

- Appointment of Federal Home Loan Bank Directors

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Elaine L. Baker, Secretary to the Board,
(202) 408-2837.

James L. Bothwell,
Managing Director.

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FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*) (BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR Part 225), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a bank holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or the power to vote shares of a bank or bank holding company and all of the banks and nonbanking companies owned by the bank holding company, including the companies listed below.

The applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The application also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)). If the proposal also involves the acquisition of a nonbanking company, the review also includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1843). Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States. Additional information on all bank holding companies may be obtained from the National Information Center website at www.ffiec.gov/nic/.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than March 28, 2002.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis (Julie Stackhouse, Vice President) 90 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55480-0291:

1. *First Financial Corporation*, Arthur, North Dakota; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of Omega City Holding Company, LaMoure, North Dakota, and thereby indirectly acquire First State

Bank of LaMoure, LaMoure, North Dakota.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, February 26, 2002.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 02-4915 Filed 2-28-02; 8:45 am]

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GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

[FMR Bulletin B-2]

Motor Vehicle Management

This notice contains GSA Bulletin FMR B-2 which addresses the use of hand-held wireless phones while driving motor vehicles owned or leased by the Federal government. The text of the bulletin follows:

To: Heads of Federal Agencies.

Subject: Use of Hand-held Wireless Phones while Driving Motor Vehicles Owned or Leased by the Federal Government.

1. What Is the Purpose of This Bulletin?

This bulletin provides guidance to Federal agencies concerning the use of hand-held wireless phones while driving motor vehicles owned or leased by the Federal government.

2. What Is the Effective Date of This Bulletin?

This bulletin is effective March 1, 2002.

3. When Does This Bulletin Expire?

This bulletin will remain in effect until specifically cancelled.

4. What Is the Background?

a. Over 110 million people use wireless phones in the United States. A recent National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) survey found that 54 percent of motor vehicle drivers in the United States usually have a wireless phone in their vehicle. Federal and State policymakers have been weighing the benefits of wireless phone use in vehicles against the growing evidence of their potential to increase driver distraction and the risks to safety. The recent ban of hand-held wireless phones while driving in New York State and pending legislation in at least 27 other states has received significant publicity in 2001. In addition, 23 countries now restrict or prohibit wireless phones in motor vehicles.

b. It is appropriate that the Federal government assume a leadership role in promoting the safe use of wireless telephones by its employees when they

are engaged in official Government business. Accordingly, Federal agencies should address the issue of wireless phone use in their internal policies. Additionally, many agencies have requested guidance from the General Services Administration's Office of Governmentwide Policy (OGP), Federal Vehicle Policy Division on wireless phone use in government owned and leased vehicles.

5. What Is the Recommended Policy We Should Follow When Issuing Guidance on the Use of Wireless Phones While Driving Motor Vehicles Owned or Leased by the Federal Government?

Federal agencies should:

- Discourage the use of hand-held wireless phones by a driver while operating motor vehicles owned or leased by the Federal government.
- Provide a portable hands-free accessory and/or a hands-free car kit for government owned wireless phones.
- Educate employees on driving safely while using hands-free wireless phones. See Attachment A for "Cellular Phone Driving Tips" published by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

6. Are Federal Employees Exempt From Local or State Laws Prohibiting or Limiting the Use of Wireless Phones While Driving?

Generally, Federal employees are not exempt from state and local laws governing operation of a motor vehicle. If adhering to state and local laws would impede your agency's mission, consult your General Counsel for advice.

7. Could Federal Agencies Be Held Liable for Injuries or Damages Caused by Employees Who Use Wireless Phones While Driving Motor Vehicles Owned or Leased by the Federal Government?

Federal agencies should be aware of the potential for increased liability from accidents that occur if directly caused by the use of wireless phones while driving motor vehicles owned or leased by the Federal government.

8. What Future Actions Should We Expect?

NHTSA has over a dozen new studies planned during the next two years regarding driver distractions such as wireless phone use. As these reports are published, the General Services Administration's Federal Vehicle Policy Division will keep agencies abreast of the current research and recommendations on whether wireless phones, or any other device, should be used while driving.

9. Who Should We Contact for Further Information and/or To Direct Comments to on the Issue of Limiting the Use of Wireless Phones While Driving Motor Vehicles Owned or Leased by the Federal Government?

General Services Administration,
Office of Governmentwide Policy,
Federal Vehicle Policy Division (MTV),
Washington, DC 20405, Telephone
Number: 202-501-1777, E-mail
Address: vehicle.policy@gsa.gov.

