

**POSTAL SERVICE****Product Change—First-Class Package Service Negotiated Service Agreement**

**AGENCY:** Postal Service™.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Postal Service gives notice of filing a request with the Postal Regulatory Commission to add a domestic shipping services contract to the list of Negotiated Service Agreements in the Mail Classification Schedule's Competitive Products List.

**DATES:** *Effective date:* November 27, 2012.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Elizabeth A. Reed, 202–268–3179.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The United States Postal Service® hereby gives notice that, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3642 and 3632(b)(3), on November 16, 2012, it filed with the Postal Regulatory Commission a *Request of the United States Postal Service to Add First-Class Package Service Contract 27 to Competitive Product List*. Documents are available at [www.prc.gov](http://www.prc.gov), Docket Nos. MC2013–17, CP2013–16.

**Stanley F. Mires,**

*Attorney, Legal Policy & Legislative Advice.*

[FR Doc. 2012–28672 Filed 11–26–12; 8:45 am]

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**POSTAL SERVICE****Product Change—First-Class Package Service Negotiated Service Agreement**

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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Elizabeth A. Reed, 202–268–3179.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The United States Postal Service® hereby gives notice that, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3642 and 3632(b)(3), on November 16, 2012, it filed with the Postal Regulatory Commission a *Request of the United States Postal Service to Add First-Class Package Service Contract 29 to Competitive Product List*. Documents

are available at [www.prc.gov](http://www.prc.gov), Docket Nos. MC2013–19, CP2013–18.

**Stanley F. Mires,**

*Attorney, Legal Policy & Legislative Advice.*

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**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The United States Postal Service® hereby gives notice that, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3642 and 3632(b)(3), on November 16, 2012, it filed with the Postal Regulatory Commission a *Request of the United States Postal Service to Add First-Class Package Service Contract 28 to Competitive Product List*. Documents are available at [www.prc.gov](http://www.prc.gov), Docket Nos. MC2013–18, CP2013–17.

**Stanley F. Mires,**

*Attorney, Legal Policy & Legislative Advice.*

[FR Doc. 2012–28671 Filed 11–26–12; 8:45 am]

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**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION****Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request**

*Upon Written Request Copies Available From:* Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Investor Education and Advocacy, Washington, DC 20549–0213.

*Extension:* Rule 17a–25; OMB Control No. 3235–0540, SEC File No. 270–482.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) (“PRA”), the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (“OMB”) a request for approval of extension of the existing collection of information provided for in Rule 17a–25 (17 CFR 204.17a–25) under the

Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a *et seq.*).

Paragraph (a)(1) of Rule 17a–25 requires registered broker-dealers to electronically submit securities transaction information, including identifiers for prime brokerage arrangements, average price accounts, and depository institutions, in a standardized format when requested by the Commission staff. In addition, Paragraph (a)(3)(c) of Rule 17a–25 requires broker-dealers to submit, and keep current, contact person information for electronic blue sheets (“EBS”) requests. The Commission uses the information for enforcement inquiries or investigations and trading reconstructions, as well as for inspections and examinations.

The Commission estimates that it sends approximately 7169 electronic blue sheet requests per year to clearing broker-dealers, who in turn submit an average 87,454 responses.<sup>1</sup> It is estimated that each broker-dealer who responds electronically will take 8 minutes, and each broker-dealer who responds manually will take 1½ hours to prepare and submit the securities trading data requested by the Commission. The annual aggregate hour burden for electronic and manual response firms is estimated to be 11,780 (87,454 × 8 ÷ 60 = 11,660 hours) + (80 × 1.5 = 120 hours), respectively.<sup>2</sup> In addition, the Commission estimates that it will request 500 broker-dealers to supply the contact information identified in Rule 17a–25(c) and estimates the total aggregate burden hours to be 125. Thus, the annual aggregate burden for all respondents to the collection of information requirements of Rule 17a–25 is estimated at 11,905 hours (11,660 + 120 + 125).

The Commission may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the PRA that does not display a valid OMB control number.

<sup>1</sup> A single EBS request has a unique number assigned to each request (e.g. “0900001”). However, the number of broker-dealer responses generated from one EBS request can range from one to several thousand. EBS requests are sent directly to clearing firms, as the clearing firm is the repository for trading data for securities transactions information provided by itself and correspondent firms. Clearing brokers respond for themselves and other firms they clear for.

