

would be required to be registered except for the exemption from registration provided by section 12(g)(2)(B) or section 12(g)(2)(G), to file with the appropriate regulatory agency (ARA) an application for registration in such form and containing such information and documents as such appropriate regulatory agency may prescribe as necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of this section.¹ In general, an entity performing transfer agent functions for a qualifying security is required to register with its appropriate regulatory agency. The OCC's regulations at 12 CFR 9.20 implement these provisions of the Act.

To accomplish the registration of transfer agents, Form TA-1 was developed in 1975 as an interagency effort by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Federal banking agencies (the OCC, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation). The agencies primarily use the data collected on Form TA-1 to determine whether an application for registration should be approved, denied, accelerated, or postponed, and they use the data in connection with their supervisory responsibilities. In addition, when a national bank or Federal savings association no longer acts as a transfer agent for qualifying securities or when the national bank or Federal savings association is no longer supervised by the OCC, *i.e.*, liquidates or converts to another form of financial institution, the national bank or Federal savings association must file Form TA-W with the OCC, requesting withdrawal from registration as a transfer agent.

Forms TA-1 and TA-W are mandatory, and their collection is authorized by sections 17A(c), 17(a)(3), and 23(a)(1) of the Act, as amended (15 U.S.C. 78q-1(c), 78q(a)(3), and 78w(a)(1)). Additionally, section 3(a)(34)(B)(i) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c(a)(34)(B)(i)) provides that the OCC is the ARA in the case of a national banks and Federal savings associations and subsidiaries of such institutions. The registrations are public filings and are not considered confidential. The OCC needs the information contained in this collection to fulfill its statutory responsibilities. Section 17A(c)(2) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78q-1(c)(2)), as amended, provides that all those authorized to transfer securities registered under section 12 of the Act (transfer agents) shall register by filing with the appropriate regulatory agency an application for registration in such form

and containing such information and documents as such appropriate regulatory agency may prescribe to be necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of this section.

Request for Comment

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on:

(a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the OCC, including whether the information has practical utility;

(b) The accuracy of the OCC's estimate of the burden of the collection of information;

(c) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;

(d) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and

(e) Estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Theodore J. Dowd,

Deputy Chief Counsel, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

[FR Doc. 2024-02822 Filed 2-9-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-33-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Agency Information Collection Activities: Information Collection Renewal; Submission for OMB Review; Capital Adequacy Standards

AGENCY: Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The OCC, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites comment on a continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). In accordance with the requirements of the PRA, the OCC may not conduct or sponsor, and the respondent is not required to respond to, an information collection unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The OCC is soliciting comment concerning a revision to its information collection

titled, "Capital Adequacy Standards." The OCC also is giving notice that it has sent the collection to OMB for review.

DATES: Comments must be received by March 13, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Commenters are encouraged to submit comments by email, if possible. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *Email:* prainfo@occ.treas.gov.
- *Mail:* Chief Counsel's Office,

Attention: Comment Processing, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Attention: 1557-0318, 400 7th Street SW, Suite 3E-218, Washington, DC 20219.

• *Hand Delivery/Courier:* 400 7th Street SW, Suite 3E-218, Washington, DC 20219.

- *Fax:* (571) 293-4835.

Instructions: You must include "OCC" as the agency name and "1557-0318" in your comment. In general, the OCC will publish comments on www.reginfo.gov without change, including any business or personal information provided, such as name and address information, email addresses, or phone numbers. Comments received, including attachments and other supporting materials, are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. Do not include any information in your comment or supporting materials that you consider confidential or inappropriate for public disclosure.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should also be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. You can find this information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

You may review comments and other related materials that pertain to this information collection following the close of the 30-day comment period for this notice by the method set forth in the next bullet.

• *Viewing Comments Electronically:* Go to www.reginfo.gov. Hover over the "Information Collection Review" tab and click on "Information Collection Review" from the drop-down menu. From the "Currently under Review" drop-down menu, select "Department of Treasury" and then click "submit." This information collection can be located by searching OMB control number "1557-0318" or "Capital Adequacy Standards." Upon finding the appropriate information collection, click on the related "ICR Reference Number." On the next screen, select "View

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(c).

Supporting Statement and Other Documents” and then click on the link to any comment listed at the bottom of the screen.

