

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In October 2014, a new cohort of sites was added to the Regional Innovation Clusters (RIC) initiative, which was originally started in October 1, 2010 by the Small Business Administration (SBA)'s Office of Entrepreneurial Development. Through this initiative, organizations in 11 communities across the U.S. have been selected to provide industry-specific assistance to small businesses, and to develop industry relationships and supply chains within their regions. Clusters—geographically concentrated groups of interconnected businesses, suppliers, service providers, and associated institutions in a particular industry or field—act as a networking hub to convene a number of resources to help navigate the funding, procurement, and supply-chain opportunities in a specific industry.

SBA is conducting an evaluation of the Regional Innovation Clusters initiative to determine how the clusters have developed, the type and volume of services they provided to small businesses, client perceptions of the program, and the various outcomes related to their existence, including collaboration among firms, innovation, and small business growth. Small business growth will be compared to the overall growth of firms in those same regions and industries. This evaluation will also include lessons learned and success stories. SBA proposes the use of three instruments for data collection and analysis of three distinct populations. These instruments are: (1) Small Business Survey, (2.) Large Organization Survey and (3.) Cluster Administrator Survey. In addition, SBA plans to interview each of the 11 cluster administrators several times a year regarding program impact and successes or challenges, and to obtain clarifications on information provided in quarterly reports. Each of the proposed surveys will be administered electronically and will contain both open- and close-ended questions. The information collected and analyzed from these instruments will contribute to monitoring performance metrics and program goals, as well as recommendations on improving program practices.

Solicitation of Public Comments:

Title: Regional Innovation Clusters (RIC) Initiative Evaluation Study.

Description of Respondents:

Interconnected businesses, Suppliers, Service providers, and associated institutions.

Form Number: N/A.

Estimated Annual Responses: 1,240.

Estimated Annual Hour Burden: 388.

Curtis B. Rich,

Management Analyst.

[FR Doc. 2016-02484 Filed 2-8-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 9438]

Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC) Meeting Notice

Closed Meeting

The Department of State announces a meeting of the U.S. State Department—Overseas Security Advisory Council on February 23 and 24, 2016. Pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. Appendix), 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4), and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(7)(E), it has been determined that the meeting will be closed to the public. The meeting will focus on an examination of corporate security policies and procedures and will involve extensive discussion of trade secrets and proprietary commercial information that is privileged and confidential, and will discuss law enforcement investigative techniques and procedures. The agenda will include updated committee reports, a global threat overview, and other matters relating to private sector security policies and protective programs and the protection of U.S. business information overseas.

For more information, contact Marsha Thurman, Overseas Security Advisory Council, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20522-2008, phone: 571-345-2214.

Dated: February 2, 2016.

Bill A. Miller,

*Director of the Diplomatic Security Service,
U.S. Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 2016-02583 Filed 2-8-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-43-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 9436]

30-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Courier Drop-Off List for U.S. Passport Applications

ACTION: Notice of request for public comment and submission to OMB of proposed collection of information.

SUMMARY: The Department of State has submitted the information collection described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval. In accordance with the

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 we are requesting comments on this collection from all interested individuals and organizations. The purpose of this Notice is to allow 30 days for public comment.

DATES: Submit comments directly to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) up to March 10, 2016.

ADDRESSES: Direct comments to the Department of State Desk Officer in the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). You may submit comments by the following methods:

- *Email:* oir_submission@omb.eop.gov. You must include the DS form number, information collection title, and the OMB control number in the subject line of your message.
- *Fax:* 202-395-5806. Attention: Desk Officer for Department of State.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct requests for additional information regarding the collection listed in this notice, including requests for copies of the proposed collection instrument and supporting documents, to PPT Forms Officer, U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Passport Services, Office of Legal Affairs and Law Enforcement Liaison, 44132 Mercure Cir, P.O. Box 1227, Sterling, Virginia 20166-1227, who may be reached on (202) 485-6538 or at PPTFormsOfficer@state.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

- *Title of Information Collection:* Courier Drop-Off List for U.S. Passport Applications.
- *OMB Control Number:* 1405-XXXX.
- *Type of Request:* New Collection.
- *Originating Office:* Bureau of Consular Affairs, Passport Services, Office of Legal Affairs and Law Enforcement Liaison (CA/PPT/S/L).
- *Form Number:* DS-4283.
- *Respondents:* Business or Other For-Profit.
- *Estimated Number of Respondents:* 1,000 respondents per year.
- *Estimated Number of Responses:* 216,000 responses per year.
- *Average Time per Response:* 10 minutes.
- *Total Estimated Burden Time:* 36,000 hours per year.
- *Frequency:* Daily.
- *Obligation to Respond:* Required to Obtain or Retain a Benefit.

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department.
- Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the