

materials and requests to make presentations should be sent to Commanding Officer, Sector Houston/Galveston, Attn: LTJG Cooper, 9640 Clinton Drive, Houston, TX 77029.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice of this meeting is given pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2 (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770, as amended).

#### Agendas of the Meetings

*Houston-Galveston Navigation Safety Advisory Committee (HOGANSAC).* The tentative agenda includes the following:

(1) Opening remarks by the Committee Sponsor (RADM Whitehead) or the Committee Sponsor's representative, Executive Director (CAPT Kaser) and Chairperson (Ms. Patricia Clark).

(2) Approval of the February 23, 2006 minutes.

(3) Old Business:

(a) Dredging subcommittee.

(b) Aids to Navigation (AtoN) Knockdown Working Group.

(c) Navigation Operations subcommittee report.

(d) Area Maritime Security Committee Liaison's report.

(e) Technology subcommittee report.

(f) Deep draft Entry Facilitation subcommittee.

(g) Harbor of Safe Refuge subcommittee.

(h) Port Coordination Team Updates.

(i) Limited Visibility Working Group.

(j) Liquefied Natural Gas Working Group.

(k) National Harbor Safety Committee Report.

(4) New Business:

(a) NOAA Port Updates presentation—Alan Bunn.

(b) Other presentations.

*Working Groups Meeting.* The

tentative agenda for the working groups meeting includes the following:

(1) Presentation by each working group of its accomplishments and plans for the future.

(2) Review and discuss the work completed by each working group.

(3) Put forth any action items for consideration at full committee meeting.

#### Procedural

Working groups have been formed to examine the following issues: dredging and related issues, electronic navigation systems, AtoN knockdowns, impact of passing vessels on moored ships, boater education issues, facilitating deep draft movements, mooring infrastructure, and safe refuge during hurricanes. Not all working groups will provide a report at this session. Further, working group reports may not necessarily include

discussions on all issues within the particular working group's area of responsibility. All meetings are open to the public. At the Chair's discretion, members of the public may make presentations, oral or written, at either meeting. Requests to make oral or written presentations should reach the Coast Guard five (5) working days before the meeting at which the presentation will be made. If you would like to have written materials distributed to each member of the committee in advance of the meeting, you should send your request along with fifteen (15) copies of the materials to the Coast Guard at least ten (10) working days before the meeting at which the presentation will be made.

#### Information on Services for the Handicapped

For information on facilities or services for the handicapped or to request special assistance at the meetings, contact the Executive Secretary or Assistant to the Executive Secretary at the location indicated under **ADDRESSES** as soon as possible.

Dated: May 19, 2006.

**R. F. Duncan,**

*Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District.*

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**BILLING CODE 4910-15-P**

#### DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

#### Federal Emergency Management Agency

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

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

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Emergency Management Agency, 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 proposed new information collection. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice seeks comments concerning the use of a metropolitan firefighter demographic questionnaire to collect data to determine firefighter demographics of metropolitan fire departments. For the purposes of this study, metropolitan fire departments are

defined as fire departments that have a minimum of 400 fully paid career firefighters. In addition to the 400 career firefighters, some of the metropolitan fire departments also have volunteer firefighters.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA)<sup>1</sup> receives many requests from fire service organizations and the general public for information related to the demographics of firefighters, including gender, race and ethnicity breakdowns, and the number of firefighters holding chief officer and line officer positions. The USFA also has a need for this information to guide programmatic decisions, to ensure that the demographic make up of firefighters attending National Fire Academy training courses is comparable to that of fire departments across the United States, and to encourage and recruit women and minorities to join the fire service. Finally, recommendations for the creation of a fire department database included the collection of information related to demographics, capabilities and activities of fire departments. This recommendation came out of a Blue Ribbon Panel's review of the USFA—initiated by FEMA Director James Lee Witt in the spring of 1998. As a result of those recommendations, the USFA created the National Fire Department Census with which more than 24,500 fire departments have registered. As a continuation of this effort, USFA plans to look at a snapshot of the demographics of firefighters in metropolitan fire departments.

#### Collection of Information

*Title:* Metropolitan Firefighter Demographics Study.

*Type of Information Collection:* New Collection.

*OMB Number:* 1660-NW17.

*Form Numbers:* None.