- For assistance in navigating www.reginfo.gov, please contact the Regulatory Information Service Center at (202) 482-7340.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shaquita Merritt, Clearance Officer, (202) 649-5490, Chief Counsel’s Office, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 400 7th Street SW, Washington, DC 20219. If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the OMB for each collection of information that they conduct or sponsor. “Collection of information” is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c) to include agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. The OCC asks that OMB extend its approval of the collection in this notice.

Title: Capital Adequacy Standards.

OMB Control No.: 1557-0318.

Type of Review: Regular.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit.

Abstract: The OCC is seeking renewal with revision of an information collection approval for the recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements associated with capital adequacy standards applicable to national banks and Federal savings associations. The OCC is proposing revisions in connection with this extension to reflect more granular detail for certain existing reporting and recordkeeping provisions and is improving prior estimates regarding the number of respondents and burden associated with these existing provisions. In addition, reporting burden associated with 12 CFR 3.304 is being removed as that portion of the rule is no longer in effect.

Section-by-Section Analysis

Twelve CFR part 3 sets forth the OCC’s minimum capital requirements and overall capital adequacy standards for national banks and Federal savings associations.

Minimum Regulatory Capital Ratios

Reporting Requirements

Section 3.3(c) allows for the recognition of netting across multiple types of transactions or agreements if the national bank or Federal savings

association obtains a written legal opinion verifying the validity and enforceability of the agreement under certain circumstances.

Section 3.22(b)(2)(iv) permits, with prior notice to the OCC, a national bank or Federal savings association resulting from a merger, acquisition, or purchase transaction that is not an advanced approaches national bank or Federal savings association to change its AOCI opt-out election.

Section 3.22(c)(4) provides that, with the prior written approval of the OCC, a national bank or Federal savings association that underwrites a failed underwriting is not required to deduct an investment in the capital of an unconsolidated financial institution to the extent the investment is related to the failed underwriting.

Section 3.22(c)(5)(i) provides that, with the prior written approval of the OCC, an advanced approaches national bank or Federal savings association that underwrites a failed underwriting, for the period of time stipulated by the OCC, is not required to deduct from capital a non-significant investment in the capital of an unconsolidated financial institution or an investment in a covered debt instrument to the extent the investment is related to the failed underwriting.

Section 3.22(c)(6) provides that, with prior written approval of the OCC and for the period of time stipulated by the OCC, an advanced approaches national bank or Federal savings association that underwrites a failed underwriting is not required to deduct the significant investment in the capital of an unconsolidated financial institution or an investment in a covered debt instrument if such investment is related to such failed underwriting.

Section 3.22(d)(2)(i)(C) provides that, with the prior written approval of the OCC and for the period of time stipulated by the OCC, an advanced approaches national bank or Federal savings association that underwrites a failed underwriting is not required to deduct a significant investment in the capital of an unconsolidated financial institution in the form of common stock if such investment is related to such failed underwriting.

Section 3.22(d)(2)(iii) permits an advanced approaches national bank or Federal savings association to change its exclusion preference to exclude deferred tax assets (DTAs) and deferred tax liabilities (DTLs) relating to adjustments relating to common equity tier 1 capital after obtaining the prior approval of the OCC.

Section 3.22(h)(2)(iii)(A) permits the use of a conservative estimate of the

amount of an institution’s investment in its own capital or the capital of unconsolidated financial institutions held through an index security with prior approval by the OCC.

Recordkeeping Requirements

Section 3.3(d) allows for the recognition of an agreement as a qualifying master netting agreement if the national bank or Federal savings association conducts a sufficient legal review and maintains sufficient written documentation of that legal review to conclude that the agreement continues to satisfy the requirements of the definition of qualifying master netting agreement that a relevant court would find to be legal, valid, binding, and enforceable. Section 3.3(d) further requires national banks and Federal savings associations to establish and maintain written procedures to monitor possible changes in relevant law and to ensure that the agreement continues to satisfy the requirements of the definition of qualifying master netting agreement.

Standardized Approach

Reporting Requirements

Section 3.37(c)(4)(i)(E) requires that a bank or Federal savings association obtain the prior approval of the OCC for, and notify the OCC if it makes, any material changes to the policies and procedures describing how it determines the period of significant financial stress used to calculate its own internal estimates for haircuts and be able to provide empirical support for the period used.

