

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, January 21, 2005.

**Robert deV. Frierson,**

*Deputy Secretary of the Board.*

[FR Doc. 05-1428 Filed 1-25-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-S

## 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/](http://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 February 21, 2005.

**A. Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland** (Cindy C. West, Banking Supervisor) 1455 East Sixth Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44101-2566:

1. *Central Bancshares, Inc.*, Lexington, Kentucky; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of First Bank, Inc., Louisville, Kentucky.

2. *Commodore Financial Network, Inc.*, Somerset, Ohio; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of Commodore Bank, Somerset, Ohio.

3. *Hometown Bancorp, Inc.*, Kent, Ohio; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of Home Savings Bank, Kent, Ohio.

**B. Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago** (Patrick Wilder, Assistant Vice President) 230 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60690-1414:

1. *Freedom Bancshares, Inc.*, Sheldon, Iowa; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of Freedom Bank, Sheldon, Iowa (in organization).

**C. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis** (Randall C. Sumner, Vice President) 411 Locust Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63166-2034:

1. *Southern Trust Bancshares, Inc.*, Goreville, Illinois; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of SouthernTrust Bank, Goreville, Illinois (in organization).

**D. Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City** (Donna J. Ward, Assistant Vice President) 925 Grand Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri 64198-0001:

1. *Frontier Management LLC*, and *Frontier Holdings, LLC*, both of Madison, Nebraska; to become bank holding companies by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of Bank of Madison, Madison, Nebraska.

**E. Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco** (Tracy Basinger, Director, Regional and Community Bank Group) 101 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94105-1579:

1. *Western Sierra Bancorp*, Cameron Park, California; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of Gold Country Financial Services, Inc., Marysville, California, and thereby indirectly acquire Gold County, N.A., Marysville, California.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, January 21, 2005.

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Office of the Secretary

#### Amendment To Extend for One Year the January 24, 2003, Declaration Regarding Administration of Smallpox Countermeasures, as Amended on January 24, 2004

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary (OS), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Concern that terrorists may have access to the smallpox virus and attempt to use it against the American public and United States Government facilities abroad continues to exist. The January 24, 2003, declaration regarding administration of smallpox countermeasures, as amended on January 24, 2004, is extended for one year until and including January 23, 2006.

**DATES:** This Notice is effective as of January 24, 2005.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** William F. Raub, Ph.D., Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Public Health and Emergency Preparedness, 200 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20201, Telephone (202) 690-7383 (this is not a toll-free number).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 224(p) of the Public Health Service Act, which was established by section 304 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 and amended by section 3 of the Smallpox Emergency Personnel Protection Act of 2003 ("SEPPA"), is intended to alleviate certain liability concerns associated with administration of smallpox countermeasures and, therefore, ensure that the countermeasures are available and can be administered in the event of a smallpox-related actual or potential public health emergency such as a bioterrorist incident.

On January 24, 2003, due to concerns that terrorists may have access to the smallpox virus and attempt to use it against the American public and U.S. Government facilities abroad, the Secretary issued a declaration making section 224's legal protections available. The declaration was effective until and including January 23, 2004. On January 24, 2004, the Secretary amended the definitions contained in the January 24, 2003 declaration in light of the statutory amendments in section 3 of SEPPA because such definitions were no longer appropriate, and extended the declaration for one year until January 23, 2005. Pursuant to section 224(p)(2)(A), the Secretary issues the amendment below to extend for one year up to and including January 23, 2006 the January 24, 2003 declaration, as amended.

#### Amendment To Extend January 24, 2003 Declaration, as Amended, Regarding Administration of Smallpox Countermeasures

##### I. Policy Determination

The underlying policy determinations of the January 24, 2003 declaration continue to exist, including the heightened concern that terrorists may