

*OMB Numbers:*

OCC: 1557-0014.  
Board: 7100-0171.  
FDIC: 3064-0015.  
OTS: 1550-0016.

*Form Numbers:*

OCC: None.  
Board: FR 2070.  
FDIC: 6220/01 and 6220/07.  
OTS: 1639.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households; businesses or other for-profit.

*Type of Review:* Review of a currently approved collection.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:*

OCC: Nonaffiliate—90; Affiliate—106.  
Board: Nonaffiliate—62; Affiliate—18.  
FDIC: Nonaffiliate—190; Affiliate—172.  
OTS: Nonaffiliate—16; Affiliate—0.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Annual Burden Hours per Response:*

OCC: Nonaffiliate—30; Affiliate—18.  
Board: Nonaffiliate—30; Affiliate—18.  
FDIC: Nonaffiliate—30; Affiliate—18.  
OTS: Nonaffiliate—30; Affiliate—18.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:*

OCC: Nonaffiliate—2,700; Affiliate—1,908. Total: 4,608 burden hours.  
Board: Nonaffiliate—1,860; Affiliate—324. Total: 2,184 burden hours.  
FDIC: Nonaffiliate—5,700; Affiliate—3,096. Total: 8,796 burden hours.  
OTS: Nonaffiliate—480; Affiliate—0. Total: 480 burden hours.

*General Description of Report:* This information collection is mandatory. 12 U.S.C. 1828(c) (OCC, FDIC, and OTS), and 12 U.S.C. 321, 1828(c), and 4804 (Board). Except for select sensitive items, this information collection is not given confidential treatment. Small businesses, that is, small institutions, are affected.

*Abstract:* This submission covers a renewal of the Agencies' merger application form, which may include clarified instructions for both affiliated and nonaffiliated institutions. The Agencies need the information to ensure that the proposed transactions are permissible under law and regulation and are consistent with safe and sound banking practices. The Agencies are required, under the Bank Merger Act, to consider financial and managerial resources, future prospects, convenience and needs of the community, community reinvestment, and competition.

Some agencies collect limited supplemental information in certain cases. For example, the OCC and OTS collect information regarding CRA commitments; the Federal Reserve

collects information on debt servicing from certain institutions; and the FDIC requires additional information on the competitive impact of proposed mergers.

*Current Actions:* The Agencies are seeking to renew this collection and propose to clarify the instructions. The General Information and Instructions section of the merger application form would be modified to clarify the first subsection (Preparation and Use), which explains more clearly the range of merger transactions that may require use of the application. The remaining clarifications include a new paragraph in the Preparation and Use subsection noting that applications must be submitted to the appropriate regulatory agency. Also, a new Compliance subsection would inform applicants of compliance expectations and of the potential that some very large transactions may be subject to the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvement Act. These additional paragraphs, which would provide further practical advice that is generally included in the other recently approved interagency forms, are intended to highlight certain elements of the applications process to prevent confusion or delay, and add no additional burden.

The Federal Reserve proposes to extend for three years, with minor revisions, its current supplemental form. The two proposed revisions are intended to facilitate the applications review process and provide further practical guidance to the applicant. The first proposed revision recognizes the possible need of biographical or financial information from any individual that, as a consequence of the proposed transaction, becomes a new principal, shareholder, director, or senior executive officer of a state member bank. While all of the Agencies agree that a significant change in management or ownership must be evaluated under the statutory factors of the Bank Merger Act, they have elected to deal with this information need on a case-by-case basis. The second proposed revision would eliminate the need for any formal certification from a target institution. This certification is unique to the bank merger application, and is not specifically required by the Bank Merger Act. As the FRB generally waives this requirement if objected to by the target institution and as the applicant is the party to which bank merger authority is granted, the FRB believes that only the applicant need provide the requested certification. The other agencies believe that the target institution should certify to the accuracy of the information and that the

institutions will notify the agency if any material changes occur prior to a decision. Also, the target institution certifies that any communications with the agency do not constitute a contract.

*Comments:* Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized in each Agency's request for OMB approval, and analyzed to determine the extent to which the instructions for the collection should be modified. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Written comments are invited on:

a. Whether the information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the Agencies' functions, and how the instructions can be clarified so that information gathered has more practical utility;

b. The accuracy of the Agencies' estimates of the burden of the information collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

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

d. Ways to minimize the burden of the information collection 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: March 17, 2005.

**Stuart Feldstein,**

*Assistant Director, Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.*

By order of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, March 17, 2005.

**Jennifer J. Johnson,**

*Secretary of the Board.*

Dated at Washington, DC, this 18th day of March, 2005.

**Robert E. Feldman,**

*Executive Secretary.*

Dated: March 23, 2005.

By the Office of Thrift Supervision.

**James E. Gilleran,**

*Director.*

[FR Doc. 05-6227 Filed 3-29-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-33-P; 6210-01-P; 6714-01-P; 6720-01-P

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**
**Internal Revenue Service**
**Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 12114**

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury, 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 proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13(44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning Form 12114, Continuation Sheet for Item #16 (Additional Information) OF-306, Declaration for Federal Employment.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before May 31, 2005 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Glenn Kirkland, Internal Revenue Service, room 6512, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to Larnice Mack at Internal Revenue Service, room 6512, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224, or at (202) 622-3179, or through the Internet at ([Larnice.Mack@irs.gov](mailto:Larnice.Mack@irs.gov)).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** *Title:* Continuation Sheet for Item #16 (Additional Information) OF-306, Declaration for Federal Employment.

*OMB Number:* 1545-1921.

*Form Number:* 12114.

*Abstract:* Form 12114 is used as a continuation to the OF-306 to provide additional space for capturing additional information.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 24,813.

*Estimated Time Per Respondent:* 15 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 6,203.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

*Request for Comments:* Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or 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 shall have 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 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.

Approved: March 24, 2005.

**Glenn Kirkland,**

*IRS Reports Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. E5-1404 Filed 3-29-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4830-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### Open Meeting of the Earned Income Tax Credit Committee of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** An open meeting of the Earned Income Tax Credit Committee of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel will be conducted (via teleconference). The Committee will be discussing issues pertaining to the IRS administration of the Earned Income Tax Credit.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held Thursday, April 21, 2005.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Audrey Y. Jenkins at 1-888-912-1227 (toll-free), or 718-488-2085 (non toll-free).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (1988) that an open meeting of the Earned Income Tax Credit Committee of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel will be held Thursday, April 21, 2005 from 2 pm to 3:30 pm ET via a telephone conference call. The public is invited to make oral comments. Individual comments will be limited to 5 minutes. Due to limited conference lines, notification of intent to participate in the telephone conference call meeting must be made in advance by contacting Audrey Y. Jenkins. To confirm attendance or for more information, Ms. Jenkins may be reached at 1-888-912-1227 or (718) 488-2085. If you would like a written statement to be considered, send written comments to Audrey Y. Jenkins, TAP Office, 10 MetroTech Center, 625 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201 or post your comments to the Web site: <http://www.improveirs.org>.

The agenda will include various IRS issues.

Dated: March 25, 2005.

**Martha Curry,**

*Director, Taxpayer Advocacy Panel.*

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**BILLING CODE 4830-01-P**