Recordkeeping Requirements

Section 3.35(b)(3)(i)(A) requires for a cleared transaction with a qualified central counterparty (QCCP), that a client bank apply a risk weight of two percent, provided that the collateral posted by the national bank or Federal savings association to the QCCP is subject to certain arrangements and the client bank has conducted a sufficient legal review (and maintains sufficient written documentation of the legal review) to conclude with a well-founded basis that the arrangements, in the event of a legal challenge, would be found to be legal, valid, binding, and enforceable under the law of the relevant jurisdictions.

Section 3.37(c)(4)(i)(E) requires that a national bank or Federal savings association have policies and procedures in place describing how it determines the period of significant financial stress used to calculate its own internal estimates for haircuts and be

able to provide empirical support for the period used.

Section 3.41(b), which sets forth operational requirements for securitization exposures, allows a national bank or Federal savings association to recognize for risk-based capital purposes, in the case of synthetic securitizations, a credit risk mitigant to hedge underlying exposures if certain conditions are met. Section 3.41(b)(3) includes a requirement that the national bank or Federal savings association obtain a well-reasoned opinion from legal counsel that confirms the enforceability of the credit risk mitigant in all relevant jurisdictions.

Section 3.41(c)(2)(i) requires that a national bank or Federal savings association demonstrate its comprehensive understanding of a securitization exposure by conducting an analysis of the risk characteristics of each securitization exposure prior to its acquisition, taking into account a number of specified considerations and documenting the analysis within three business days after acquiring the exposure.

Section 3.41(c)(2)(ii) requires a national bank or Federal savings association, on an on-going basis (no less frequently than quarterly), to evaluate, review, and update as appropriate the analysis required under § 3.41(c)(1) for each securitization exposure.

Disclosure Requirements

In a case where a national bank or Federal savings association provides non-contractual support (*i.e.*, implicit support) to a securitization, § 3.42(e)(2) requires the national bank or Federal savings association to publicly disclose that it has provided implicit support to the securitization and the risk-based capital impact to the bank or savings association of providing such implicit support.

Section 3.62 sets forth disclosure requirements related to the capital requirements of a national bank or Federal savings association. Section 3.61 provides that these requirements apply to an institution with total consolidated assets of \$50 billion or more that is not a consolidated subsidiary of a bank holding company, savings and loan holding company, or a depository institution subject to the disclosure requirements of § 3.62. For national banks or Federal savings associations subject to the disclosure requirements, § 3.62(a) requires quarterly disclosure of information in the applicable tables in § 3.63 and, if a significant change occurs, such that the most recent reported amounts are no

longer reflective of the institution's capital adequacy and risk profile, § 3.62(a) requires the national bank or Federal savings association to disclose as soon as practicable thereafter a brief discussion of the change and its likely impact. Section 3.62(a) also permits annual disclosure of qualitative information that typically does not change each quarter, provided that any significant changes are disclosed in the interim.

Section 3.62(b) requires that a national bank or Federal savings association have a formal disclosure policy approved by the board of directors that addresses its approach for determining the disclosures it makes. The policy must address the associated internal controls and disclosure controls and procedures. Section 3.62(c) permits a national bank or Federal savings association to disclose more general information about certain subjects if the national bank or Federal savings association concludes that the specific commercial or financial information required to be disclosed under § 3.62 is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the national bank or Federal savings association provides the reason the specific items of information have not been disclosed.

Currently, § 3.63 sets forth the specific disclosure requirements for a non-advanced approaches national bank or Federal savings association with total consolidated assets of \$50 billion or more that is not a consolidated subsidiary of a bank holding company, savings and loan holding company, or a depository institution subject to the disclosure requirements of § 3.62. Section 3.63(a) requires those institutions to make the disclosures in Tables 1 through 10 in § 3.63 and in § 3.63(b) for each of the last three years beginning on the effective date of the rule. Section 3.63(b) requires quarterly disclosure of an institution's common equity tier 1 capital, additional tier 1 capital, tier 2 capital, tier 1 and total capital ratios, including the regulatory capital elements and all the regulatory adjustments and deductions needed to calculate the numerator of such ratios; total risk-weighted assets, including the different regulatory adjustments and deductions needed to calculate total risk-weighted assets; regulatory capital ratios during any transition periods, including a description of all the regulatory capital elements and all regulatory adjustments and deductions needed to calculate the numerator and denominator of each capital ratio during any transition period; and a reconciliation of regulatory capital

