

written complaint with the U.S. Office of Special Counsel (OSC) (see contact information below). In the alternative (or in some cases, in addition), you may pursue a discrimination complaint by filing a grievance through your agency's administrative or negotiated grievance procedures, if such procedures apply and are available.

Whistleblower Protection Laws

A Federal employee with authority to take, direct others to take, recommend, or approve any personnel action must not use that authority to take or fail to take, or threaten to take or fail to take, a personnel action against an employee or applicant because of disclosure of information by that individual that is reasonably believed to evidence violations of law, rule, or regulation; gross mismanagement, gross waste of funds, an abuse of authority, or a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, unless disclosure of such information is specifically prohibited by law and such information is specifically required by Executive Order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or the conduct of foreign affairs.

Retaliation against an employee or applicant for making a protected disclosure is prohibited by 5 U.S.C. 2302(b)(8). If you believe that you have been the victim of whistleblower retaliation, you may file a written complaint (Form OSC-11) with the U.S. Office of Special Counsel at 1730 M Street NW., Suite 218, Washington, DC 20036-4505 or online through the OSC Web site at <http://www.osc.gov>.

Retaliation for Engaging in Protected Activity

A Federal agency cannot retaliate against an employee or applicant because that individual exercises his or her rights under any of the Federal antidiscrimination or whistleblower protection laws listed above. If you believe that you are the victim of retaliation for engaging in protected activity, you must follow, as appropriate, the procedures described in the Antidiscrimination Laws and Whistleblower Protection Laws sections of this notice or, if applicable, FHFA's administrative or negotiated grievance procedures in order to pursue any legal remedy.

Disciplinary Actions

Under the existing laws, each agency retains the right, where appropriate, to discipline a Federal employee for conduct that is inconsistent with Federal antidiscrimination and whistleblower protection laws up to and

including removal. If OSC has initiated an investigation under 5 U.S.C. 1214, however, according to 5 U.S.C. 1214(f), agencies must seek approval from the OSC to discipline employees for, among other activities, engaging in prohibited retaliation. Nothing in the No FEAR Act alters existing laws or permits an agency to take unfounded disciplinary action against a Federal employee or to violate the procedural rights of a Federal employee who has been accused of discrimination.

Additional Information

For further information regarding the No FEAR Act regulations, refer to 5 CFR part 724, as well as the appropriate offices within your agency (e.g., OMWI's branch of EEO Services, Office of Human Resource Management, or Office of General Counsel). Additional information regarding Federal antidiscrimination, whistleblower protection, and retaliation laws can be found at the EEOC Web site at <http://www.eeoc.gov> and the OSC Web site at <http://www.osc.gov>.

Existing Rights Unchanged

Pursuant to section 205 of the No FEAR Act, neither the Act nor this notice creates, expands, or reduces any rights otherwise available to any employee, former employee, or applicant under the laws of the United States, including the provisions of law specified in 5 U.S.C. 2302(d).

Dated: March 12, 2013.

Edward J. DeMarco,

Acting Director, Federal Housing Finance Agency.

[FR Doc. 2013-06426 Filed 3-20-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8070-01-P

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Change in Bank Control Notices; Acquisitions of Shares of a Bank or Bank Holding Company

The notificants listed below have applied under the Change in Bank Control Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)) and § 225.41 of the Board's Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.41) to acquire shares of a bank or bank holding company. The factors that are considered in acting on the notices are set forth in paragraph 7 of the Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(7)).

The notices are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The notices also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing to the Reserve Bank indicated for that notice or to the offices

of the Board of Governors. Comments must be received not later than April 8, 2013.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco (Gerald C. Tsai, Director, Applications and Enforcement) 101 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94105-1579:

1. *Peter John Kovalski*, Metuchen, New Jersey, to acquire up to 24.9 percent of the voting common stock of Gold Canyon Bank, Gold Canyon, Arizona.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, March 18, 2013.

Margaret McCloskey Shanks,
Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 2013-06538 Filed 3-20-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[OMB Control No. 9000-0029; Docket 2012-0076; Sequence 27]

Federal Acquisition Regulation; Submission for OMB Review; Extraordinary Contractual Action Requests

AGENCIES: Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of request for comments regarding an extension to an existing OMB clearance.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act, the Regulatory Secretariat will be submitting to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an extension of a previously approved information collection requirement concerning extraordinary contractual action requests. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** on September 12, 2012 (77 FR 56213). One comment was received.

DATES: Submit comments on or before April 22, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments identified by Information Collection 9000-0029, Extraordinary Contractual Action Requests, by any of the following methods:

- *Regulations.gov:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Submit comments via the Federal eRulemaking portal by searching the OMB control number.

