DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Financial Crimes Enforcement Network

Proposed Renewal; Comment Request; Anti-Money Laundering Programs for Precious Metals, Precious Stones, or Jewels

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

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of our continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, we invite comment on a proposed renewal, without change, to information collections found in existing regulations requiring dealers in precious metals, stones, or jewels, to develop and implement written anti-money laundering programs reasonably designed to prevent financial institutions from being used to facilitate money laundering and the financing of terrorist activities. This request for comments is being made pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13, 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A).

DATES: Written comments are welcome and must be received on or before September 15, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be submitted to: Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, P.O. Box 39, Vienna, VA 22183, Attention: Anti-Money Laundering Program Comments. Comments also may be submitted by electronic mail to the following Internet address: regcomments@fincen.gov, again with a caption, in the body of the text, “Attention: Anti-Money Laundering Program Comments.”

Inspection of comments. Persons wishing to inspect the comments submitted must request an appointment with the Disclosure Officer by telephoning (703) 905-5034 (Not a toll free call).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: FinCEN Resource Center at 1-800-870-7722 or 1-703-945-2500 (Not a toll free number) and select option 3 for regulatory questions. Email inquiries can be sent to FIC@fincen.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Abstract: FinCEN exercises regulatory functions primarily under the Currency and Financial Transactions Reporting Act of 1970, as amended by the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001 and other legislation. This legislative framework is commonly referred to as the “Bank Secrecy Act” (“BSA”). The Secretary of the Treasury has delegated to the Director of FinCEN the authority to implement, administer, and enforce compliance with the BSA and associated regulations. Pursuant to this authority, FinCEN may issue regulations requiring financial institutions to keep records and file reports that “have a high degree of usefulness in criminal, tax, or regulatory investigations or proceedings, or in the conduct of intelligence or counterintelligence activities, including analysis, to protect against international terrorism.”

Additionally, FinCEN is authorized to impose regulations to maintain procedures to ensure that the BSA and FinCEN’s implementing regulations, or to guard against money laundering, which includes imposing anti-money laundering (“AML”) program requirements on financial institutions.

Regulations implementing section 5318(h)(1) of the Act are found in part 31 CFR 1027.210. In general, the regulations require financial institutions, as defined in 31 U.S.C. 5312(a)(2) and 31 CFR 1010.100 to establish, document, and maintain anti-money laundering programs as an aid in protecting and securing the U.S. financial system.

1. Title: Anti-money laundering programs for dealers in precious metals, precious stones, or jewels (31 CFR 1027.210).

OMB Control Number: 1505-0030. Abstract: Dealers in precious metals, precious stones, or jewels are required to establish and maintain written anti-money laundering programs. A copy of the written program must be maintained for five years.

Current Action: There is no change to existing regulations.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Affected Public: Business and other for-profit institutions.

Burden: Estimated Number of Respondents = 280,000.

Estimated Number of Responses = 20,000.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 30 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 140,000 hours.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Records required to be retained under the BSA must be retained for five years. Generally, information collected pursuant to the BSA is confidential, but may be shared as provided by law with regulatory and law enforcement authorities.

Request for Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or 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 agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility;

(b) the accuracy of the agency’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 of information 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.

Dated: July 13, 2015.

Jennifer Shasky Calvery,

Director, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network
DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
Bureau of the Fiscal Service

Proposed Collection of Information: States Where Licensed for Surety

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on a proposed and/or continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently the Bureau of the Fiscal Service within the Department of the Treasury is soliciting comments concerning the “States Where Licensed for Surety.”

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before September 15, 2015 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Bureau of the Fiscal Service, Bruce A. Sharp, 200 Third Street A4–A, Parkersburg, WV 26106–1328, or bruce.sharp@fiscal.treasury.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies should be directed to Melvin Saunders, Supervisor, Surety Bond Section, 3700 East West Highway, Room 6D22, Hyattsville, MD 20782, (202) 874–5283.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Title: States Where Licensed for Surety
OMB Number: 1530–0009 (Previously approved as 1510–0013 as a collection conducted by Department of the Treasury/Financial Management Service.) Transfer of OMB Control Number: The Bureau of Public Debt (BPD) and the Financial Management Service (FMS) have consolidated to become the Bureau of the Fiscal Service (Fiscal Service). Information collection requests previously held separately by BPD and FMS will now be identified by a 1530 prefix, designating Fiscal Service.

Abstract: Information is collected from insurance companies in order to provide Federal bond approving officers with this information. The listing of states, by company, appears in Treasury’s Circular 570, “Surety Companies Acceptable on Federal Bonds.”

Current Actions: Extension of a currently approved collection.
Type of Review: Regular.
Affected Public: Business or other for-profits.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 262.
Estimated Time per Respondent: 1 hours.
Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 262.

Request for Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or 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 agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency’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 of information 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.


Bruce A. Sharp,
Bureau Clearance Officer.

Editorial Note: This document was received for publication by the Office of the Federal Register on July 14, 2015.

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