elements as they relate to its balance sheet in any audited consolidated financial statements. Tables 1 through 10 in § 3.63 set forth qualitative and/or quantitative requirements for scope of application, capital structure, capital adequacy, capital conservation buffer, credit risk, counterparty credit risk-related exposures, credit risk mitigation, securitizations, equities not subject to Subpart F (Market Risk requirements) of the rule, and interest rate risk for non-trading activities.

Advanced Approaches

Reporting Requirements

Section 3.121(b)(2) requires a national bank or Federal savings association to submit an implementation plan, together with a copy of the minutes of the board of director's approval, to the OCC at least 60 days before the national bank or Federal savings association proposes to begin its parallel run, unless the OCC waives prior notice.

Section 3.121(c) requires that during a parallel run, a national bank or Federal savings association report to the OCC on a calendar quarterly basis its risk-based capital ratios.

Section 3.122(d)–(g) requires a national bank or Federal savings association to obtain the prior written approval of the OCC under § 3.132 to use the internal models methodology for counterparty credit risk and the advanced CVA approach for the CVA capital requirement, § 3.135 to use the double default treatment, § 3.153 to use the internal models approach for equity exposures, and § 3.122(g)(3) to generate an estimate of its operational risk exposure using an alternative approach.

Section 3.123 references ongoing qualification requirements that would require an institution to notify the OCC of any material change to an advance system and establish and submit to the OCC a plan for returning to compliance with the qualification requirements.

Section 3.124 requires a national bank or Federal savings association to submit to the OCC, within 90 days of consummating a merger or acquisition, an implementation plan for using its advanced systems for the merged or acquired company.

Section 3.132(b)(2)(iii)(A) addresses internal estimates for haircuts for counterparty credit risk of repo-style transactions, eligible margin loans, and over-the-counter (OTC) derivative contracts. With the prior written approval of the OCC, a national bank or Federal savings association may calculate haircuts using its own internal estimates of the volatilities of market prices and foreign exchange rates. The

section requires national banks and Federal savings associations to satisfy certain minimum quantitative standards in order to receive OCC approval to use its own internal estimates.

Section 3.132(b)(3) covers counterparty credit risk of repo-style transactions, eligible margin loans, OTC derivative contracts, and simple Value-at-Risk (VaR) methodology. With the prior written approval of the OCC, a national bank or Federal savings association may estimate exposure at default (EAD) for a netting set using a VaR model that meets certain requirements.

Section 3.132(d)(1)(i) permits the use of the internal models methodology (IMM) to determine EAD for counterparty credit risk for derivative contracts with prior written approval from the OCC.

Section 3.132(d)(1)(iii) permits the use of the internal models methodology for derivative contracts, eligible margin loans, and repo-style transactions subject to a qualifying cross-product netting agreement with prior written approval from the OCC.

Section 3.132(d)(2) addresses counterparty credit risk of repo-style transactions, eligible margin loans, and OTC derivative contracts, and risk-weighted assets using IMM. Under the IMM, an institution uses an internal model to estimate the expected exposure (EE) for a netting set and then calculates EAD based on that EE. A national bank or Federal savings association must calculate two EEs and two EADs (one stressed and one unstressed) for each netting as outlined in this section. Section 3.132(d)(2)(iv) provides that a national bank or Federal savings association may use a conservative measure of EAD subject to prior written approval of the OCC.

Section 3.153(b) outlines the Internal Models Approach (IMA) for calculating risk-weighted assets for equity exposures and specifies that a national bank or Federal savings association must receive prior written approval from the OCC before it can use IMA by demonstrating to the OCC that the national bank or Federal savings association meets certain criteria.

