

Title: Appraisal Standards.
OMB Number: 3064-0103.
Annual Burden:
Estimated annual number of respondents: 5,346.
Estimated number of responses: 328,600.
Estimated time per response: 15 minutes.
Average annual burden hours: 82,150 hours.
Expiration Date of OMB Clearance: February 29, 2004.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: FIRREA directs the FDIC to prescribe appropriate standards for the performance of real estate appraisals in connection with federally related transactions under its jurisdiction. The information collection activities attributable to 12 CFR part 323 are a direct consequence of the statutory requirements and the legislative intent.

DATES: Comments on these collections of information are welcome and should be submitted on or before January 20, 2004, to both the OMB reviewer and the FDIC contact listed below.

ADDRESSES: Information about this submission, including copies of the proposed collections of information, may be obtained by calling or writing the FDIC contact listed below.

- *Mail:* Leneta G. Gregorie, (202) 898-3719, Legal Division, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20429.

Joseph F. Lackey, Jr., Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, New Executive Office Building, Room 10236, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: December 10, 2003.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Robert E. Feldman,

Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. E3-00555 Filed 12-17-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6714-01-P

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Change in Bank Control Notices; Acquisition of Shares of Bank or Bank Holding Companies

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 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 office 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 January 2, 2004.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond (A. Linwood Gill, III, Vice President) 701 East Byrd Street, Richmond, Virginia 23261-4528:

1. *Herman Eugene Ratchford, Triangle Real Estate of Gastonia, Inc., Herman Eugene Ratchford, Jr., and James Henry Ratchford*, all of Gastonia, North Carolina, as a group acting in concert to acquire voting shares of First South Bancorp, Inc., Spartanburg, South Carolina, and thereby indirectly acquire voting shares of First South Bank, Spartanburg, South Carolina.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, December 12, 2003.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. E3-00587 Filed 12-17-03; 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 Web site 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 January 12, 2004.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Boston (Richard Walker, Community Affairs Officer) 600 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts 02106-2204:

1. *Manulife Financial Corporation*, Toronto, Canada; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of John Hancock Financial Services, Inc., Boston, Massachusetts, and thereby indirectly acquire First Signature Bank and Trust Company, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

In connection with this application, John Hancock Financial Services, Inc., Boston, Massachusetts; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of First Signature Bank and Trust Company, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

B. Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond (A. Linwood Gill, III, Vice President) 701 East Byrd Street, Richmond, Virginia 23261-4528:

1. *Community Capital Corporation*, Greenwood, South Carolina; to merge with Abbeville Capital Corporation, Abbeville, South Carolina, and thereby indirectly acquire The Bank of Abbeville, Abbeville, South Carolina.

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

1. *Home Bancshares, Inc.*, Conway, Arkansas; to retain 32.25 percent of the voting shares of TCBancorp, Inc., North Little Rock, Arkansas, and thereby indirectly retain voting shares of Twin City Bank, North Little Rock, Arkansas.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, December 12, 2003.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. E3-00586 Filed 12-17-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-S

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Federal Open Market Committee; Domestic Policy Directive of October 28, 2003

In accordance with § 271.25 of its rules regarding availability of information (12 CFR part 271), there is set forth below the domestic policy directive issued by the Federal Open

Market Committee at its meeting held on October 28, 2003.¹

The Federal Open Market Committee seeks monetary and financial conditions that will foster price stability and promote sustainable growth in output. To further its long-run objectives, the Committee in the immediate future seeks conditions in reserve markets consistent with maintaining the federal funds rate at an average of around 1 percent.

By order of the Federal Open Market Committee, December 12, 2003.

Vincent R. Reinhart,

Secretary, Federal Open Market Committee.

[FR Doc. E3-00588 Filed 12-17-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-S

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

Office of Public Health and Science; Statements of Organizations, Functions, and Delegations of Authority

Part A, Office of the Secretary (OS) of the Statement of Organization, Functions, and Delegation of Authority for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), chapter AC, Office of Public Health and Science (OPHS), as last amended at 67 FR 71568, dated December 2, 2002, is being amended to reflect the realignment of personnel oversight, administration, and management functions for the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Corps in the OPHS. Specifically, it realigns these functions in a newly established Office of Commissioned Corps Force Management (ACQ) and in the Office of the Surgeon General (ACM). The changes are as follows:

I. Under Part A, Chapter AC, Office of Public Health and Science, make the following changes:

A. Under Paragraph AC.10 Organization, insert the following line at the end of the listing:

N. Office of Commissioned Corps Force Management (ACQ)

B. Under Paragraph AC.20, Functions, make the following changes:

1. Delete Paragraph, "K. Office of the Surgeon General (ACM)," in its entirety and replace with the following:

K. Office of the Surgeon General (ACM)

Section ACM.00 Mission—The Office of the Surgeon General (OSG) is headed by the SG who reports to the Assistant Secretary for Health (ASH), provides staff support for: (1) Activities relating to membership on the Board of Regents of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and as principal health official for PHS on matters related to policies affecting PHS faculty and students (10 U.S.C. 2113(a)(3)); (2) activities related to responsibilities on other boards are assigned, including the (a) National Library of Medicine; (b) Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP); (c) American Medical Association (AMA) House of Delegates; and (d) Executive Committee, Association of Military Surgeons of the United States. The Office provides support to the SG; (3) in issuing warnings to the public on identified health hazards; (4) for review of the particulars of Department of Defense (DoD) plans for transportation, open testing and disposal of lethal chemicals and biological agents and in recommending precautions necessary to protect the public health and safety binding on the Secretary, DoD, which can only be overridden by the President (50 U.S.C. 1512 (2) & (3)); (5) communicating with professional societies to receive, solicit, and channel concerns regarding health policy in behalf of the ASH; (6) maintaining liaison with the Surgeons General of the Armed Forces and the Department of Veterans Affairs; (7) representing PHS at national and international health and professional meetings to interpret PHS philosophy, policies, organizational responsibilities and programs, as assigned; (8) providing management and oversight for the community-based, civilian Medical Reserve Corps program; (9) providing liaison with governmental and non-governmental organizations on matters pertaining to military and veterans affairs; and, (10) assuring day-to-day management of the Corps' operations, force readiness, and field command of deployments of the Commissioned Corps.

Section ACM.10 Organization: includes the following components:

- Immediate Office of the Surgeon General (ACM)
- Office of Science and Communications (ACM1)
- Office of Commissioned Corps Operations (ACM2)
- Office of Force Readiness and Deployment (ACM3)

• Office of Reserve Affairs (ACM4)
Section ACM.20 Functions:

(a) Immediate Office of the Surgeon General (ACM): (1) Advises the ASH on matters relating to protecting and advancing the public health of the Nation; (2) manages special deployments that address Presidential and Secretarial initiatives directed toward resolving critical public health problems; (3) as requested, serves as a spokesperson on behalf of the Secretary and the ASH, addressing the quality of public health practice on the Nation; (4) provides supervision of activities relating to the day-to-day management of operations and deployment of officers of the Commissioned Corps; (5) provides advice to the ASH, collaborating with the Office of Commissioned Corps Management (OCCFM), on the policies and implementation related to the appointment, promotion, assimilation, recognition, professional development, and other matters required for the efficient management of the Corps; (6) provides liaison with governmental and non-governmental organizations on matters pertaining to military and veterans affairs; (7) directs and oversees internal office administrative operations (including proposing and executing office budgets); and (8) convenes periodic meetings of the flag officers to obtain senior level advice concerning the day-to-day management of Corps' operations.

(b) Office of Science and Communications (ACM1): (1) Coordinates activities to plan, develop, introduce, and evaluate Surgeon General's Reports, Calls-to-Action, workshops, and other authoritative statements; (2) advises the SG on science, data, and evidence pertaining to population-based public health and the furtherance of public health priorities; (3) represents the SG in efforts to coordinate federal public health activities with similar activities in the States and local areas; (4) coordinates and is responsible for the preparation of SG correspondence, speeches, and communications; (5) represents the SG at conferences, symposia, and community events; and (6) coordinates the receipt of senior level advice from the Chief Professional Officers, the Surgeon General's Professional Advisory Council, and categorical Professional Advisory Committees.

(c) Office of Commissioned Corps Operations (ACM2):

Section ACM2.00 Mission: (1) Provides advice to the SG on matters related to the day-to-day management of Commissioned Corps operations,

¹ Copies of the Minutes of the Federal Open Market Committee meeting on October 28, 2003, which includes the domestic policy directive issued at the meeting, are available upon request to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, DC 20551. The minutes are published in the Federal Reserve Bulletin and in the Board's annual report.