*Abstract:* Data products and reports exist that contain fragmented or estimated information about firefighter demographics, but there is no single reference source today that aggregates this data to provide an accurate profile of firefighters on a per department basis. The USFA receives many requests for information related to firefighters, including gender, race and ethnicity, as well as the number of firefighters

<sup>1</sup> The USFA is currently being transferred to the newly created Preparedness Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security. During this transition FEMA, also part of the Department of Homeland Security, will continue to support this program as the new Directorate stands up. Ultimately this data collection will be transferred to the Preparedness Directorate.

holding chief officer and line officer positions. The USFA is working to identify the demographic make up of metropolitan fire departments in the United States to provide input for program planning and to inform stakeholders of the demographic composition of firefighters. The

database will be used by USFA to guide programmatic decisions and provide the Fire Service and the public with information about firefighter demographics at an aggregate level. Fire departments are able to complete the demographic firefighter questionnaire by filling out a paper form and faxing

the completed form, or sending it in a return envelope.

*Affected Public:* Federal, State, local government, and career fire departments.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 39 Hours.

**ANNUAL BURDEN HOURS**

Project/activity (survey, form(s), focus group, worksheet, etc.)	Number of respondents (A)	Frequency of responses (B)	Burden hours per respondent (C)	Annual responses (AxB)	Total annual burden hours (AxBxC)
Questionnaire .....	115	1	.33 hrs (20 min) .....	115	39
Total .....	115	1	.33 hrs .....	115	39

*Estimated Cost:* The estimated costs to the government will be direct labor and associated overhead costs of \$12,625. There would be no costs to the respondent other than the minimal direct labor cost of a single firefighter or emergency service worker taking a small amount of time to complete the firefighter demographic form and this would be applicable only to those fire departments and emergency service agencies employing career firefighters. The estimate of respondent costs for those career departments is computed as follows: Estimated number of forms multiplied by the national mean hourly rate of a firefighter of \$18.95 multiplied by 1/3 (representing the estimated 20 minutes it takes to complete the firefighter demographic form). Using this equation, total estimated costs to respondents of \$726.42 is derived (115 estimated firefighter demographic forms x \$18.95 x 1/3 = 726.42). The average cost per firefighter demographic form is a minimal \$6.32. The respondents are under no obligation to complete the form and may refuse to do so or stop at any time. As a result, the average cost to the respondent of \$6.32 could easily not be incurred by refusing to fill out the firefighter demographic form.

*Comments:* Written comments are solicited to (a) evaluate whether the proposed data collection is necessary for the proper performance of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other

technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses. Comments must be submitted on or before July 31, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons should submit written comments to Chief, Records Management Section, Information Resources Management Branch, Information Technology Services Division, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street, SW., Room 316, Washington, DC 20472.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Contact Gayle Kelch, Statistician, United States Fire Administration, National Fire Data Center (301) 447-1154 for additional information. You may contact the Records Management Branch for copies of the proposed collection of information at facsimile number (202) 646-3347 or e-mail address: [FEMA-Information-Collections@dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-Information-Collections@dhs.gov).

Dated: May 9, 2006.  
**Darcy Bingham,**  
*Branch Chief, Information Resources Management Branch, Information Technology Services Division.*  
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**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**

**Federal Emergency Management Agency**

[FEMA-1640-DR]

**Hawaii; Major Disaster and Related Determinations**

**AGENCY:** Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This is a notice of the Presidential declaration of a major disaster for the State of Hawaii (FEMA-1640-DR), dated May 2, 2006, and related determinations.

**DATES:** *Effective Date:* May 2, 2006.  
**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Magda Ruiz, Recovery Division, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-2705.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given that, in a letter dated May 2, 2006, the President declared a major disaster under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5206 (the Stafford Act), as follows:

I have determined that the damage in certain areas of the State of Hawaii resulting from severe storms, flooding, landslides, and mudslides during the period of February 20 to April 2, 2006, is of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant a major disaster declaration under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5206 (the Stafford Act). Therefore, I declare that such a major disaster exists in the State of Hawaii.

In order to provide Federal assistance, you are hereby authorized to allocate from funds available for these purposes such amounts as you find necessary for Federal disaster assistance and administrative expenses.

You are authorized to provide Individual Assistance and Public Assistance in the designated areas, as well as Hazard Mitigation throughout the State. Consistent with the requirement that Federal assistance be supplemental, any Federal funds provided under the Stafford Act for Public Assistance, Hazard Mitigation, and Other Needs Assistance will be limited to 75 percent of the total eligible costs. Further, you are authorized to make changes to this declaration to the extent allowable under the Stafford Act.

The time period prescribed for the implementation of section 310(a), Priority to Certain Applications for Public Facility and Public Housing Assistance, 42 U.S.C. 5153, shall be for