Recordkeeping Requirements

Section 3.121 requires a national bank or Federal savings association subject to the advanced approaches risk-based capital requirements to adopt a written implementation plan to address how it will comply with the advanced capital adequacy framework's qualification requirements and also develop and maintain a comprehensive and sound planning and governance process to

oversee the implementation efforts described in the plan. Section 3.122 further requires these institutions to: develop processes for assessing capital adequacy in relation to an organization's risk profile; establish and maintain internal risk rating and segmentation systems for wholesale and retail risk exposures, including comprehensive risk parameter quantification processes and processes for annual reviews and analyses of reference data to determine their relevance; document their processes for identifying, measuring, monitoring, controlling, and internally reporting operational risk; verify the accurate and timely reporting of risk-based capital requirements; and monitor, validate, and refine their advanced systems.

Section 3.132(d)(3)(vi) addresses counterparty credit risk of repo-style transactions, eligible margin loans, and OTC derivative contracts. To obtain OCC approval to calculate the distributions of exposures upon which the EAD calculation is based, a national bank or Federal savings association must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the OCC that it has been using for at least one year an internal model that broadly meets the minimum standards with which the national bank or Federal savings association must maintain compliance. The national bank or Federal savings association must have procedures to identify, monitor, and control wrong-way risk throughout the life of an exposure and they must include stress testing and scenario analysis.

Section 3.132(d)(3)(viii) addresses counterparty credit risk of repo-style transactions, eligible margin loans, and OTC derivative contracts. When estimating model parameters based on a stress period, a national bank or Federal savings association must use at least three years of historical data that include a period of stress to the credit default spreads of its counterparties. The national bank or Federal savings association must review the data set and update the data as necessary, particularly for any material changes in its counterparties. The national bank or Federal savings association must demonstrate at least quarterly that the stress period coincides with increased credit default swap (CDS) or other credit spreads of the institution's counterparties. The national bank or Federal savings association must have procedures to evaluate the effectiveness of its stress calibration that include a process for using benchmark portfolios that are vulnerable to the same risk factors as the national bank's or Federal savings association's portfolio. The OCC

may require the institution to modify its stress calibration to better reflect actual historic losses of the portfolio.

Section 3.132(d)(3)(ix), regarding counterparty credit risk of repo-style transactions, eligible margin loans, and OTC derivative contracts, requires that a national bank or Federal savings association must subject its internal model to an initial validation and annual model review process that includes consideration of whether the inputs and risk factors, as well as the model outputs, are appropriate. The section requires national banks and Federal savings associations to have a backtesting program for its model that includes a process by which unacceptable model performance will be determined and remedied.

Section 3.132(d)(3)(x), regarding counterparty credit risk of repo-style transactions, eligible margin loans, and OTC derivative contracts, provides that a national bank or Federal savings association must have policies for the measurement, management, and control of collateral and margin amounts.

Section 3.132(d)(3)(xi), concerning counterparty credit risk of repo-style transactions, eligible margin loans, and OTC derivative contracts, states that a national bank or Federal savings association must have a comprehensive stress testing program that captures all credit exposures to counterparties and incorporates stress testing of principal market risk factors and creditworthiness of counterparties.

Section 3.133(b)(3)(i)(A) permits a national bank or Federal savings association to assign a two percent risk weight to an exposure to a qualifying central counterparty (QCCP), if the institution conducts sufficient legal review, and maintains written documentation of that review.

Section 3.141(b)(3) requires a national bank or Federal savings association to obtain a well-reasoned legal opinion confirming the enforceability of the credit risk mitigant in all relevant jurisdictions in order to recognize the transference of risk in connection with a synthetic securitization.

Sections 3.141(c)(1) and 3.141(c)(2)(i) require a national bank or Federal savings association to demonstrate its comprehensive understanding of a securitization exposure for each securitization exposure by conducting an analysis of the risk characteristics of a securitization exposure prior to acquiring the exposure and document such analysis within three business days after acquiring the exposure.

Section 3.141(c)(2)(ii) requires that institutions, on an on-going basis (at least quarterly), evaluate, review, and

update as appropriate the analysis required under this section for each securitization exposure.

Disclosure Requirements

Section 3.142, which outlines the capital treatment for securitization exposures, requires a national bank or Federal savings association to disclose publicly that it has provided implicit support to a securitization and the regulatory capital impact to the institution of providing such implicit support. Specifically, § 3.124(a) requires a national bank or Federal savings association that merges with or acquires a company that does not calculate its risk-based capital requirements using advanced systems and uses subpart D to determine the risk-weighted asset amounts for the merged or acquired company's exposures, the national bank or Federal savings association must disclose publicly the amounts of risk-weighted assets and qualifying capital calculated under this subpart for the bank or savings association and under subpart D for the acquired company.

