

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, February 23, 2007.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. E7-3570 Filed 2-28-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-S

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Federal Open Market Committee; Rules of Organization

AGENCY: Federal Open Market Committee.

ACTION: Notice; Amendment to Rules of Organization.

SUMMARY: The Federal Open Market Committee (the "Committee") has amended its Rules of Organization to allow for the appointment of a temporary manager of the System Open Market Account in certain circumstances.

DATES: The amendments to the Rules of Organization became effective on January 30, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kieran J. Fallon, Assistant General Counsel (202-452-5270), April Snyder, Senior Attorney (202-452-3099), Legal Division; Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; Deborah J. Danker, Deputy Secretary (202-452-3253), or Matthew Luecke, Senior Financial Analyst, (202-452-2576); Federal Open Market Committee, 20th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20551. Users of Telecommunication Device for Deaf (TTD) only, call (202) 263-4869.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Committee is composed of the members of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and five representatives of the Federal Reserve Banks, selected in the manner set forth in section 12A of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 263(a)). The Committee's Rules of Organization provide for the Committee to select a manager of the System Open Market Account, which is the account through which open market transactions are conducted on behalf and under the direction of the Committee.¹ The manager keeps the Committee informed on market conditions and on transactions made for the System Open Market Account and renders such reports as the Committee may specify. The Rules of Organization also provide that the manager selected by the Committee shall be satisfactory to the Federal Reserve Bank selected by the Committee to execute transactions for

the System Open Market Account ("executing Reserve Bank").

The manager serves at the pleasure of the Committee. The Committee has amended its Rules of Organization to also provide that if the President of the executing Reserve Bank determines that the manager is not able to perform the duties of the position, the Chairman of the Committee may select, with the concurrence of such President, another person to serve temporarily as manager until the Committee and the executing Reserve Bank select a replacement manager in accordance with the Committee's Rules of Organization. This provision is designed to facilitate the smooth and uninterrupted operation of the System Open Market Account in the event that a manager becomes unable to serve in the position.

The Committee has incorporated the amendments into the Committee's Rules of Organization. The Committee's Rules of Organization are uncoded regulations for use by the Committee and are issued pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552. Because the amendments relate solely to the internal organization, procedure, or practice of the Committee, the public notice, public comment, and delayed effective date provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act do not apply.²

For the reasons discussed above, the Committee has amended its Rules of Organization as follows:

1. The following sentence is added at the end of § 5 of the Rules of Organization:

Section 5—Manager

* * * In the event that the President of the Federal Reserve Bank selected by the Committee determines that the manager is not able to perform the duties of the position, the Chairman may select a person satisfactory to such President to serve as manager until the Committee and the designated Reserve Bank select a replacement manager in accordance with this section.

By order of the Federal Open Market Committee, February 23, 2007.

Vincent R. Reinhart,

Secretary, Federal Open Market Committee.

[FR Doc. E7-3540 Filed 2-28-07; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Federal Open Market Committee; Domestic Policy Directive of January 30-31, 2006

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 January 30-31, 2007.¹

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 5¼ percent.

By order of the Federal Open Market Committee, February 22, 2007.

Vincent R. Reinhart,

Secretary, Federal Open Market Committee.

[FR Doc. E7-3543 Filed 2-28-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-S

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Privacy Act of 1974; Cancellation of a System of Records

AGENCY: General Services Administration

ACTION: Cancellation of a system of records

SUMMARY: The General Services Administration (GSA) is providing notice of a cancelled record system, Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Program (GSA/OAP-1). The system was replaced by the new system of records GSA/Govt-8 (Excluded Parties List System) which became effective on January 4, 2007.

DATES: Effective: March 1, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Call or e-mail the GSA Privacy Act Officer: telephone 202-208-1317; e-mail gsa.privacyact@gsa.gov.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted to the Program Manager, Integrated Acquisition Environment Program, Office of the Chief Acquisition

¹ Copies of the Minutes of the Federal Open Market Committee meeting on January 30-31, 2007, 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, D.C. 20551. The minutes are published in the Federal Reserve Bulletin and in the Board's annual report.

¹ See Committee Rules of Organization, § 5.

² See 5 U.S.C. 553(b) and (d).

Officer, General Services Administration, 2011 Crystal Drive, Suite 911, Arlington, VA 22202.

Dated: February 21, 2007

Cheryl M. Paige

Acting Director, Office of Information Management

GSA/OAP-1

SYSTEM NAME:

Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs.