Select the link "Submit a Comment" that corresponds with "Information Collection 9000-0029, Extraordinary Contractual Action Requests". Follow the instructions provided at the "Submit a Comment" screen. Please include your name, company name (if any), and "Information Collection 9000-0029, Extraordinary Contractual Action Requests" on your attached document.

- *Fax:* 202-501-4067.
- *Mail:* General Services

Administration, Regulatory Secretariat (MVCB), 1275 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20417. ATTN: Hada Flowers/IC 9000-0029, Extraordinary Contractual Action Requests.

Instructions: Please submit comments only and cite Information Collection 9000-0029, Extraordinary Contractual Action Requests, in all correspondence related to this collection. All comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal and/or business confidential information provided.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Cecelia L. Davis, Procurement Analyst, Office of Governmentwide Acquisition Policy, GSA (202) 219-0202 or email at Cecelia.davis@gsa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Purpose

FAR Subpart 50.1 prescribes policies and procedures that allow contracts to be entered into, amended, or modified in order to facilitate national defense under the extraordinary emergency authority granted under 50 U.S.C. 1431 et seq. and Executive Order (EO) 10789 dated November 14, 1958, et seq. In order for a contractor to be granted relief under the FAR, specific evidence must be submitted which supports the firm's assertion that relief is appropriate and that the matter cannot be disposed of under the terms of the contract.

The information is used by the Government to determine if relief can be granted under FAR and to determine the appropriate type and amount of relief.

B. Analysis of Public Comments

One respondent submitted public comments on the extension of the previously approved information collection. The analysis of the public comments is summarized as follows:

Comment: The respondent commented that the extension of the information collection would violate the fundamental purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act because of the burden it puts on the entity submitting the information and the agency collecting the information.

Response: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA),

agencies can request an OMB approval of an existing information collection. The PRA requires that agencies use the **Federal Register** notice and comment process, to extend the OMB's approval, at least every three years. This extension, to a previously approved information collection, pertains to information collections associated with extraordinary contractual actions as authorized under 50 U.S.C. 1431 et seq. and Executive Order (EO) 10789 dated November 14, 1958, as amended by E.O. 12919 dated June 3, 1994, EO 13232 dated October 20, 2001, and EO 13286 dated February 28, 2003, as implemented in FAR Part 50, that allow contracts to be entered into, amended, or modified in order to facilitate national defense. In order for a firm to be granted relief under the Act, specific evidence must be submitted which supports the firm's assertion that relief is appropriate and that the matter cannot be disposed of under the terms of the contract. The information is used by the Government to determine if relief can be granted under the Act and to determine the appropriate type and amount of relief.

Comment: The respondent commented that the agency did not accurately estimate the public burden challenging that the agency's methodology for calculating it is insufficient and inadequate and does not reflect the total burden each respondent faces to comply. The respondent suggested that the estimated total burden hours be reassessed and revised for greater accuracy. Specifically, the respondent stated that the "estimate of only 100 respondents that will be subject to this requirement is understated" and estimated, without providing substantive supporting data, that "the number of respondents is more likely closer to 500 annually." In addition, the respondent questioned the estimate of 16 hours of burden associated with each response, and suggested that "a more reasonable estimate would be in the range of 80 to 160 hours per response." For these reasons, the same respondent provided that the burden of compliance with the information collection requirement greatly exceeds the agency's estimate and outweighs any potential utility of the extension.

Response: Serious consideration is given, during the open comment period, to all comments received and adjustments are made to the paperwork burden estimate based on reasonable considerations provided by the public. This is evidenced, as the respondent notes, in FAR Case 2007-006 where an adjustment was made from the total

preparation hours from three to 60. This change was made considering particularly the hours that would be required for review within the company, prior to release to the Government.

The burden is prepared taking into consideration the necessary criteria in OMB guidance for estimating the paperwork burden put on the entity submitting the information. For example, consideration is given to an entity reviewing instructions; using technology to collect, process, and disclose information; adjusting existing practices to comply with requirements; searching data sources; completing and reviewing the response; and transmitting or disclosing information. The estimated burden hours for a collection are based on an average between the hours that a simple disclosure by a very small business might require and the much higher numbers that might be required for a very complex disclosure by a major corporation. Also, the estimated burden hours should only include projected hours for those actions which a company would not undertake in the normal course of business.

Careful consideration went into assessing the burden hours for this collection, and it is determined that an upward adjustment is not required.