Dated: February 25, 2002.

G. Martin Wagner,

*Associate Administrator, Office of
Governmentwide Policy.*

Attachment A—Cellular Phone Safe Driving Tips

Safe driving is your first priority. Always buckle up, keep your hands on the wheel and your eyes on the road.

Make sure that your phone is positioned where it is easy to see and easy to reach. Be familiar with the operation of your phone, so that you're comfortable using it on the road.

Use a hands-free microphone while driving. Make sure your phone is dealer-installed to get the best possible sound quality.

Use the speed dialing feature to program in frequently called numbers. Then you can make a call by touching only two or three buttons. Most phones will store up to 99 numbers.

When dialing manually without the speed dialing feature, dial only when stopped. If you can't stop, or pull over, dial a few digits, then survey traffic before completing the call. (Better yet, have a passenger dial.)

Never take notes while driving. Pull off the road to jot something down; if it's a phone number, many mobile phones have an electronic scratchpad that allows you to key in a new number while having a conversation.

Let your wireless network's voice mail pick up your calls when it's inconvenient or unsafe to answer the car phone. You can even use your voice mail to leave yourself reminders.

Be a cellular Samaritan. Dialing 9-1-1 is a free call for cellular subscribers; use it to report crimes in progress or other potential life-threatening emergencies, accidents or drunk driving.

Source: Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration: An Investigation of the Safety Implications of Wireless Communications in Vehicles November 1997.

[FR Doc. 02-4880 Filed 2-28-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Meeting of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Regulatory Reform

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of a public hearing by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary's Advisory Committee on Regulatory Reform. As governed by the Federal Advisory Committee Act in accordance with Section 10(a)(2), the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Regulatory Reform is seeking guidance for the Department's efforts to streamline regulatory requirements. The Advisory Committee will advise and make recommendations for changes that would be beneficial in four broad areas: health care delivery, health systems operations, biomedical and health research, and the development of pharmaceuticals and other products. The Committee will review changes identified through regional public hearings, written comments from the public, and consultation with HHS staff.

All meetings and hearings of the Committee are open to the general public. During each meeting, invited witnesses will address how regulations affect health-related issues. Meeting agendas will also allow some time for public comment. Additional information on each meeting's agenda and list of participating witnesses will be posted on the Committee's Web site prior to the meetings, <http://www.regreform.hhs.gov>.

DATES: The second public hearing of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Regulatory Reform will be held on Wednesday, March 20, 2002, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Thursday, March 21, 2002, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The hearing will be held in Phoenix, AZ. Information about the exact location will be posted at the Web site address listed above and published in the **Federal Register** when the location has been confirmed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christy Schmidt, Executive Coordinator, Secretary's Advisory Committee on Regulatory Reform, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, 200 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 344G, Washington, DC, 20201, (202) 401-5182.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Anyone planning to attend the meeting who requires special disability-related

arrangements such as sign-language interpretation should provide notice of their need by Friday, March 15th. Please make any request to Michael Starkweather—phone: 301-628-3141; fax: 301-628-3101; e-mail: mstarkweather@s-3.com.

On June 8, 2001, HHS Secretary Thompson announced a Department-wide initiative to reduce regulatory burdens in health care, to improve patient care, and to respond to the concerns of health care providers and industry, State and local Governments, and individual Americans who are affected by HHS rules. Common sense approaches and careful balancing of needs can help improve patient care. As part of this initiative, the Department is establishing the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Regulatory Reform to provide findings and recommendations regarding potential regulatory changes. These changes would enable HHS programs to reduce burdens and costs associated with departmental regulations and paperwork, while at the same time maintaining or enhancing the effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and access of HHS programs.

Dated: February 25, 2002.

William Raub,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation.

[FR Doc. 02-4916 Filed 2-28-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration on Aging

[Program Announcement No. AoA-02-02]

Fiscal Year 2002 Program Announcement; Availability of Funds and Notice Regarding Applications

AGENCY: Administration on Aging, HHS.

ACTION: Announcement of availability of funds and request for applications for the Alzheimer Disease Demonstration Grants to States Program.

SUMMARY: The Administration on Aging announces that under this program announcement it will hold a competition for grant awards for five (5) to seven (7) projects at a federal share of approximately \$225,000-\$350,000 per year for a project period of three years.

Purpose of Grant Awards

The purpose of these projects is to:
1. Develop models of home and community based care for persons with Alzheimer's disease and their families, and