

With respect to the following collection of information, NCS invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of NCS's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of NCS'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: PMC (Presidential Memorial Certificate) Insert.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0567.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: The PMC Program was initiated in March 1962 by President John F. Kennedy to honor the memory of honorably discharged, deceased veterans, and has been continued by all subsequent Presidents. A PMC is mailed to deceased veterans relatives and friends honoring their military service to our Nation. In most cases involving recent deaths, the local VA regional office originates the process without a request from the next-of-kin. With the automation of the program, the insert will accompany the issuance of the original certificate. The insert provides a convenient method for the recipients of the original PMC to request additional certificates and/or replacement or corrected certificates. The information will be used by the NCS to promptly reissue or provide additional certificates.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 925 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 2 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 27,740.

Dated: May 15, 1997.

By direction of the Secretary.

Donald L. Neilson,

Director, Information Management Service.
[FR Doc. 97-13710 Filed 5-23-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0091]

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

AGENCY: Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) 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 revision of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on requirements relating to the collection of information from veterans during the medical care application process and when making funeral and burial arrangements.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before July 28, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Ann Bickoff, Veterans Health Administration (161A1), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0091" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ann Bickoff at (202) 273-8310.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 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, VHA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VHA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VHA'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) way 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 and Form Numbers: Application for Medical Benefits, VA Form 10-10; Insurance Information, VA Form 10-10I; Financial Worksheet, VA Form 10-10F; and Funeral Arrangements, VA Form 10-2065.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0091.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: The forms are used to collect information in connection with providing medical care benefits, obtaining health insurance information for third party billing purposes, obtaining income and asset information, and for the purposes of making funeral and burial arrangements for deceased veterans. The purpose of the collection of information is outlined below:

a. VA Form 10-10 is used to establish a system of records on veterans applying for medical benefits. The information is used to identify the veterans applying for medical care, establish initial eligibility for care, and to provide emergency contacts, employment information, military service data, and income screening for pharmacy co-payment.

b. VA Form 10-10F is used to collect financial information on veterans whose eligibility for VA health care benefits is based on income. Nonservice-connected veterans and noncompensable service-connected veterans rated 0% seeking care for their nonservice-connected conditions complete the form to establish their eligibility for cost-free health care, mileage reimbursement and prescription co-payment exemption benefits. Veterans with compensable service-connected disabilities rated 0, 10 or 20% may provide their income information to establish their eligibility for prescription co-payment exemption and mileage reimbursement. Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 30 or 40% may provide their income information to determine their eligibility for prescription co-payment exemption.

c. VA Form 10-10I is used to collect health insurance information and to bill health insurance carriers to recover the cost of medical care furnished to veterans for treatment of nonservice-connected conditions.

d. VA Form 10-2065 serves as an official record of the funeral director to which the person making funeral arrangements wishes the remains to be released. It is used as a control document when VA is requested to arrange for the transportation of the deceased from the place of death to the

place of burial, and/or when burial is requested in a National Cemetery.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 3,212,738 hours.

- a. VA Form 10-10—2,175,000 hours.
- b. VA Form 10-10F—454,667 hours.
- c. VA Form 10-10I—580,000 hours.
- d. VA Form 10-2065—3,071 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 21 minutes.

- a. VA Form 10-10—45 minutes.
- b. VA Form 10-10F—20 minutes.
- c. VA Form 10-10I—12 minutes.
- d. VA Form 10-2064—5 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 7,198,850.

- a. VA Form 10-10—2,900,000.
- b. VA Form 10-10F—1,364,000.
- c. VA Form 10-10I—2,900,000.
- d. VA Form 10-2064—34,850.

Dated: May 15, 1997.

By direction of the Secretary.

Donald L. Neilson,

Director, Information Management Service.

[FR Doc. 97-13712 Filed 5-23-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0524]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Office of Security and Law Enforcement, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C., 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Office of Security and Law Enforcement, Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden; it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATE: Comments must be submitted on or before June 26, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE SUBMISSION CONTACT: Ron Taylor, Information Management Service (045A4), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8015 or FAX (202) 273-5981. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0524."

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title and Form Number: VA Police Officer Pre-Employment Screening Checklist, VA Form 0120 (formerly VA Form 10-0120).

OMB Control Number: 2900-0524.

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

Abstract: Each VA medical center has authority to hire its own VA police officers. Prior to employment of a qualified applicant, each facility is required to conduct an FBI arrest record inquiry and to contact listed former employers for a determination of any adverse performance or suitability information. VA Form 0120 is completed by each VA facility human resources office and serves as the record of pre-employment screening to determine the qualifications and suitability of the applicant. The Office of Security and Law Enforcement reviews each completed form and authorizes the VA police badge set issuance only in those instances where screening documentation is satisfactory accomplished. The form serves as a standard means of ensuring the completion of the pre-employment process.

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 OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on March 12, 1996 at page 10062.

Affected Public: State, Local or Tribal Government, Business or other for-profit, and Federal Government.

Estimated Annual Burden: 250 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 10 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Generally one-time.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,500.

Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, Allison Eydt, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-4650. Please refer to OMB Control No. 2900-0524 in any correspondence.

Dated: May 15, 1997.

By direction of the Secretary.

Donald L. Neilson,

Director Information Management Service.

[FR Doc. 97-13711 Filed 5-23-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Scientific Review and Evaluation Board for Health Services Research and Development Service; Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration, gives notice under Public Law 92-463, that a meeting of the Scientific Review and Evaluation Board for Health Services Research and Development Service will be held at the Westin, 1400 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., June 23 through June 25, 1997, from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) each day. The purpose of the meeting is to review research and development applications concerned with the measurement and evaluation of health care systems and with testing new methods of health care delivery and management. Applications are reviewed for scientific and technical merit. Recommendations regarding their funding are prepared for the Chief Research and Development Officer (12).

This meeting will be open to the public at the start of the June 23 session for approximately one half-hour to cover administrative matters and to discuss the general status of the program. The closed portion of the meeting involves discussion, examination, reference to, and oral review of staff and consultant critiques of research protocols and similar documents. During this portion of the meeting, discussion and recommendations will deal with the qualifications of the personnel conducting the studies (the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy), as well as research information (the premature disclosure of which would be likely to frustrate significantly implementation of proposed agency action regarding such research projects). As provided by the subsection 10(d) of Public Law 92-463, as amended by Public Law 94-409, closing portions of these meetings is in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6) and (9)(B).

Due to the limited seating capacity of the room, those who plan to attend the open session should contact Mr. E. William Judy, MSHA, Review Program Manager (124F), Health Services Research and Development Service, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington,