Signing Authority

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, or designee, approved this document and authorized the undersigned to sign and submit the document to the Office of the Federal Register for publication electronically as an official document of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Gina S. Farrisee, Deputy Chief of Staff, Department of Veterans Affairs, approved this document on December 9, 2016, for publication.

Dated: December 9, 2016.

Michael Shores,

Acting Director, Regulation Policy & Management Office of the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2016–30008 Filed 12–13–16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0043]

Agency Information Collection Activity (Declaration of Status of Dependents (VA Form 21–686c)

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), 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.

VA Form 21–686c is necessary to obtain current marital and dependency information in order to determine the proper rate of payment for Veterans and surviving spouses who are entitled to an additional allowance for dependents.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before February 13, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information through Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at *www.Regulations.gov* or to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20M33), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420 or email to *nancy.kessinger@va.gov.* Please refer to ''OMB Control No. 2900–0043'' in any

correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through the FDMS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 632–8924 or FAX (202) 632–8925.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13; 44 U.S.C. 3501–21), 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, VBA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VBA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VBA'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: Declaration of Status of Dependents (VA Form 21–686c).

OMB Control Number: 2900–0043.

Type of Review: Extension of an approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 21–686c is necessary to obtain current marital and dependency information in order to determine the proper rate of payment for Veterans and surviving spouses who are entitled to an additional allowance for dependents.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 56,500 hours.

Estimated Average Burden per Respondent: 15 minutes.

Frequency of Response: One time.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 226,000.

By direction of the Secretary:

Cynthia Harvey-Pryor,

VA Clearance Officer, Office of Privacy and Records Management, Department of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2016–29980 Filed 12–13–16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Joint Biomedical Laboratory Research and Development and Clinical Science Research and Development Services Scientific Merit Review Board Amended; Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Public Law 92–463; Title 5 U.S.C. App. 2 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that the Joint Biomedical Laboratory Research and Development and Clinical Science Research and Development Services Scientific Merit Review Board (JBL/CS SMRB) teleconference meeting will convene on January 26, 2017, from 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. and will be open to the public. This Notice of Meeting is being amended due to clarification of the meeting being open.

This meeting is conducted to meet with the JBL/CS Service Directors to discuss the overall policies and process for Merit Review as well as disseminate information among the subcommittee chairs regarding the VA research priorities.

Members of the public who wish to attend the open JBL/CS SMRB teleconference may dial 1–800–767–1750, participant code 95562. Members of the public who wish to make a statement at the JBL/CS SMRB meeting must notify Dr. Alex Chiu, Designated Federal Officer, via email at *alex.chiu@va.gov* by January 19, 2017.

Dated: December 9, 2016.

LaTonya L. Small,

Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 2016–30025 Filed 12–13–16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0655]

Agency Information Collection Activity (Residency Verification Report-Veterans and Survivors (FL 21–914))

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), 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