

adverse effects, such as undue concentration of resources, decreased or unfair competition, conflicts of interests, or unsound banking practices" (12 U.S.C. 1843). Any request for a hearing must be accompanied by a statement of the reasons a written presentation would not suffice in lieu of a hearing, identifying specifically any questions of fact that are in dispute, summarizing the evidence that would be presented at a hearing, and indicating how the party commenting would be aggrieved by approval of the proposal. Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than June 7, 1996.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta (Zane R. Kelley, Vice President) 104 Marietta Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303:

1. *ABC Bancorp, Inc.*, Moultrie, Georgia; to merge with Central Bankshares, Inc., Cordele, Georgia, and thereby indirectly acquire Central Bank & Trust, Cordele, Georgia.

B. Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago (James A. Bluemle, Vice President) 230 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60690:

1. *PrairieLand Employee Stock Ownership Plan*, Bushnell, Illinois; to acquire an additional 5 percent for a total of 35 percent of the voting shares of PrairieLand Bancorp, Inc., Bushnell, Illinois, and thereby indirectly acquire Farmers & Merchants State Bank, Bushnell, Illinois.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, May 7, 1996.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 96-11849 Filed 5-10-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

Notice of Proposals to Engage in Permissible Nonbanking Activities or To Acquire Companies That are Engaged in Permissible Nonbanking Activities

The companies listed in this notice have given notice under section 4 of the Bank Holding Company Act (12 U.S.C. 1843) (BHC Act) and Regulation Y, (12 CFR part 225) to engage *de novo*, or to acquire or control voting securities or assets of a company that engages either directly or through a subsidiary or other company, in a nonbanking activity that is listed in § 225.25 of Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.25) or that the Board has determined by Order to be closely

related to banking and permissible for bank holding companies. Unless otherwise noted, these activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Each notice is available for inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. Once the notice has been accepted for processing, it will also be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the question whether the proposal complies with the standards of section 4 of the BHC Act, including whether consummation of the proposal can "reasonably be expected to produce benefits to the public, such as greater convenience, increased competition, or gains in efficiency, that outweigh possible adverse effects, such as undue concentration of resources, decreased or unfair competition, conflicts of interests, or unsound banking practices" (12 U.S.C. 1843). Any request for a hearing on this question must be accompanied by a statement of the reasons a written presentation would not suffice in lieu of a hearing, identifying specifically any questions of fact that are in dispute, summarizing the evidence that would be presented at a hearing, and indicating how the party commenting would be aggrieved by approval of the proposal.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding the applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than May 23, 1996.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta (Zane R. Kelley, Vice President) 104 Marietta Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303:

1. *Community Trust Financial Services Corporation*, Hiram, Georgia; to acquire Personal Finance Service, Inc., Rossville, Georgia, and Rock City Enterprises, Inc., Rockmart, Georgia, through its subsidiary, Community Loan Company, Hiram, Georgia, and thereby engage in consumer finance business, credit insurance, and tax planning and preparation services, pursuant to §§ 225.25(b)(1)(i), 225.25(b)(8)(ii) and 225.25(b)(21) of the Board's Regulation Y. The proposed activities will be conducted throughout the State of Georgia.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, May 7, 1996.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 96-11850 Filed 5-10-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

Office of Inspector General; Statement of Organization, Functions and Delegations of Authority

This Notice amends Part A (Office of the Secretary) of the Statement of Organization, Functions and Delegations of Authority for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to reflect recent changes in Chapter AF, Office of Inspector General (OIG). Chapter AF was last published in its entirety on November 7, 1989 (54 FR 46775).

The statement of organization, functions and delegations of authority reflects the original transfer of the statutory basis for the Office of Inspector General from Public Law 94-505 to Public Law 95-452 (and made under the Inspector General Act Amendments of 1988, Public Law 100-504), and conforms to and carries out the statutory requirements for operating the Office of Inspector General. A number of revisions have been made to the basic organizational structure of the Office of Inspector General to reflect the break out of functions from the Office of Civil Fraud and Administrative Adjudication (OCFAA) into two separate organizational units, and the effect of recent shifts and changes, such as the separation out of the Social Security Administration in accordance with the Social Security Independence and Program Improvements Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-296). As a result, within the organizational structure of the OIG: (1) A new Office of Enforcement and Compliance (OEC) and a new Office of Litigation Coordination (OLC) have been formed, (2) certain units and positions have recently been renamed, (3) minor shifts in reporting relationships have occurred, (4) an additional program unit has been delineated, and (5) some small functional units have been transferred. While relatively minor, these changes have been made in an effort to assist the organization in accomplishing its mission with greater efficiency and effectiveness.

As amended, Chapter AF now reads as follows:

Section AF.00, Office of Inspector General (OIG)—Mission

This organization was established by law as an independent and objective oversight unit of the Department to carry out the mission of promoting economy, efficiency and effectiveness

through the elimination of waste, abuse and fraud. In furtherance of this mission, the organization engages in a number of activities:

A. Conducting and supervising audits, investigations, inspections and evaluations relating to HHS programs and operations.

B. Identifying systemic weaknesses giving rise to opportunities for fraud and abuse in HHS programs and operations and making recommendations to prevent their recurrence.

C. Leading and coordinating activities to prevent and detect fraud and abuse in HHS programs and operations.

D. Detecting wrongdoers and abusers of HHS programs and beneficiaries so appropriate remedies may be brought to bear.

E. Keeping the Secretary and the Congress fully and currently informed about problems and deficiencies in the administration of such programs and operations and about the need for and progress of corrective action, including imposing sanctions against providers of health care under Medicare and Medicaid who commit certain prohibited acts.

In support of its mission, the Office of Inspector General carries out and maintains an internal quality assurance system and a peer review system with other Offices of Inspectors General, that include periodic quality assessment studies and quality control reviews, to provide reasonable assurance that applicable laws, regulations, policies, procedures, standards and other requirements are followed; are effective; and are functioning as intended in OIG operations.

Section AF.10, Office of Inspector General—Organization

There is at the head of the OIG a statutory Inspector General, appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The Office of Inspector General consists of seven organizational units:

A. Immediate Office of the Inspector General (AFA).

B. Office of Management and Policy (AFC).

C. Office of Evaluation and Inspections (AFE).

D. Office of Enforcement and Compliance (AFF).

E. Office of Litigation Compliance (AFG).

F. Office of Audit Services (AFH).

G. Office of Investigations (AFJ).

Section AF.20, Office of Inspector General—Functions

The component sections which follow describe the specific functions of the organization.

Section AFA.00, Immediate Office of the Inspector General (IOIG)—Mission

The Inspector General is directly responsible for meeting the statutory mission of the OIG as a whole and for promoting effective OIG internal quality assurance systems, including quality assessment studies and quality control reviews of OIG processes and products. The Office of Inspector General also plans, conducts and participates in a variety of inter-agency cooperative projects and undertakings relating to fraud and abuse activities with the Department of Justice (DoJ), the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) and other governmental agencies.

Section AFA.10, Immediate Office of the Inspector General—Organization

The Immediate Office comprises the Inspector General, the Principal Deputy Inspector General, and an immediate staff.

Section AFA.20, Immediate Office of the Inspector General—Functions

As the senior official of the organization, the Inspector General supervises the Deputy Inspectors General and the Assistant Inspector General for Litigation Coordination who head the major OIG components. The Inspector General is appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, and reports to and is under the general supervision of the Secretary or, to the extent such authority is delegated, the Deputy Secretary, but does not report to and is not subject to supervision by any other officer in the Department. In keeping with the independence intended in the statutory basis for the OIG and its mission, the Inspector General assumes and exercises, through line management, all functional authorities related to the administration and management of the OIG and all mission related authorities stated or implied in the law or delegated directly from the Secretary.