SYSTEM LOCATION:

This system of records is located in the Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, 18th and F Streets NW, Washington, DC.

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:

Individuals covered by the system are:

- a. Individuals excluded from the Federal procurement or nonprocurement programs by any Federal executive agency, or individual sureties excluded from bid and performance bond activity;
- b. Individuals, firms, sureties, or other parties referred to the Office of Acquisition Policy by General Services Administration offices for consideration for debarment or suspension from Federal procurement programs or from acting as individual sureties in procurement programs.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

Records include correspondence from Federal agencies identifying excluded individuals, firms, or parties, and the cause for exclusion from Federal or nonprocurement programs; and case files on individuals, firms, or parties referred to the Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, to consider for suspension, debarment, or exclusion as a Federal contractor, subcontractor, or an individual surety.

AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:

Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, 41 U.S.C. 235b; Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 9.4 and 28.2; Office of Federal Procurement Policy letter 82-1, June 24, 1982; EO 12549, February 18, 1986; and EO 12689, August 16, 1989.

PURPOSE(S):

To assemble in one system information to insure that: (1) Federal contracts and designated subcontracts are awarded to responsible firms, individuals, and other parties; (2) responsible persons (as defined in agency regulations implementing EO

12549) engage in covered transactions involving Federal financial or nonfinancial assistance programs and benefits; and (3) individual sureties for bid and performance bonds in Federal procurement programs are responsible.

ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:

- a. To disclose records contracting officers and other Federal, State, and local employees involved in procuring goods and services with Federal funds and/or administering Federal financial or nonfinancial assistance programs or benefits.
- b. To disclose records to a Federal, State, local, or foreign agency responsible for investigating, prosecuting, enforcing, or carrying out a statute, rule, regulation, or order, where the records indicate on their face or in conjunction with other records a violation of civil or criminal law and regulation.
- c. To disclose records to another Federal agency, a State or local agency that administers Federal financial or nonfinancial assistance programs or benefits, and the records are relevant and necessary to an eligibility determination.
- d. To disclose records for the purpose of performing a Federal duty to an expert, consultant, contractor, State or local agency, or financial institution.
- e. To disclose information to an appeal, grievance, or formal complaints examiner; equal employment opportunity investigator; arbitrator; exclusive representative; or other official engaged in investigating or settling a grievance, complaint, or appeal filed by an employee, when these records are relevant and necessary to a determination of the issue.
- f. To disclose records to a requesting Federal agency in connection with hiring or retaining an employee; issuing a security clearance; reporting an employee investigation; clarifying a job; letting a contract; or issuing a license, grant, or other benefit by the requesting agency where the information is relevant and necessary for a decision on a Federal financial or nonfinancial assistance program or benefit.
- g. To disclose records to a member of Congress or a congressional staff member in response to an inquiry from that congressional office made in behalf of a constituent, for information pertaining to that constituent.
- h. To disclose records to the Department of Justice when the agency, any agency employee, or the United States is party to or has interest in litigation, and using the records is

relevant and necessary for furtherance of the litigation.

- i. To disclose information to a court or adjudicative body when the agency, any agency employee, or the United States is party to or has interest in litigation, and using the records is relevant and necessary for the furtherance of the litigation.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING, AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

STORAGE:

Paper records and machine listings in file folders; disc storage in automated electronic system.

RETRIEVABILITY:

General Services Administration case files are retrieved by case number and name of individual or firm. Correspondence from Federal agencies relating to entries on the "Lists of Parties" (Lists) is retrieved by agency. Information from the Lists automated data base is retrieved by name and address, Taxpayer Identification Number, Dun and Bradstreet Number, and by action agency.

SAFEGUARDS:

Paper records stored in lockable filing cabinets or secured rooms. Computerized records protected by I.D./password security system.

RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:

Disposal of records is described in the HB, GSA Records Maintenance and Disposition System (OAD P 1820.2).

SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:

Director, Office of GSA Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration (VP), 18th and F Streets NW, Washington, DC 20405.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:

Inquiries from firms, individuals, or parties should be addressed to the system manager.

RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:

Requests from firms and individuals should be addressed to the system manager as noted above. For identification requirements see the agency regulations outlined in 41 CFR part 105-64.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

General Services Administration rules for contesting the contents and appealing initial decisions are issued in 41 CFR part 105-64.

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:

Federal agencies and State and local law enforcement officials.

