

collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Dated: January 26, 1998.

John W. Magaw,

Director.

[FR Doc. 98-2294 Filed 1-29-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The OCC, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on a continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Currently, the OCC is soliciting comment concerning its proposed renewal without change of an information collection titled Uniform Form For Registration and Amendment to Registration as a Transfer Agent—Form TA-1.

DATES: Written comments should be submitted by March 31, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to the Communications Division, Attention: 1557-0124, Third Floor, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 250 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20219. In addition, comments may be sent by facsimile transmission to (202) 874-5274, or by electronic mail to REGS.COMMENTS@OCC.TREAS.GOV.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the collection may be obtained by contacting Jessie Gates, (202) 874-5090, Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division (1557-0124), Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 250 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20219.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Uniform Form for Registration and Amendment to Registration as a Transfer Agent—Form TA-1.

OMB Number: 1557-0124.

Form Number: TA-1.

Abstract: The OCC is requesting comment on its proposed renewal

without change of the information collection titled Uniform Form for Registration and Amendment to Registration as a Transfer Agent—Form TA-1. Section 17A(c) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Act), as amended by the Securities Act Amendments of 1975, provides that all those authorized to transfer securities registered under Section 12 of the Act (transfer agents) shall register by filing with the appropriate regulatory agency an application for registration in such form and containing such information and documents as such appropriate regulatory agency may prescribe to be necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of this section. Form TA-1 was developed by the OCC, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve to satisfy this statutory requirement. National bank transfer agents use Form TA-1 to register or amend registration as transfer agents. The OCC uses the information to determine whether to allow, deny, accelerate, or postpone an application. An amendment to Form TA-1 must be filed with the OCC within sixty calendar days following the date on which any information reported on Form TA-1 becomes inaccurate, misleading or incomplete. The OCC also uses the data to more effectively schedule and plan transfer agent examinations. Amendments to Form TA-1 are used by the OCC to schedule and plan examinations. The Securities and Exchange Commission maintains complete files on the registration data of all transfer agents registered pursuant to the Act. It utilizes the data to identify transfer agents and to facilitate development of rules and standards applicable to all registered transfer agents.

Type of Review: Renewal of OMB approval.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 105.

Total Annual Responses: 105.

Frequency of Response: Occasional.

Total Annual Burden: 46 burden hours.

Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on:

(a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility;

(b) The accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information;

(c) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;

(d) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and

(e) Estimates of capital or startup costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Dated: January 23, 1998.

Karen Solomon,

Director, Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division.

[FR Doc. 98-2287 Filed 1-29-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The OCC, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on a continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Currently, the OCC is soliciting comment concerning its proposed renewal without change of an information collection titled Community Reinvestment Act Regulation—12 CFR part 25.

DATES: Written comments should be submitted by March 31, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to the Communications Division, Attention: 1557-0160, Third Floor, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 250 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20219. In addition, comments may be sent by facsimile transmission to (202) 874-5274, or by electronic mail to REGS.COMMENTS@OCC.TREAS.GOV.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the collection may be obtained by contacting Jessie Gates, (202) 874-5090, Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division (1557-0160), Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 250 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20219.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Community Reinvestment Act Regulation—12 CFR Part 25.

OMB Number: 1557-0160.

Form Number: None.

Abstract: The OCC is requesting comment on its proposed renewal without change of the information collections contained in 12 CFR Part 25. The OCC uses this information to assess each national bank's record of meeting the credit needs of its community, as required by the Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 (12 U.S.C. 2901 *et seq.*). The Act requires the OCC to assess and evaluate the efforts of national banks to help meet the credit needs of their communities, including low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, consistent with safe and sound operations. These records are used in evaluating applications for mergers, branches, and other corporate activities. The collections of information are found in 12 CFR 25.25, 25.27, 25.29, 25.41, 25.42, and 25.43. The OCC uses the records in the examination process to evaluate a bank's CRA performance. The public uses the information to assess the bank's CRA performance and to participate meaningfully in the application process.

Type of Review: Renewal, without change, of OMB approval.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 3,076.

Total Annual Responses: 3,076.

Frequency of Response: Occasional.

Total Annual Burden: 57,044 burden hours.

Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on:

(a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility;

(b) The accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information;

(c) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;

(d) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and

(e) Estimates of capital or startup costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Dated: January 23, 1998.

Karen Solomon,

Director, Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division.

[FR Doc. 98-2288 Filed 1-29-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-33-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of Thrift Supervision

[AC-6: OTS Nos. 05056 and H-1958]

First Savings Bancshares, MHC, Woodbridge, New Jersey; Approval of Conversion Application

Notice is hereby given that on January 16, 1998, the Director, Corporate Activities, Office of Thrift Supervision, or her designee, acting pursuant to delegated authority, approved the application of First Savings Bancshares, MHC, Woodbridge, New Jersey, to convert to the stock form of organization. Copies of the application are available for inspection at the Dissemination Branch, Office of Thrift Supervision, 1700 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20552, and the Northeast Regional Office, Office of Thrift Supervision, 10 Exchange Place, 18th Floor, Jersey City, New Jersey 07302.

Dated: January 22, 1998.

By the Office of Thrift Supervision.

Nadine Y. Washington,

Corporate Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-1897 Filed 1-29-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6720-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Rehabilitation Research and Development Service Scientific Merit Review Board, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs gives notice under Pub. L. 92-463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) as amended, by section 5(c) of Pub. L. 94-409 that a meeting of the Rehabilitation Research and Development Service Scientific Merit Review Board will be held at the Westin City Hotel, 1400 "M" Street NW., Washington, DC on January 27 through January 29, 1998.

The session on January 27, 1998, is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. and end at 9:30 p.m. The sessions on January 28 and January 29, 1998, are scheduled to begin at 8 a.m. and end at 5 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to review rehabilitation research and development applications for scientific and technical merit and to make recommendations to the Director, Rehabilitation Research and Development Service, regarding their funding.

The meeting will be open to the public up to the seating capacity of the room for the January 27 session for the discussion of administrative matters, the general status of the program, and the administrative details of the review process. On January 28-29, 1998 the meeting is closed during which the Board will be reviewing research and development applications.

This review, involves oral comments, discussion of site visits, staff and consultant critiques of proposed research protocols, and similar analytical documents that necessitate the consideration of the personal qualifications, performance and competence of individual research investigators. Disclosure of such information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Disclosure would also reveal research proposals and research underway which could lead to the loss of these projects to third parties and thereby frustrate future agency research efforts.

Thus, the closing is in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b (c)(6), and (c)(9)(B) and the determination of the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs under Sections 10(d) of Pub. L. 92-463 as amended by Section 5(c) of Pub. L. 94-409.

Due to the limited seating capacity of the room, those who plan to attend the open session should write to Ms. Victoria Mongiardo, Program Analyst, Rehabilitation Research and Development Service, Department of Veterans Affairs, 103 South Gay Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 (Phone: 410-962-2563) at least five days before the meeting.

Dated: January 8, 1998.

By Direction of the Secretary.

Heyward Bannister,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-2314 Filed 1-29-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M