The Inspector General provides executive leadership to the organization and exercises general supervision over the personnel and functions of its major components. The Inspector General determines the budget needs of the OIG, sets OIG policies and priorities, oversees OIG operations and provides reports to the Secretary and the Congress. In this capacity the Inspector General is empowered under the law with general personnel authority, e.g., selection, promotion, assignment of employees, including members of the senior executive service. The Inspector General

delegates related authorities as appropriate.

The Principal Deputy Inspector General assists the Inspector General in the management of the OIG, and during the absence of the Inspector General, acts as the Inspector General.

Section AFC.00, Office of Management and Policy (OMP)—Mission

This office is responsible for the reporting and legislative and regulatory review functions required in the law; for formulating and executing the OIG budget; for managing external affairs; and for establishing functional policies for the general management of the OIG. In support of its mission, the office carries out and maintains an internal quality assurance system. The system includes quality assessment studies and quality control reviews of OMP processes and products to ensure that policies and procedures are followed effectively and function as intended.

Section AFC.10, Office of Management and Policy—Organization

This office is directed by the Deputy Inspector General for Management and Policy, and comprises the Deputy Inspector General for OMP and an immediate staff.

Section AFC.20, Office of Management and Policy—Functions

Through the Deputy Inspector General for Management and Policy:

A. The office conducts and coordinates OIG reviews of existing and proposed legislation and regulations related to HHS programs and operations to identify their impact on economy and efficiency and their potential for fraud and abuse. It develops all OIG sanction and interpretive regulations for publication in the Federal Register and legislative proposals for inclusion in the Department's legislative program. It serves as contact for the press and electronic media and serves as OIG congressional liaison. The office prepares congressional testimony and confers with officials in the Office of the Secretary staff divisions on congressional relations, legislation and public affairs. It develops and publishes OIG newsletters, recruitment brochures and other issuances to announce and promote OIG activities and accomplishments.

B. The office coordinates the development of the OIG long-range strategic plan. It compiles the Semiannual Report to the Congress and operates the Executive Secretariat. It formulates and oversees the execution of the OIG budget and confers with the Office of the Secretary, the Office of

Management and Budget and the Congress on budget issues. It issues quarterly grants to States for Medicaid fraud control units. It conducts management studies and analyses and establishes and coordinates general management policies for the OIG and publishes those policies in the OIG Administrative Manual. It serves as OIG liaison to the Office of the Secretary for personnel issues and other administrative policies and practices, and on equal employment opportunity and other civil rights matters. It coordinates internal control reviews for the OIG.

C. The office is responsible for OIG information resources management (IRM), as defined by the Paperwork Reduction Act, OMB Circular A-130, the Federal Information Resources Management regulations, the Computer Security Act of 1987, HHS IRM Circulars, and by related guidance. The office also provides information technology support to the OIG through management of its local area networks nationwide, provision of headquarters computer end-user support, and support of OIG information systems as required.

Section AFE.00, Office of Evaluation and Inspections (OEI)—Mission

The Office of Evaluation and Inspections is responsible for conducting inspections of HHS programs, operations and processes to identify vulnerabilities, to prevent and detect misconduct, and to promote economy, efficiency and effectiveness in HHS programs and operations. In support of its mission, the office carries out and maintains an internal quality assurance system. The system includes quality assessment studies and quality control reviews of OEI processes and products to ensure that policies and procedures are effective; are followed; and are functioning as intended.

Section AFE.10, Office of Evaluation and Inspections—Organization

This office is directed by the Deputy Inspector General for Evaluation and Inspections, and comprises the Immediate Office, including the Deputy Inspector General for OEI and an immediate staff, and eight regional offices.

