220, telephone: (202) 622-1109.

This notice does not meet the Department's criteria for significant regulations.

**Dennis Cannon,**

*Director, Human Resources Strategy and Solutions.*

[FR Doc. 04-22429 Filed 10-5-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4811-16-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Office of Thrift Supervision

#### Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request—Lending and Investment

**AGENCY:** Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed and continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3507. The Office of Thrift Supervision within the Department of the Treasury will submit the proposed information collection requirement described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. Today, OTS is soliciting public comments on the proposal.

**DATES:** Submit written comments on or before December 6, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments, referring to the collection by title of the proposal or by OMB approval number, to Information Collection Comments, Chief Counsel's Office, Office of Thrift Supervision, 1700 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20552; send a facsimile transmission to (202) 906-6518; or send an e-mail to [infocollection.comments@ots.treas.gov](mailto:infocollection.comments@ots.treas.gov). OTS will post comments and the related index on the OTS Internet Site at [www.ots.treas.gov](http://www.ots.treas.gov). In addition, interested persons may inspect comments at the Public Reading Room, 1700 G Street, NW., by appointment. To make an appointment, call (202) 906-5922, send an e-mail to [publicinfo@ots.treas.gov](mailto:publicinfo@ots.treas.gov), or send a facsimile transmission to (202) 906-7755.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** You can request additional information about this proposed information collection from William Magrini, Senior Project Manager, Supervision Policy, (202) 906-5744, Office of Thrift Supervision, 1700 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20552.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** OTS may not conduct or sponsor an information collection, and respondents are not required to respond to an information collection, unless the information collection displays a currently valid OMB control number. As part of the approval process, we invite comments on the following information collection.

Comments should address one or more of the following points:

a. Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of OTS;

b. The accuracy of OTS's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection;

c. Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;

d. Ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use information technology.

We will summarize the comments that we receive and include them in the OTS request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. In this notice, OTS is soliciting comments concerning the following information collection.

*Title of Proposal:* Lending and Investment.

*OMB Number:* 1550-0078.

*Form Number:* N/A.

*Regulation requirement:* 12 CFR parts 560 and 564; and §§ 562.1, 563.41, 563.170, and 590.4.

*Description:* This information collection requires savings associations to maintain adequate documentation to support their lending and investment activities. OTS staff may request the information during examinations.

*Type of Review:* Renewal.

*Affected Public:* Savings Associations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 902.

*Estimated Frequency of Response:* Event-generated.

*Estimated Total Burden:* 327,968 hours.

*Clearance Officer:* Marilyn K. Burton, (202) 906-6467, Office of Thrift Supervision, 1700 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20552.

*OMB Reviewer:* Mark D. Menchik, (202) 395-3176, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10236, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: September 30, 2004.

By the Office of Thrift Supervision.

**Richard M. Riccobono,**  
*Deputy Director.*

[FR Doc. 04-22380 Filed 10-5-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6720-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Advisory Committee for CARES Business Plan Studies; Notice of Establishment

As required by section 9(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) hereby gives notice of the establishment of the Advisory Committee for CARES Business Plan Studies. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs has determined that establishing the Committee is both necessary and in the public interest.

The Committee will continue the Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) process by providing site-specific advice as the process moves into its implementation phase. Thus far, the CARES process has included a February 2004 report by the CARES Commission, a federal advisory committee that conducted 38 public hearings and 81 site visits in 2003, and the Secretary's CARES Decision in May 2004 (based largely upon recommendations in the CARES Commission report).

The Secretary's CARES Decision identified implementation issues that required further study, to include additional stakeholder input, at selected sites. The Committee will fulfill the pledge to consult with stakeholders at those sites during implementation of the Secretary's CARES Decision. The Committee will ensure that the full range of stakeholder interests and concerns are assembled, publicly articulated, accurately documented, and considered in the development of site-level business plans.

Subcommittees will be established to perform duties and functions within the Committee's purview. The Committee or designated subcommittee will collect and consider stakeholder input related to the development and selection of business plans at the 21 sites designated for further study by the Secretary's CARES Decision in May 2004. The Committee or designated subcommittee will provide advice on proposed business plans or alternative business plans to be considered, and may relay any general concerns that the Department should consider during CARES implementation.

The Committee or designated subcommittee will hold public meetings at each site to seek stakeholder input. In addition to the public meetings, the Committee or designated subcommittee will gather stakeholder input through other means, such as advertising and Web site communications.

The Committee and its subcommittees may consist of representatives from veterans service organizations, governmental agencies, health care providers, planning agencies, and community organizations with a direct interest in the CARES process. The Committee and its subcommittees are expected to carry out their functions through December 2005.

Dated: September 29, 2004.

By Direction of the Secretary.

**E. Philip Riggins,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 04-22440 Filed 10-5-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Office of Research and Development

#### Government Owned Invention Available for Licensing

**AGENCY:** Office of Research and Development.

**ACTION:** Notice of government owned invention available for licensing.

**SUMMARY:** The invention listed below is owned by the U.S. Government as represented by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and is available for licensing in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 207 and 37 CFR part 404 and/or CRADA Collaboration under 15 U.S.C. 3710a to achieve expeditious commercialization of results of federally funded research and development. Foreign patents are filed on selected inventions to extend market coverage for U.S. companies and may also be available for licensing.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Technical and licensing information on the invention may be obtained by writing to: Mindy L. Aisen, M.D., Department of Veterans Affairs, Acting Director Technology Transfer Program, Office of Research and Development, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420; fax: 202-254-0473; e-mail at:

[mindy.aisen@mail.va.gov](mailto:mindy.aisen@mail.va.gov). Any request for information should include the Number and Title for the relevant invention as indicated below. Issued patents may be obtained from the Commissioner of Patents, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The invention available for licensing is:

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/324,374 "Method of Predicting Cytokine Response to Tissue Injury".

Dated: September 27, 2004.

**Anthony J. Principi,**

*Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 04-22435 Filed 10-5-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Summary of Precedent Opinions of the General Counsel

**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs.  
**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is publishing a summary of legal interpretations issued by the Department's Office of General Counsel involving veterans' benefits under laws administered by VA. These interpretations are considered precedential by VA and will be followed by VA officials and employees in future claim matters. They are being published to provide the public, and, in particular, veterans' benefit claimants and their representatives, with notice of VA's interpretations regarding the legal matters at issue.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Susan P. Sokoll, Law Librarian, Department of Veterans Affairs (026H), 810 Vermont Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-6558.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** VA regulations at 38 CFR 2.6(e)(8) and 14.507 authorize the Department's Office of General Counsel to issue written legal opinions having precedential effect in adjudications and appeals involving veterans' benefits under the laws administered by VA. The General Counsel's interpretations on legal matters, contained in such opinions, are conclusive as to all VA officials and employees not only in the matter at issue but also in future adjudications and appeals, in the absence of a change in controlling statute or regulation or a superseding written legal opinion of the General Counsel.

VA publishes summaries of such opinions in order to provide the public with notice of those interpretations of the General Counsel, which must be, followed in future benefit matters and to assist veterans' benefit claimants and their representatives in the prosecution of benefit claims. The full text of such opinions, with personal identifiers deleted, may be obtained by contacting the VA official named above or by accessing them on the Internet at <http://www1.va.gov/OGC/>.

#### VAOPGCPREC 4-2004

*Question Presented:* How can the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) reconcile the decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit (Federal Circuit) in *Moody v. Principi*, 360 F.3d 1306 (Fed. Cir. 2004), and law on claims alleging clear and