<sup>2</sup> Few of respondents submit manual EBS responses. The small percentage of respondents that submit manual responses do so by hand, via email, spreadsheet, disk, or other electronic media. Thus, the number of manual submissions (80) has minimal effect on the total annual burden hours.

Background documentation for this information collection may be viewed at the following Web site:  
[www.reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov).

Comments should be directed to: (i) Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10102, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC, 20503 or by sending an email to: [Shagufta\\_Ahmed@omb.eop.gov](mailto:Shagufta_Ahmed@omb.eop.gov); and (ii) Thomas Bayer, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Remi Pavlik-Simon, 6432 General Green Way, Alexandria, Virginia 22312 or send an email to [PRA\\_Mailbox@sec.gov](mailto:PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov). Comments must be submitted to OMB within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: November 20, 2012.

**Kevin M. O'Neill,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2012-28641 Filed 11-26-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-68274; File No. SR-MSRB-2012-09]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Revisions to the Study Outline for the Municipal Securities Principal Qualification Examination (Series 53)

November 20, 2012.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“the Act”)<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on November 16, 2012, the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (“MSRB” or “Board”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the MSRB. The MSRB has designated the proposed rule change as constituting a stated policy, practice, or interpretation with respect to the meaning, administration, or enforcement of an existing rule of the self-regulatory organization pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(i)<sup>3</sup> of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(1) thereunder,<sup>4</sup> which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission. The implementation date of the proposed

rule change, as well as the effective date of the revised study outline, will be December 22, 2012. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

#### I. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The MSRB is filing with the Commission revisions to the study outline for the Municipal Securities Principal Qualification Examination (Series 53).

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the MSRB’s Web site at [www.msrb.org/Rules-and-Interpretations/SEC-Filings/2012-Filings.aspx](http://www.msrb.org/Rules-and-Interpretations/SEC-Filings/2012-Filings.aspx), at the MSRB’s principal office, and at the Commission’s Public Reference Room.

#### II. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the MSRB included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The MSRB has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

##### A. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

###### 1. Purpose

Section 15B(b)(2)(A) of the Act<sup>5</sup> authorizes the MSRB to prescribe standards of training, experience, competence, and such other qualifications as the Board finds necessary or appropriate in the public interest or for the protection of investors, municipal entities, or obligated persons. The MSRB has developed examinations that are designed to establish that persons associated with brokers, dealers, and municipal securities dealers that effect transactions in municipal securities and those who supervise such persons have attained specified levels of competence and knowledge. The MSRB periodically reviews the content of the examinations to determine whether revisions are necessary or appropriate in view of changes pertaining to the subject matter covered by the examinations.

MSRB Rule G-3(b) states that a municipal securities principal has responsibility to oversee the municipal securities activities of a broker, dealer, or municipal securities dealer. In this capacity, a municipal securities principal manages, directs, or supervises one or more of the following activities associated with the conduct of municipal securities business: underwriting; trading; buying or selling municipal securities to or from customers; rendering financial advisory or consultant services to issuers of municipal securities; communications to customers about any municipal securities activities; processing, clearing, and (in the case of securities firms) safekeeping of municipal securities; maintenance of records with respect to municipal securities activities; and training of municipal securities principals and municipal securities representatives. The only examination that qualifies a municipal securities principal is the Municipal Securities Principal Qualification Examination (Series 53).

The Series 53 examination is designed to determine whether an individual meets the Board’s qualification standards for municipal securities principals. To do this, the examination measures a candidate’s knowledge of Board rules, rule interpretations, and federal statutory provisions applicable to municipal securities activities. It also measures an individual’s ability to apply these rules and interpretations to given fact situations. The examination consists of 100 multiple-choice questions. Each question is worth one point, and the passing grade is 70%. Candidates are allowed three and one-half hours for each testing session.

The study outline serves as a guide to the subject matter tested by the Series 53 examination. It lists the topics covered by the examination, and provides learning objectives associated with those topics that are intended to assist candidates preparing for the examination. The outline also provides sample questions similar to the type used in the examination. The arrangement of the subject matter in the study outline reflects the various aspects of municipal securities activity within a securities firm or bank dealer and the tasks of a municipal securities principal in supervising such activities. Reference is made to the appropriate MSRB rule or federal regulation which governs each task.

In order to assist candidates preparing for the Series 53 examination, the study outline has been updated to remove rescinded rules and include amendments and additions to MSRB

<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>3</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(i).

<sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(1).

<sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78o-4(b)(2)(A).