

after they are demoted or reassigned is the central question posed by this request for an advisory opinion). However, when an individual (Employee B) is demoted or reassigned in a RIF, without initially receiving a notice of RIF *separation*, it appears that he never gains RPL eligibility because receipt of a notice of RIF separation is a requirement under the RPL regulations. See 5 CFR 330.203(a)(3). Employee A's initial receipt of a notice of RIF separation did not result in his actual RIF separation or have any deleterious effect on his employment vis-à-vis Employee B, and yet his receipt of the notice gave him important rights—RPL eligibility and concomitant Board appeal rights—not given to Employee B. It appears arbitrary to differentiate between Employee A and Employee B simply because Employee A happened to have received a notice of RIF separation. However, if the requirement for a notice of separation. However, if the requirement for a notice of separation in § 330.203(a)(3) is interpreted broadly as notice that the employee would be separated from his *current* position, it appears that employee B would be eligible for the RPL if acceptance of a RIF demotion does not disqualify the employee under the regulations discussed above. What is OPM's view on whether Employee B is eligible for the RPL under its regulations?

Instructions Regarding the Advisory Opinion

The Director is requested to submit her advisory opinion to the Clerk of the Board within 30 days of her receipt of this letter, and to serve copies of her opinion on the parties and their representatives in the above-captioned appeal. (The addresses of the parties and their representatives are set forth below in the "cc" list.)

Right of the Parties to Respond to Director's Opinion

The parties may file any comments on the Director's opinion no later than 30 days from the date of service of her opinion.

DATES: All briefs in response to this notice shall be filed with the Clerk of the Board on or before December 5, 2001.

ADDRESSES: All briefs should include the case name and docket number noted above (Gerald Michaud v. Department of the Army, MSPB Docket No. BN-3443-00-0167-I-1) and be entitled "Amicus Brief." Briefs should be filed with the Office of the Clerk, Merit Systems

Protection Board, 1615 M Street, NW., Washington, DC 20419.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shannon McCarthy, Deputy Clerk of the Board, or Matthew Shannon, Counsel to the Clerk, (202) 653-7200.

Dated: October 29, 2001.

Robert E. Taylor,
Clerk of the Board.

[FR Doc. 01-27657 Filed 11-2-01; 8:45 am]

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NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Proposed Collection, Comment Request, Evaluation of the Institute of Museum and Library Services General Operating Support Grant Program

AGENCY: Institute of Museum and Library Services, NFAH.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Institute of Museum and Library Services as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) (44 U.S.C. 3508(2)(A)). This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently the Institute of Museum and Library Services is soliciting comments concerning the proposed study of Status of Museum School Partnerships.

A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the individual listed below in the addressee section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee section below on or before January 4, 2002.

IMLS is particularly interested in comments that help the agency to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- 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;

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

- 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.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to: Karen Motylewski, Research Officer, Institute of Museum and Library Services, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Room 802, Washington, DC 20506. Ms. Motylewski can be reached on Telephone: 202-606-5551. Fax: 202-606-1077 or at kmotylewski@imls.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is an independent Federal grant-making agency authorized by the Museum and Library Services Act, Pub. L. 104-208. The IMLS provides a variety of grant programs to assist the nation's museums and libraries in improving their operations and enhancing their services to the public. Museums and libraries of all sizes and types may receive support from IMLS programs.

Agency: Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Title: Evaluation of the Institute of Museum and Library Services General Operating Support Grant Program.

OMB Number: n/a.

Agency Number: 3137.

Frequency: 10 years.

Affected Public: Museums.

Number of Respondents: 1500.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 30 minutes.

Total Burden Hours: 750.

Total Annualized capital/startup costs: \$73,585.

Total Annual costs: \$7,358.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mamie Bittner, Director Office of Public and Legislative Affairs, Institute of Museum and Library Services, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20506, telephone (202) 606-4648.

Dated: October 24, 2001.

Mamie Bittner,

Director of Public and Legislative Affairs.

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