The respondent expressed concern that the "estimate of only 100 respondents that will be subject to this requirement is understated" and estimated, without providing substantive supporting data, that "the number of respondents is more likely closer to 500 annually." We disagree. FAR Part 50 prescribes policies and procedures for entering into, amending, or modifying contracts in order to facilitate the national defense under extraordinary emergency authorities. Executive Order 10789 authorizes 15 agencies to exercise the authority conferred by Pub. L. 85-804 (50 U.S.C. 1431-1434). The estimate of 100 respondents would, therefore, average to approximately seven actions issued under extraordinary contracting authority per agency per year. We find this to be a more reasonable estimate and more in keeping with the extraordinary, thus, rare nature for exercise of the authority than the average of 33 actions per agency per year estimated by the commenter when citing that "the number of respondents is more likely closer to 500 annually." The respondent is reminded that the estimate provided is based on an average which considers that not every one of the 15 agencies with extraordinary contracting authority uses that authority in a given year.

In addition, the respondent questioned the estimate of 16 hours of burden associated with each response, and again, without providing substantive supporting data, suggested that “a more reasonable estimate would be in the range of 80 to 160 hours per response.” The respondent is reminded that estimated burden hours should only include projected hours for those actions which a company would not undertake in the normal course of business. We believe that the estimated 16 hours of burden reasonably reflect the time necessary for a contractor to perform the actions associated with its role in extraordinary contractual actions that go beyond the normal course of business, e.g., issue a request and certification, provide supporting information, as appropriate. Therefore, in the absence of substantive data to support doing otherwise, no adjustments are deemed necessary for the estimated number of respondents or estimated burden hours per respondent.

C. Annual Reporting Burden

The annual reporting burden is not changed from what was published in the **Federal Register** on September 24, 2009 (74 FR 48744). Based on coordination with subject matter experts and consideration of the requirements for estimating the burden within the Paperwork Burden Act, the determination was made to not revise the annual reporting burden. However, at any point, members of the public may submit comments for further consideration, and are encouraged to provide data to support their request for an adjustment.

The annual reporting burden is estimated as follows:

Respondents: 100.

Responses per Respondent: 1.

Total Responses: 100.

Hours per Response: 16.

Total Burden Hours: 1,600.

Obtaining Copies of Proposals:

Requester may obtain a copy of the information collection documents from

the General Services Administration, Regulatory Secretariat (MVCB), 1275 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20417, telephone (202) 501-4755. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0029, Extraordinary Contractual Action Requests, in all correspondence.

Dated: March 15, 2013.

William Clark,

Acting Director, Federal Acquisition Policy Division, Office of Governmentwide Acquisition Policy, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Governmentwide Policy.

[FR Doc. 2013-06516 Filed 3-20-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820-EP-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[30 Day-13-0217]

Agency Forms Undergoing Paperwork Reduction Act Review

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) publishes a list of information collection requests under review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). To request a copy of these requests, call (404) 639-7570 or send an email to omb@cdc.gov. Send written comments to CDC Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC or by fax to (202) 395-5806. Written comments should be received within 30 days of this notice.

Proposed Project

Vital Statistics Training Application, OMB No. 0920-0217 (expires May 31, 2013)—Revision—National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Background and Brief Description

In the United States, legal authority for the registration of vital events, i.e.,

births, deaths, marriages, divorces, fetal deaths, and induced terminations of pregnancy, resides individually with the States (as well as cities in the case of New York City and Washington, DC) and Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. These governmental entities are the full legal proprietors of vital records and the information contained therein. As a result of this State authority, the collection of registration-based vital statistics at the national level, referred to as the U.S. National Vital Statistics System (NVSS), depends on a cooperative relationship between the States and the Federal government. This data collection, authorized by 42 U.S.C. 242k, has been carried out by NCHS since it was created in 1960.

NCHS assists in achieving the comparability needed for combining data from all States into national statistics, by conducting a training program for State and local vital statistics staff to assist in developing expertise in all aspects of vital registration and vital statistics. The training offered under this program includes courses for registration staff, statisticians, and coding specialists, all designed to bring about a high degree of uniformity and quality in the data provided by the States. This training program is authorized by 42 U.S.C. 242b, section 304(a). NCHS notifies State and local vital registration officials, as well as Canadian counterparts, about upcoming training. Individual candidates for training then submit an application form including name, address, occupation, and other relevant information. NCHS is requesting 3 years of OMB clearance for these training application forms. There is no cost to respondents other than their time. The total burden for this project is 30 hours.

AVERAGE ANNUAL BURDEN

| Type of respondent | Form name | Number of respondents | Number of responses per respondent | Average burden per response (in hours) |
|---|---|-----------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| State, Local health department and Canadian vital health employees. | Application for Mortality coding Training | 60 | 1 | 15/60 |
| State, Local health department and Canadian vital health employees. | Application for Vital Statistics Training | 60 | 1 | 15/60 |