

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.  
*Estimated Number of Respondents:*  
 10,000.

Dated: March 8, 2001.

By direction of the Secretary:

**Donald L. Neilson,**

*Director, Information Management Service.*

[FR Doc. 01-7489 Filed 3-26-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0589]

### Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Office of Acquisition and Materiel Management, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Acquisition and Materiel Management (OA&MM), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on the information needed to ensure that shellfish purchased by VA comes from a State- and Federal-approved and inspected source.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before May 29, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information to Donald E. Kaliher, Office of Acquisition and Materiel Management (95A), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420 or e-mail [donald.kaliher@mail.va.gov](mailto:donald.kaliher@mail.va.gov). Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0589" in any correspondence.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Donald E. Kaliher at (202) 273-8819.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C., 3501-3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct

or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, OA&MM invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of OA&MM's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of OA&MM's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

*Title:* Veterans Affairs Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) Provision 852.270-3, Shellfish.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0589.

*Type of Review:* Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired.

*Abstract:* VAAR clause 852.270-3, Shellfish, requires that a firm furnishing shellfish to VA must ensure that the shellfish is packaged in a container that is marked with the packer's State certificate number and State abbreviation. In addition, the firm must ensure that the container is tagged or labeled to show the name and address of the approved producer or shipper, the name of the State of origin, and the certificate number of the approved producer or shipper. This information normally accompanies the shellfish from the packer and is not information that must be separately obtained by the seller. The information is needed to ensure that shellfish purchased by VA comes from a State- and Federal-approved and inspected source. The information is used to help ensure that VA purchases healthful shellfish.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit; Individuals and households; and Not-for-profit institutions.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 17 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent:* 1 minute.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 1,000.

Dated: March 8, 2001.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Donald L. Neilson,**

*Director, Information Management Service.*

[FR Doc. 01-7490 Filed 3-26-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0593]

### Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Office of Acquisition and Materiel Management, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Acquisition and Materiel Management (OA&MM), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on the information needed to identify bid envelopes from other mail parcels.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before May 29, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information to Donald E. Kaliher, Office of Acquisition and Materiel Management (95A), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420 or e-mail [donald.kaliher@mail.va.gov](mailto:donald.kaliher@mail.va.gov). Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0593" in any correspondence.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Donald E. Kaliher at (202) 273-8819.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, OA&MM invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of OA&MM's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of OA&MM's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity

of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

*Title:* Veterans Affairs Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) Provision 852.214-70, Caution to Bidders—Bid Envelopes.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0593.

*Type of Review:* Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired.

*Abstract:* VAAR provision 852.214-70, Caution to Bidders—Bid Envelopes, advises bidders that it is their responsibility to ensure that their bid price cannot be ascertained by anyone prior to bid opening. It also advises bidders to identify their bids by showing the invitation number and bid opening date on the outside of the bid envelope. The Government often furnishes a blank bid envelope or a label for use by bidders/offers to identify their bids. The bidder is advised to fill in the required information. This information requested from bidders is needed by the Government to identify bid envelopes from other mail or packages received without having to open the envelopes or packages and possibly exposing bid prices before bid opening. The information will be used to identify which parcels or envelopes are bids and which are other routine mail. The information is also needed to help ensure that bids are delivered to the proper bid opening room on time and prior to bid opening.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit; Individuals and households; and Not-for-profit institutions.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 960 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden Per*

*Respondent:* 10 seconds.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 346,000.

Dated: March 8, 2001.

By direction of the Secretary:

**Donald L. Neilson,**

*Director, Information Management Service.*

[FR Doc. 01-7491 Filed 3-26-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

**ACTION:** Notice of amendment to system of records.

**SUMMARY:** The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552(e)(4)) requires that all agencies publish in the **Federal Register** a notice of the existence and character of their systems of records. Notice is hereby given that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending the system of records entitled "Veteran, Patient, Employee, and Volunteer Research and Development Project Records-VA" (34VA11) as set forth in the **Federal Register** 40 FR 38095, dated 8/26/75 and last amended in 58 FR 40852, dated 7/30/93. VA is amending the system by revising the System Number and the paragraphs on Authority to Maintain the System, Purposes, Categories of Records in the System, Routine Uses of Records Maintained in the System, and System Manager. VA is republishing the system notice in its entirety.

**DATES:** Comments on the amendment of this system of records must be received no later than April 26, 2001. If no public comment is received, the amended system will become effective April 26, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments concerning the proposed new system of records may be submitted to the Office of Regulations Management (02D), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420. Comments will be available for public inspection at the above address in the Office of Regulations Management, Room 1158, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Privacy Act Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420; telephone (727) 320-1839.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** VA is renumbering the system of records from 34VA11 to 34VA12 to reflect organizational changes in the Department. The authority to maintain the records in the system has been amended to reflect current codification of the statute.

Two new routine use disclosure statements are being added to the system. One new routine use is being added to the system to allow for disclosure of information to the Department of Justice (DOJ), including U.S. Attorneys, upon its official request in order for VA to respond to pleadings, interrogatories, orders or inquiries from DOJ, and to supply DOJ with information to enable DOJ to represent the U.S. Government in any phase of litigation or in any case or controversy

involving the VA. The second routine use is being added to the system to allow for disclosure of invention information with affiliated intellectual property partners to aid in the possible use, interest in, or ownership rights in VA intellectual property. Routine use number 4 is being amended to remove the Title 44 United States Code Section numbers.

The Privacy Act permits VA to disclose information about individuals without their consent for a Routine Use when the information will be used for a purpose that is compatible with the purpose for which we collected the information. In all of the Routine Use disclosures described above, the recipient of the information will use the information in connection with a matter relating to one of VA's programs, to provide a benefit to VA, or to provide disclosure as required by law.

The notice of intent to publish and an advance copy of the system notice have been sent to the appropriate Congressional committees and to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) as required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(r) (Privacy Act) and guidelines issued by OMB (61 FR 6428), February 20, 1996.

Approved: March 1, 2001.

**Anthony J. Principi,**  
*Secretary of Veterans Affairs.*

### 34VA12

#### SYSTEM NAME:

Veteran, Patient, Employee, and Volunteer Research and Development Project Records—VA.

#### SYSTEM LOCATION:

Records are maintained at each VA health care facility where the research project was conducted and at VA Central Office (VACO). Address locations are listed in VA Appendix 1 of the biennial Privacy Act Issuance publication. In addition, records are maintained at contractor and fieldwork sites as studies are developed, data collected and reports written. A list of locations where individually identifiable data are currently located is available from the System Manager.

#### CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:

The following categories of individuals will be covered by this system: (1) Veterans; (2) patients; (3) employees; or, (4) volunteers who have indicated their willingness to be a participant in medical research projects being performed by VA, by a VA contractor or by another Federal agency in conjunction with VA; and (5) research and development investigators.