

in the Auditorium (L-002) at the Commission's headquarters building, to hear oral argument in an appeal by the Respondents John J. Aesoph, CPA and Darren M. Bennett, CPA, and a cross-appeal by the Division of Enforcement, from an initial decision of an administrative law judge.

On June 27, 2014, the law judge found that Aesoph and Bennett engaged in "improper professional conduct" under Commission Rule of Practice 102(e) and Section 4C of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, during their service as the engagement partner and senior manager of KPMG, LLP's audit of the 2008 financial statements of TierOne Corporation, a holding company for TierOne Bank. The law judge suspended Aesoph from appearing or practicing before the Commission as an accountant for one year, and suspended Bennett from appearing or practicing before the Commission as an accountant for six months.

Respondents appealed the law judge's findings of liability and the sanctions imposed; the Division cross-appealed the sanctions imposed. The issues likely to be considered at oral argument include, among other things, whether Respondents engaged in "improper professional conduct" as alleged and, if so, the extent to which they should be sanctioned. Also likely to be considered at oral argument is whether these administrative proceedings violate the U.S. Constitution.

For further information, please contact Brent J. Fields from the Office of the Secretary at (202) 551-5400.

Dated: July 5, 2016.

Lynn M. Powalski,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2016-16309 Filed 7-6-16; 11:15 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of FOIA Services, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549-2736.

Extension:

Rule 17a-1; SEC File No. 270-244, OMB Control No. 3235-0208.

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") is soliciting comments on the existing collection of information

provided for in Rule 17a-1 (17 CFR 240.17a-1) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Act") (15 U.S.C. 78a *et seq.*). The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") for extension and approval.

Rule 17a-1 requires that every national securities exchange, national securities association, registered clearing agency, and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board keep on file for a period of not less than five years, the first two years in an easily accessible place, at least one copy of all documents, including all correspondence, memoranda, papers, books, notices, accounts, and other such records made or received by it in the course of its business as such and in the conduct of its self-regulatory activity, and that such documents be available for examination by the Commission.

There are 29 entities required to comply with the rule: 19 national securities exchanges, 1 national securities association, 8 registered clearing agencies, and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board. The Commission staff estimates that the average number of hours necessary for compliance with the requirements of Rule 17a-1 is 52 hours per year. In addition, 4 national securities exchanges notice-registered pursuant to Section 6(g) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78f(g)) are required to preserve records of determinations made under Rule 3a55-1 under the Act (17 CFR 240.3a55-1), which the Commission staff estimates will take 1 hour per exchange, for a total of 4 hours. Accordingly, the Commission staff estimates that the total number of hours necessary to comply with the requirements of Rule 17a-1 is 1,512 hours. The total internal cost of compliance for all respondents is \$98,280, based on an average cost per hour of \$65.

Written comments are invited on (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (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. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted in

writing within 60 days of this publication.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information under the PRA unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Please direct your written comments to: Pamela Dyson, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Remi Pavlik-Simon, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549, or send an email to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov.

Dated: July 5, 2016.

Brent J. Fields,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2016-16191 Filed 7-7-16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement: King County, Washington

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared for a proposed project in King County, Washington.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lindsey Handel, Urban Area Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, 711 South Capitol Way, Suite 501, Olympia, WA 98501; telephone: (360) 753-9550; email: Lindsey.Handel@dot.gov.

Jane Lewis, Project Coordinator, Washington State Convention Center, c/o Pine Street Group L.L.C., 1500 Fourth Ave., Suite 600, Seattle, WA 98101; telephone: (206) 340-9897; email: wsc@pinest.com.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with WSCC, will prepare an EIS on the Washington State Convention Center Addition Project to construct an addition to the Washington State Convention Center. The project requires FHWA approvals for closure of access to an Interstate ramp and use of Interstate airspace (air and ground lease), and related breaks in access.

Preliminary alternatives under consideration include: (1) Taking no action; (2) construct approximately 1.50 million square feet of gross floor area composed of approximately 1.26 million square feet of addition to the convention

center and 262,000 square feet of related ancillary development.

The FHWA along with WSCC are holding a public scoping meeting on July 20, 2016, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Washington State Convention Center, 800 Convention Place, Room 206, Seattle, WA to solicit public comments regarding the scope of issues to be addressed in the NEPA EIS. The public will be notified by a flyer that will be mailed to interested agencies, organizations, and individuals affected by the project, as well as published in The Seattle Times and the Daily Journal of Commerce. In addition, notice of the EIS Scoping meeting will be posted at locations on the project site. The meeting will include a brief presentation followed by public comments.

Agencies, Tribes, and the public are encouraged to submit comments on the purpose and need and preliminary range of alternatives during the scoping period. Comments must be received by July 26, 2016, to be included in the formal scoping record. To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action is addressed, and all the significant issues identified, comments and suggestions are invited from interested parties during the scoping period. Comments concerning this proposal will be accepted at the public meeting or can be sent by mail to: Lindsey Handel, Urban Area Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, 711 South Capitol Way, Suite 501, Olympia, WA 98501; telephone: (360) 753-9550; email: Lindsey.Handel@dot.gov.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Daniel Mathis,

Division Administrator, Washington Division, Federal Highway Administration.

[FR Doc. 2016-16204 Filed 7-7-16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2013-0147]

Driver Qualifications: Skill Performance Evaluation; Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles; Exemption Renewal for Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of renewal of exemption; request for comments.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces its decision to renew the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) exemption on behalf of truck and bus drivers who are licensed in the Commonwealth of Virginia and need a Skill Performance Evaluation (SPE) certificate from FMCSA to operate commercial motor vehicles (CMV) in interstate commerce. The exemption enables interstate CMV drivers who are licensed in Virginia and are subject to the Federal SPE requirements under 49 CFR 391.49 to continue to fulfill the Federal requirements with a State-issued SPE and to operate CMVs in interstate commerce anywhere in the United States.

DATES: This decision is effective July 9, 2016, and will expire July 9, 2018, and may be renewed. Comments must be received on or before August 9, 2016.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments bearing the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) number FMCSA-2013-0147 by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.

- *Mail:* Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

- *Hand Delivery:* Ground Floor, Room W12-140, DOT Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. E.D.T., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

- *Fax:* 1-202-493-2251.

Instructions: Each submission must include the Agency name and docket number for this notice. Please note that all comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. Please see the "Privacy Act" heading for further information.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov> or to Room W12-140, DOT Building, New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The FDMS is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. If you want acknowledgement that we received your comments, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard or print the acknowledgement page that appears after submitting comments on-line.

Privacy Act: In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS) which can be reviewed at www.dot.gov/privacy.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Eileen Nolan, Office of Carrier, Driver and Vehicle Safety, Medical Programs Division, (202) 366-4001, fmcamedical@dot.gov, FMCSA, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590-0001. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, FMCSA may grant an exemption from certain parts of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) for a 2-year period if it finds "such exemption would likely achieve a level of safety that is equivalent to or greater than the level that would be achieved absent such exemption." The statute allows the Agency to renew exemptions at the end of the 2-year period.

On July 8, 2014, FMCSA granted Virginia a 2-year exemption that enables interstate CMV drivers licensed in Virginia who are subject to the Federal SPE requirements under 49 CFR 391.49 to fulfill the Federal requirements with a State-issued SPE (79 FR 38659). The requirements of the exemption were outlined in this notice and will therefore not be repeated. Virginia has established its own SPE program that is essentially identical to the current FMCSA SPE program to include an application process modeled on the FMCSA process. In addition, State personnel who have completed SPE training identical to that of FMCSA personnel currently administer the SPE program and conduct the skill