

7. Project Evaluation: The proposal should include a plan to evaluate the success of the organization in achieving the stated objectives. The grantee will also be expected to cooperate with USIA in evaluating the program under the requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA). Proposals should reflect an understanding and grasp of these responsibilities.

8. Cost-effectiveness: The overhead and administrative components of the proposal, including salaries and honoraria, should be kept as low as possible. All other items should be necessary and appropriate.

9. Cost-sharing: Proposals should maximize cost-sharing through other private sector support as well as institutional direct funding and in-kind contributions.

10. Value to U.S.-Partner Country Relations: Proposed projects should receive positive assessments by USIA's geographic area desk and overseas officers of potential impact and significance in the partner countries.

Notice

The terms and conditions published in this RFP are binding and may not be modified by any USIA representative. Explanatory information provided by the Agency that contradicts published language will not be binding. Issuance of the RFP does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government. The Agency reserves the right to reduce, revise, or increase proposal budgets in accordance with the needs of the program and the availability of funds. Awards made will be subject to periodic reporting and evaluation requirements.

Notification

Final awards cannot be made until funds have been appropriated by Congress, allocated and committed through internal USIA procedures.

Dated: April 5, 1996.

Dell Pendergrast,

Deputy Associate Director for Educational and Cultural Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on this information collection. This request for comment is being made pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Comments should address the accuracy of the burden estimates and ways to minimize the burden including the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology, as well as other relevant aspects of the information collection.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposal for the collection of information should be received June 10, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20M30), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. All comments will become a matter of public record and will be summarized in the VBA request for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval. In this document VBA is soliciting comments concerning the following information collection:

OMB Control Number: 2900-0459.

Title and Form Number: Property Management Consolidated Invoice, VA Form 26-8974.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Need and Uses: VA Form 26-8974 is generated monthly by the computerized Property Management System at the VA Automation Center, Austin, Texas. Invoices show assigned properties with the assigned numerical identification and property location for each. Fixed fees, as applicable, are computer-entered for each property for certain management services, such as monthly inspection. The invoice is sent to the broker from Austin on or about the 25th day of each month. The broker then enters any additional charges for each property, affixes supporting documentation for reimbursement of expenses claimed, such as for utilities, and mails the invoice to the VA regional office of jurisdiction. Invoices are then reviewed by Realty Specialists to verify accuracy of charges, and forwarded to Finance activity for audit and payment.

Current Actions: As a consequence of the home loan activities, VA acquires residential properties which are rehabilitated and rented or sold under the authority of 38 U.S.C. 3720(a) (5)

and (6). VA must rely on the services of property management brokers to provide the necessary surveillance and maintenance services for the protection, rental, and resale of its widely dispersed inventory. VA policies provide that management brokers may incur charges for certain items such as fuel, electricity, and water, and when proper authorization has been given, for maintenance and repair expenses. Brokers are also paid for certain services they perform, such as initial and repair inspections, and for routine maintenance, such as lawn care or snow removal. As is customary in the property management industry, VA reimburses management brokers for expenses incurred for VA properties, and pays broker-performed services upon receipt of monthly invoices.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 32,215 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 10 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Monthly.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,895.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of the form should be directed to Department of Veterans Affairs, Attn: Jacquie McCray, Information Management Service (045A4), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420, Telephone (202) 565-8266 or FAX (202) 565-8267.

Dated: April 1, 1996.

By direction of the Secretary.

Donald L. Neilson,

Director, Information Management Service.

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AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

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