Section AFE.20, Office of Evaluation and Inspections—Functions

The office is responsible for carrying out inspections supporting the OIG mission. The Deputy Inspector General provides general supervision to the OEI immediate office staff and supervises the Regional Inspectors General for Evaluation and Inspections who carry

out OEI's mission and activities in assigned geographic areas. The Immediate Office carries out OEI's mission in headquarters.

A. The immediate office develops OEI's evaluation and inspections policies, procedures and standards. It assesses the quality of inspections to ensure compliance with policies and procedures. It manages OEI's human and financial resources. It develops and monitors OEI's management information systems. It conducts management reviews within the HHS/OIG and for other OIG's upon request.

B. The immediate office manages OEI's work planning process and reviews legislative, regulatory and program proposals for vulnerabilities to fraud, waste and mismanagement. It develops evaluation techniques and coordinates projects with other OIG and departmental components. It provides programmatic expertise and information on new programs, procedures, regulations and statutes to OEI regional offices. It maintains liaison with other components in the Department, follows up on implementation of corrective action recommendations, evaluates the actions taken to resolve problems and vulnerabilities identified, and provides additional data or corrective action options, where appropriate.

C. The regional offices carry out OEI's mission in the field. The regional offices evaluate HHS programs and produce the results in inspection reports. They conduct data and trend analyses of major HHS initiatives to determine the effects of current policies and practices on program efficiency and effectiveness. They recommend changes in program policies, regulations and laws to improve efficiency and effectiveness, and to prevent fraud, abuse, waste and mismanagement. They analyze existing policies to evaluate options for future policy, regulatory and legislative improvements.

Section AFF.00, Office of Enforcement and Compliance (OEC)—Mission

The Office of Enforcement and Compliance is responsible for the imposition of those mandatory and permissive program exclusions and civil money penalty (CMP) and assessment actions not handled by the Office of Litigation Coordination. The office serves as a liaison with HCFA, State licensing boards and other outside organizations and entities with regard to integrity, compliance and enforcement activities. It develops models for corporate integrity, compliance and enforcement programs; monitors ongoing compliance, exclusion and HCFA suspension agreements; and

promotes industry awareness of corporate integrity and enforcement agreements developed by the OIG.

Section AFF.10, Office of Enforcement and Compliance—Organization

This office is directed by the Deputy Inspector General for Enforcement and Compliance, and comprises the Deputy Inspector General for OEC and an immediate staff.

Section AFF.20, Office of Enforcement and Compliance—Functions

Through the Deputy Inspector General for Enforcement and Compliance:

A. The office develops, coordinates and effectuates all health care mandatory and permissive exclusions, with the exception of those handled by the Office of Litigation Coordination. The office develops standards governing the imposition of the mandatory and permissive exclusion authorities within the scope of its responsibility, and develops criteria for evaluating when it will impose such permissive exclusions against health care providers. It reviews all applications for readmission to program participation for purposes of determining whether an excluded provider has demonstrated the ability to comply with program requirements; and ensures enforcement of exclusions imposed through liaison with HCFA, DoJ and other governmental and private sector entities.

B. The office is responsible for developing, improving and maintaining a comprehensive and coordinated OIG data base on all OIG exclusion actions, and promptly and accurately reports all exclusion actions within its authority to the data base. It informs appropriate regulatory agencies, health care providers and the general public of all OIG exclusion actions, and is responsible for improving public access to information on these exclusion actions to ensure that excluded individuals and entities are effectively barred from program participation.

C. The office imposes CMPs and assessments in accordance with the CMP law on those cases not handled by the Office of Litigation Coordination, and ensures that all monetary recoveries are promptly and accurately reported to the appropriate OIG data base.

D. The office monitors corporate and provider compliance plans adopted as part of settlement agreements, and develops audit and investigative review standards for monitoring such plans in cooperation and coordination with other OIG components. It resolves breaches of compliance plans through the development of corrective action plans, on-site reviews, and when appropriate,

refers material breaches of compliance plans to the Office of Litigation Coordination for potential sanctioning.