Section 3.172 specifies that each national bank or Federal savings association that is an advanced approaches national bank or Federal savings association, that has completed the parallel run process, must publicly disclose its total and tier 1 risk-based capital ratios and their components.

Section 3.173 addresses disclosures by an advanced approaches national bank or Federal savings association that is not a consolidated subsidiary of a bank holding company, savings and loan holding company, or a depository institution subject to the disclosure requirements of § 3.172. An advanced approaches institution that is subject to the disclosure requirements must make the disclosures described in § 3.173, Tables 1 through 12. The national bank or Federal savings association must make these disclosures publicly available for each of the last three years (that is, twelve quarters) or such shorter period beginning on the effective date of this subpart E. The tables in § 3.173 require qualitative and quantitative public disclosures for capital structure, capital adequacy, capital conservation and countercyclical buffers, general disclosures related to credit risk, credit risk disclosures for portfolios subject to IRB risk-based capital formulas, general disclosures related to counterparty credit risk of OTC derivative contracts, repo-style transactions, and eligible margin loans, credit risk mitigation, securitization, operational risk, equities not subject to the market risk capital requirements, and interest rate risk for non-trading activities.

Estimated Burden:
Estimated Number of Respondents:
1,014 national banks and Federal savings associations.¹

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 87,087.

Estimated Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Comments: On November 21, 2023, the OCC published a 60-day notice for this information collection, (88 FR 81176). No comments were received. Comments continue to be invited on:

(a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the OCC, including whether the information has practical utility;

(b) The accuracy of the OCC's estimate of the burden of the collection of information;

(c) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;

(d) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and

(e) Estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Theodore J. Dowd,

Deputy Chief Counsel, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

[FR Doc. 2024-02736 Filed 2-9-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-33-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Financial Crimes Enforcement Network

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Renewal; Comment Request; Renewal Without Change of Reports by Financial Institutions of Suspicious Transactions and FinCEN Form 111—Suspicious Activity Report

AGENCY: Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, FinCEN invites comment on a renewal, without change, of existing information collection requirements relating to reports of suspicious transactions. Under Bank Secrecy Act regulations, financial institutions are required to report suspicious

transactions using FinCEN Form 111 (the suspicious activity report, or SAR). This request for comments is made pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA).

DATES: Written comments are welcome and must be received on or before April 12, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Federal E-rulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Refer to Docket Number FINCEN-2024-0004 and the specific Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control numbers 1506-0001, 1506-0006, 1506-0015, 1506-0019, 1506-0029, 1506-0061, and 1506-0065.
- *Mail:* Policy Division, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, P.O. Box 39, Vienna, VA 22183. Refer to Docket Number FINCEN-2024-0004 and OMB control numbers 1506-0001, 1506-0006, 1506-0015, 1506-0019, 1506-0029, 1506-0061, and 1506-0065.

Please submit comments by one method only. Comments will be reviewed consistent with the PRA¹ and applicable OMB regulations and guidance. All comments submitted in response to this notice will become a matter of public record. Therefore, you should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: FinCEN's Regulatory Support Section at 1-800-767-2825 or electronically at frc@fincen.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Statutory and Regulatory Provisions

The legislative framework generally referred to as the Bank Secrecy Act (BSA) consists of the Currency and Foreign Transactions Reporting Act of 1970, as amended by the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001 (USA PATRIOT Act), Public Law 107-56 (October 26, 2001), and other legislation, including the Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2020 (AML Act).² The BSA is codified at 12 U.S.C. 1829b, 12 U.S.C. 1951-1960, and 31 U.S.C. 5311-5314 and 5316-5336, and notes thereto, with implementing regulations at 31 CFR chapter X.

The BSA authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury (the "Secretary"), *inter*

¹ Public Law 104-13, 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A).

² The AML Act was enacted as Division F, sections 6001-6511, of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, Public Law 116-283, 134 Stat. 3388 (2021).

¹ Respondents represent all active national banks and Federal savings associations as of September 30, 2023.