

Termination of the Board is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the agency by law, to ensure an inclusive advisory process for FEMA plans and programs. FEMA will adopt a more inclusive process than previously used for involving constituents and stakeholders in policy development.

Dated: August 15, 1997.

James L. Witt,

Director.

[FR Doc. 97-22678 Filed 8-25-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6718-01-M

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. Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

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 September 19, 1997.

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

1. *Mutual Bancorp of the Berkshires, Inc.*, Pittsfield, Massachusetts; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of Lee National Banc Corp., Lee,

Massachusetts, and thereby indirectly acquire First National Bank of the Berkshires, Lee, Massachusetts, and City Savings Bank of Pittsfield, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

B. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (Randall C. Sumner, Vice President) 411 Locust Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2034:

1. *First Commercial Corporation*, Little Rock, Arkansas; to merge with First Charter Bancshares, Inc., North Little Rock, Arkansas, and thereby indirectly acquire Charter State Bank, Beebe, Arkansas, Beebe, Arkansas.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, August 20, 1997.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 97-22600 Filed 8-25-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

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. Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

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 September 10, 1997.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of New York (Betsy Buttrill White, Senior Vice

President) 33 Liberty Street, New York, New York 10045-0001:

1. *Santander Holding Internacional, S.A., and Santusa Holding, S.L.*, both of Madrid, Spain; to become bank holding companies by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of Banco Santander Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico. Santander Holding Internacional, S.A., Santusa Holding, S.L., and Banco Santander Puerto Rico all currently are subsidiaries of Banco Santander, S.A., Madrid, Spain.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, August 21, 1997.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 97-22642 Filed 8-25-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Notice of Proposals to Engage in Permissible Nonbanking Activities or to Acquire Companies that are Engaged in Permissible Nonbanking Activities

The companies listed in this notice have given notice under section 4 of the Bank Holding Company Act (12 U.S.C. 1843) (BHC Act) and Regulation Y, (12 CFR Part 225) to engage *de novo*, or to acquire or control voting securities or assets of a company that engages either directly or through a subsidiary or other company, in a nonbanking activity that is listed in § 225.28 of Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.28) or that the Board has determined by Order to be closely related to banking and permissible for bank holding companies. Unless otherwise noted, these activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Each notice is available for inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The notice also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the question whether the proposal complies with the standards of section 4 of the BHC Act.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding the applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than September 9, 1997.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland (Jeffery Hirsch, Banking Supervisor) 1455 East Sixth Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44101-2566:

1. *National City Corporation*, Cleveland, Ohio, acting through its wholly-owned subsidiary, National Processing, Inc., Louisville, Kentucky, to acquire Caribbean Data Services, Ltd., Dallas, Texas, and thereby engage in

processing the payment of health insurance claims by performing data entry of customer provided information and information relating to the cost of medical treatment, and by utilizing the customer's database to match membership and provider information to facilitate payment between the provider and the insurer, and in collection of financial and other data from hard copies and electronic images of airline tickets that is provided to customers for billing purposes, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(14) of the Board's Regulation Y. *See, Banc One Corporation*, 80 Fed. Res. Bull. 139 (1994).

B. Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco (Pat Marshall, Manager of Analytical Support, Consumer Regulation Group) 101 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94105-1579:

1. *BankAmerica Corporation*, San Francisco, California; to acquire all of the assets, and assume all of the liabilities of Robertson Stephens & Company Group ("Group"), and Robertson Stephen & Company, Inc. ("RS&Co., Inc."), and thereby engage worldwide in underwriting and dealing in, to a limited extent, all types of debt and equity securities other than interests in open end investment companies *See J.P. Morgan & Co., Inc., Citicorp and Security Pacific Corp.*, 75 Fed. Res. Bull. 192 (1989); in underwriting and dealing in obligations of the United States, general obligations of states and their political subdivisions, and other obligations that state members banks of the Federal Reserve System may be authorized to underwrite and deal in under 12 U.S.C. 24 and 335, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(8) of the Board's Regulation Y; in acting as investment or financial advisor, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(6) of the Board's Regulation Y; in providing securities brokerage services (including securities clearing and securities execution services on an exchange), alone and in combination with investment advisory services, and incidental activities (including related securities credit activities and custodial services), pursuant to § 225.28(b)(7) of the Board's Regulation Y; in buying and selling in the secondary market all types of securities on the order of customers as a riskless principal to the extent of engaging in a transaction in which the company, after receiving an order to buy (or sell) a security from a customer, purchases (or sells) the security for its own account to offset a contemporaneous sale to (or purchase from) the customer, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(76) of the Board's Regulation Y; in acting as agent for the private placement of securities in accordance

with the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933 and the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(7) of the Board's Regulation Y; and in providing administrative and other services to investment companies, including open-end investment companies ("mutual funds"). *See Bankers Trust* 83 Fed. Res. Bull. — (Order dated July 21, 1997); *Barclays PLC*, 82 Fed. Res. Bull. 158 (1996); *Bank of Ireland*, 82 Fed. Res. Bull. 1129 (1996). BankAmerica would engage in these activities in accordance with the limitations and conditions previously established by the Board by regulation or order, with certain exceptions relating to the proposed provision of advisory and administrative services to mutual funds that are discussed in the notice. BankAmerica also intends to acquire certain offshore subsidiaries, companies engaged in providing services to Group and RS & Co. and its affiliates, and proprietary investments currently owned by Group and RS & Co. Inc.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, August 20, 1997.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 97-22601 Filed 8-25-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

TIME AND DATE: 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, September 2, 1997.

PLACE: Marriner S. Eccles Federal Reserve Board Building, C Street entrance between 20th and 21st Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20551.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Personnel actions (appointments, promotions, assignments, reassignments, and salary actions) involving individual Federal Reserve System employees.

2. Any items carried forward from a previously announced meeting.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Mr. Joseph R. Coyne, Assistant to the Board; (202) 452-3204. You may call (202) 452-3207, beginning at approximately 5 p.m. two business days before this meeting, for a recorded announcement of bank and bank holding company applications scheduled for the meeting.

Dated: August 22, 1997.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 97-22867 Filed 8-22-97; 3:44 pm]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA); Interpretation of "Federal Means-Tested Public Benefit"

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, HHS.

ACTION: Notice with comment period.

SUMMARY: This notice with comment period interprets the term "Federal means-tested public benefit[s]" as used in Title IV of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA), Pub. L. 104-193, to include only mandatory spending programs of the Federal Government in which eligibility for the programs' benefits, or the amount of such benefits, or both, are determined on the basis of income or resources of the eligibility unit seeking the benefit. At HHS, the benefit programs that fall within this definition (and are not explicitly excepted from the definition by Section 403(c)) are Medicaid and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

DATES: *Effective Date:* This notice is effective on August 26, 1997.

COMMENT PERIOD: Written comments will be considered if we receive them at the appropriate address, as provided in the **ADDRESSES** section below, no later than 5 p.m. on October 27, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Mail comments (1 original and 3 copies) to the following address: Division of Economic Support for Families, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services, Room 404E, 200 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20201, Attention: David Nielsen.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Nielsen, (202) 690-7148.

Copies of comments may be inspected at the above address. Inquiries regarding how a particular program is affected by this notice should be submitted to DHHS program staff responsible for managing the program at either the appropriate Regional Office, or Headquarters in Washington, DC. The above contact should be used only to submit general comments regarding the policy interpretation contained in this notice.