

upcoming amendment cycle. The Commission previously published a notice of proposed policy priorities for the amendment cycle ending May 1, 2024. See 88 FR 39907 (June 20, 2023).

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 994(g), the Commission intends to consider the issue of reducing costs of incarceration and overcapacity of prisons, to the extent it is relevant to any identified priority.

The Commission has identified the following priorities for the amendment cycle ending May 1, 2024:

(1) Assessing the degree to which certain practices of the Bureau of Prisons are effective in meeting the purposes of sentencing as set forth in 18 U.S.C. 3553(a)(2) and considering any appropriate responses including possible consideration of recommendations or amendments.

(2) Compilation and dissemination of information on court-sponsored programs relating to diversion, alternatives-to-incarceration, and reentry (e.g., Pretrial Opportunity Program, Conviction And Sentence Alternatives (CASA) Program, Special Options Services (SOS) Program, Supervision to Aid Re-entry (STAR) Program) through the Commission's website and possible workshops and seminars sharing best practices for developing, implementing, and assessing such programs.

(3) Examination of the *Guidelines Manual*, including exploration of ways to simplify the guidelines and possible consideration of amendments that might be appropriate.

(4) Continuation of its multiyear study of the *Guidelines Manual* to address case law concerning the validity and enforceability of guideline commentary, and possible consideration of amendments that might be appropriate.

(5) Continued examination of the career offender guidelines, including (A) updating the data analyses and statutory recommendations set forth in the Commission's 2016 report to Congress, titled *Career Offender Sentencing Enhancements*; (B) devising and conducting workshops to discuss the scope and impact of the career offender guidelines, including discussion of possible alternative approaches to the "categorical approach" in determining whether an offense is a "crime of violence" or a "controlled substance offense"; and (C) possible consideration of amendments that might be appropriate.

(6) Examination of the treatment of youthful offenders and offenses involving youths under the *Guidelines*

Manual, including possible consideration of amendments that might be appropriate.

(7) Consideration of possible amendments to the *Guidelines Manual* to prohibit the use of acquitted conduct in applying the guidelines.

(8) Further examination of federal sentencing practices on a variety of issues, possibly including: (A) the prevalence and nature of drug trafficking offenses involving methamphetamine; (B) drug trafficking offenses resulting in death or serious bodily injury; (C) comparison of sentences imposed in cases disposed of through trial versus plea; (D) continuation of the Commission's studies regarding recidivism; and (E) other areas of federal sentencing in need of additional research.

(9) Implementation of any legislation warranting Commission action.

(10) Resolution of circuit conflicts as warranted, pursuant to the Commission's authority under 28 U.S.C. 991(b)(1)(B) and *Braxton v. United States*, 500 U.S. 344 (1991).

(11) Consideration of other miscellaneous issues coming to the Commission's attention.

Authority: 28 U.S.C. 994(a), (o); USSC Rules of Practice and Procedure 2.2, 5.2.

Carlton W. Reeves,
Chair.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0020]

Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: Designation of Beneficiary Government Life Insurance and Supplemental Designation of Beneficiary Government Life Insurance

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, will submit the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected

cost and burden and it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain, select "Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments", then search the list for the information collection by Title or "OMB Control No. 2900-0020."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Maribel Aponte, Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics (008), 810 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20420, (202) 266-4688 or email maribel.aponte@va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0020" in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501-21.

Title: Designation of Beneficiary Government Life Insurance VA Form 29-336 and Supplemental Designation of Beneficiary Government Life Insurance VA Form 29-336a.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0020.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: These forms are used by the insured to designate beneficiaries and select an optional settlement to be used when the insurance matures by death. The information is required to determine the claimant's eligibility to receive the proceeds. The information on the form is required by law, 38 U.S.C. 1917, 1949 and 1952.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published at 88 FR 122 on June 27, 2023, page 41721.

Affected Public: Individuals or Households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 13,917 hours.

Estimated Average Burden per Respondent: 10 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 83,500.

By direction of the Secretary:

Dorothy Glasgow,
VA PRA Clearance Officer, (Alt.) Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics, Department of Veterans Affairs.

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