[FR Doc. E7-3579 Filed 2-28-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology; American Health Information Community Meeting

ACTION: Change in meeting location to California.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the 12th meeting of the American Health Information Community in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. No. 92-463, 5 U.S.C., App.). The American Health Information Community will advise the Secretary and recommend specific actions to achieve a common interoperability framework for health information technology (IT).

DATES: March 13, 2007, from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (Pacific time).

NEW ADDRESS: Computer History Museum, 1401 N. Shoreline Boulevard, Mountain View, California 94043.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Visit <http://www.hhs.gov/healthit/ahic.html>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting will include presentations by the Quality Workgroup; Population Health/Clinical Care Connections Workgroup; Consumer Empowerment Workgroup; and Confidentiality, Privacy and Security Workgroup. It will also feature a panel presentation on Privacy and Security issues.

The general public is invited to participate in person at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View, CA. Alternatively, the public may participate remotely via the Web. The Community meeting will be available on the NIH Web site at: <http://www.videocast.nih.gov/>.

If you have special needs for the meeting, please contact (202) 690-7151.

Dated: February 21, 2007.

Judith Sparrow,

Director, American Health Information Community, Office of Programs and Coordination, Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology.

[FR Doc. 07-914 Filed 2-28-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Notice of Availability: Secretarial Acceptance and Planned Recognition of Certain Healthcare Information Technology Standards Panel (HITSP) Interoperability Specifications for Health Information Technology

AGENCY: Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC), DHHS.

Authority: Executive Order 13335 ("Incentives for the Use of Health Information Technology and Establishing the Position of the National Health Information Technology Coordinator"), Executive Order 13410 ("Promoting Quality and Efficient Health Care in Federal Government Administered or Sponsored Health Care Programs"), and Public Law 109-149 ("Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006").

SUMMARY: By publication of this document, we are informing the public of the Secretary's acceptance and planned recognition of certain Healthcare Information Technology Standards Panel (HITSP) Interoperability Specifications for health information technology as interoperability standards. The Secretary accepted these standards, version 1.2, in December of 2006, and intends to recognize them in the version 2.0 form in December of 2007, presuming that changes from version 1.2 to version 2.0 are minor and of a technical nature. This list of accepted HITSP standards is available at <http://www.hitsp.org> and click on "HITSP Interoperability Specifications HERE" box.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Healthcare Information Technology Standards Panel (HITSP) was created in 2005 to serve as a cooperative partnership between the public and private sectors for the purpose of achieving a widely accepted and useful set of standards specifically to enable and support widespread interoperability among healthcare software systems, as they will interact in a local, regional, and national health information network in the United States.

Under a contract with the Department of Health and Human Services, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) established HITSP, following a neutral and inclusive governance model. HITSP is a multi-stakeholder organization involving more than 265 different healthcare industry organizations whose activities on these

Interoperability Specifications were supported by more than 12,000 volunteer hours of effort. On October 31, 2006, HITSP presented three sets of "Interoperability Specifications" to the American Health Information Community (AHIC). The Interoperability Specifications were developed to advance the national agenda for secure, interoperable health information systems.

The AHIC is a Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) advisory body, chartered in 2005 to make recommendations to the Secretary on methods for accelerating the development and adoption of health information technology. At the October 31, 2006, AHIC meeting, the members discussed the first three sets of health data and technical standards. Following that discussion, the AHIC reached consensus and recommended that the Interoperability Specifications be recognized by the Secretary.

We recognize that certain legal obligations may flow from the recognition of these Interoperability Specifications. First, pursuant to Executive Order 13410 (EO 13410) dated August 22, 2006, recognition of Interoperability Specifications would require each Federal health agency, as it implements, acquires, or upgrades health information technology systems used for the direct exchange of health information between agencies and with non-Federal entities, to "utilize, where available, health information technology systems and products that meet recognized interoperability standards." Therefore, Federal agencies would be required to properly consider health information technology systems and products that comply with these Interoperability Specifications when purchasing, implementing, or upgrading such items. Similarly, the EO 13410 directs Federal agencies to contractually require, to the extent permitted by law, certain entities with whom they do business, to use, where available, health information technology systems and products that meet recognized interoperability standards.

In addition, the regulations promulgated on August 8, 2006 (see 71 FR 45140 and 71 FR 45110) established exceptions and safe harbors to the physician self-referral law and the anti-kickback statute, respectively, for certain arrangements involving the donation of electronic prescribing and electronic health records (EHR) technology and services. The EHR exception and safe harbor require that the software be "interoperable" as defined in the regulations. The rules also provide that certain software will