

[FR Doc. 04-21917 Filed 9-29-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-30-M

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

[RI 20-64, RI 20-64A, and RI 20-64B]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Review of a Revised Information Collection

AGENCY: Office of Personnel
Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, May 22, 1995), this notice announces that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) intends to submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request for review of a revised information collection. RI20-64, You May Provide a Survivor Annuity for Your Former Spouse, is used by the Civil Service Retirement System to provide information about the amount of annuity payable after a survivor reduction and to offer eligible annuitants an opportunity to make a former spouse survivor annuity election. RI 20-64A, Former Spouse Survivor Annuity Election, is the election form the annuitant uses to make such an election. RI 20-64B, Information on Electing a Survivor Annuity for Your Former Spouse, is a pamphlet that provides important information to retirees under the Civil Service Retirement System who want to provide a survivor annuity for a former spouse.

Comments are particularly invited on: whether this information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of OPM, and whether it will have practical utility; whether our estimate of the public burden of this collection of information is accurate, and based on valid assumptions and methodology; and ways in which we can minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate technological collection techniques or others forms of information technology.

Approximately 30 RI 20-64A forms are completed annually. The form takes approximately 45 minutes to complete. The annual estimated burden is 23 hours.

For copies of this proposal, contact Mary Beth Smith-Toomey on (202) 606-8358, FAX (202) 418-3251 or via e-mail to mbtoomey@opm.gov. Please include a mailing address with your request.

DATES: Comments on this proposal should be received within 60 calendar days from the date of this publication.

ADDRESSES: Send or deliver comments to—Ronald W. Melton, Deputy Assistant Director, Retirement Services Program, Center for Retirement and Insurance Services, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street, NW., Room 3305, Washington, DC 20415-3540.

For Information Regarding Administrative Coordination—Contact: Cyrus S. Benson, Team Leader, Publications Team, Administrative Services Branch, (202) 606-0623.

U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

Kay Coles James,
Director.

[FR Doc. 04-21923 Filed 9-29-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-38-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon written request, copies available from: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549.

Extension:

Rule 15g-9, SEC File No. 270-325, OMB Control No. 3235-0385.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Sections 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget a request for extension of the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

Section 15(c)(2) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") authorizes the Commission to promulgate rules that prescribe means reasonably designed to prevent fraudulent, deceptive, or manipulative practices in connection with over-the-counter ("OTC") securities transactions. Pursuant to this authority, the Commission in 1989 adopted Rule 15a-6 (the "Rule"), which was subsequently redesignated as Rule 15g-9, 17 CFR 240.15g-9. The Rule requires broker-dealers to produce a written suitability determination for, and to obtain a written customer agreement to, certain recommended transactions in low-priced stocks that are not registered on a national securities exchange or authorized for trading on NASDAQ, and whose issuers do not meet certain minimum financial standards. The Rule is intended to prevent the indiscriminate use by broker-dealers of fraudulent, high pressure telephone

sales campaigns to sell low-priced securities to unsophisticated customers.

The staff estimates that approximately 240 broker-dealers incur an average burden of 78 hours per year to comply with this rule. Thus, the total burden hours to comply with the Rule is estimated at 18,720 hours (240 × 78).

The broker-dealer must keep the written suitability determination and customer agreement required by the Rule for at least three years. Completing the suitability determination and obtaining the customer agreement in writing is mandatory for broker-dealers who effect transactions in penny stocks and do not qualify for an exemption, but does not involve the collection of confidential information. Please note that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number.

General comments regarding the estimated burden hours should be directed to (i) the Desk Officer for the SEC, by sending an email to David_Rostker@omb.eop.gov; and (ii) R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. Comments must be submitted to OMB within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: September 20, 2004.

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. E4-2412 Filed 9-29-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon written request, copies available from: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

Extension:

Rule 17a-1, SEC File No. 270-244, OMB Control No. 3235-0208.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") a request for extension of the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

Rule 17a-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")

requires that all national securities exchanges, national securities associations, registered clearing agencies, and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board keep on file for a period of five years, two years in an accessible place, all documents that they make or receive respecting their self-regulatory activities, and that such documents be available for examination by the Commission.

The Commission staff estimates that the average number of hours necessary for compliance with the requirements of Rule 17a-1 is 50 hours per year. There are 22 entities required to comply with the rule: 9 national securities exchanges, 1 national securities association, 11 registered clearing agencies, and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board. In addition, 3 national securities exchanges notice-registered pursuant to Section 6(g) of the Act are required to preserve records of determinations made under Rule 3a55-1, which the Commission staff estimates will take 1 hour per exchange, for a total of 3 hours. Accordingly, the Commission staff estimates that the total number of hours necessary to comply with the requirements of Rule 17a-1 is 1,103 hours. The average cost per hour is \$50. Therefore, the total cost of compliance for the respondents is \$55,150.

Rule 17a-1 does not assure confidentiality for the records maintained pursuant to the rule. The records required by Rule 17a-1 are available only for examination by the Commission staff, state securities authorities and the self-regulatory organizations. Subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 522, and the Commission's rules thereunder (17 CFR 200.80(b)(4)(iii)), the Commission does not generally publish or make available information contained in any reports, summaries, analyses, letters, or memoranda arising out of, in anticipation of, or in connection with an examination or inspection of the books and records of any person or any other investigation. Please note that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number.

General comments regarding the estimated burden hours should be directed to the following persons: (i) Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, by sending an email to David.Rostker@omb.eop.gov; and (ii) R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange

Commission, 450 5th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. Comments must be submitted to OMB within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: September 22, 2004.

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. E4-2413 Filed 9-29-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon written request, copies available from: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

Extension

Rule 6h-1, SEC File No. 270-497, OMB Control No. 3235-0555.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995,¹ the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget a request for extension of the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

The Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") requires national securities exchanges and national securities associations that trade security futures products to establish listing standards that, among other things, require: (1) Trading in such products not be readily susceptible to price manipulation; and (2) the market trading a security futures product has in place procedures to coordinate trading halts with the listing market for the security or securities underlying the security futures product. Rule 6h-1 under the Act² implements these statutory requirements and requires national securities exchanges and national securities associations that trade security futures products to: (1) Require cash-settled security futures products to settle based on an opening price rather than a closing price; and (2) require the exchange or association to halt trading in a security futures product for as long as trading in the underlying security, or trading in 30% of the underlying securities, is halted on the listing market.

It is estimated that approximately 17 respondents will incur an average burden of 10 hours per year to comply with this rule, for a total burden of 170 hours. At an average cost per hour of

approximately \$197, the resultant total cost of compliance for the respondents is \$33,490 per year (17 entities × 10 hours/entity × \$197/hour = \$33,490).

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. Written comments regarding the above information should be directed to the following persons: (a) Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission by sending an email to david_rostker@omb.eop.gov, and (b) R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. Comments must be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: September 22, 2004.

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. E4-2414 Filed 9-29-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon written request, copies available from: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

Extension:

Rule 17f-1(g), SEC File No. 270-30, OMB Control No. 3235-0290.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") is soliciting comments on the collection of information summarized below. The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for extension and approval.

- Rule 17f-1(g) Requirements for reporting and inquiry with respect to missing, lost, counterfeit or stolen securities.

Paragraph (g) of Rule 17f-1 requires that all reporting institutions (*i.e.*, every national securities exchange, member thereof, registered securities association, broker, dealer, municipal securities dealer, registered transfer agent, registered clearing agency, participant therein, member of the Federal Reserve System and bank insured by the FDIC) maintain and preserve a number of

¹ 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*

² 17 CFR 240.6h-1.