E. The office serves to increase industry awareness of corporate integrity issues by proactively promoting voluntary adoption of corporate compliance plans through speeches, articles, visits and other liaison activities with governmental and private sector groups.

Section AFG.00, Office of Litigation Coordination (OLC)—Mission

The Office of Litigation Coordination is responsible for the coordination and disposition of all *qui tam* and other False Claims Act matters, and other criminal, civil and administrative matters when DoJ has an interest in the matter; the coordination and disposition of all voluntary disclosure activities; liaison activities with HCFA and outside entities in global settlement negotiations; the development of standards governing use of permissive exclusion authority in cases involving DoJ, including and United States Attorney's Office; and the establishment and maintenance of a data system on settled and pending False Claim Act and CMP cases.

Section AFG.10, Office of Litigation Coordination—Organization

The office is directed by the Assistant Inspector General for Litigation Coordination, and comprises the Assistant Inspector General of OLC and an immediate staff.

Section AFG.20, Office of Litigation Coordination—Mission

Through the Assistant Inspector General for Litigation Coordination:

A. The office oversees all False Claims Act and *qui tam* cases, including the handling of (1) requests for extensions of intervention dates, (2) resource requests from other agencies, (3) resource coordination among the OIG components, (4) settlement negotiations and (5) final sign-off. By coordinating DoJ resource requests, participating in settlement negotiations and providing litigation support, the office serves as the primary focal point for most criminal and civil cases involving other government agencies or more than one OIG component. It coordinates the Department's response to all settlement proposals in cases involving DoJ, including the amount of restitution and resolution of the selected CMP and exclusion liability, and serves as the liaison to other components of the Department in these cases.

B. The office coordinates and resolves all voluntary disclosures through (1)

liaison activities with DoJ and the U.S. Attorney's office, (2) the disclosure verification efforts of the Office of Audit Services and the Office of Investigations and (3) final disposition and sign-off of the matter.

C. The office, in coordination with other OIG components, develops both the standards governing the use of permissive exclusion authorities in cases involving other Federal agencies, including DoJ, and the criteria for evaluating whether to impose permissive exclusions against health care providers in such cases. It is responsible for ensuring that all exclusion actions not handled by the Office of Enforcement and Compliance are promptly and accurately reported to the appropriate OIG data base.

D. The office is responsible for developing, improving and maintaining a comprehensive and coordinated data base on all settled and pending False Claims Act and CMP cases under its authority. The office, through this data base, records all monetary recoveries and tracks outstanding *qui tam*, OIG intercomponent and multiple agency health care fraud investigations.

Section AFH.00, Office of Audit Services (OAS)—Mission

The Office of Audit Services provides policy direction for and conducts and oversees comprehensive audits of HHS programs, operations, grantees and contractors, following generally accepted Government auditing standards (GAGAS), the Single Audit Act of 1984, applicable Office of Management and Budget (OMB) circulars and other legal, regulatory and administrative requirements. It maintains an internal quality assurance system, including periodic quality assessment studies and quality control reviews, to provide reasonable assurance that applicable laws, regulations, policies, procedures, standards and other requirements are followed in all audit activities performed by, or on behalf of, the Department. In furtherance of this mission, the organization engages in a number of activities:

A. The office coordinates and confers with officials of the central Federal management agencies (OMB, the General Accounting Office (GAO), the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and the Department of the Treasury) on audit matters involving HHS programs and operations. It provides technical assistance to Federal, State and local investigative offices on matters concerning the operation of the Department's programs. It participates in interagency efforts implementing

OMB Circulars A-128 and A-110, which call for use of the single audit concept for most external audits. It performs audits of activities administered by other Federal departments, following the system of audit cognizance administered by OMB. It participates in the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency (PCIE) initiatives and other Government-wide projects. It works with other OIG components on special assignments and projects. It responds to congressional oversight interests related to audit matters in the Department.

B. The Office of Audit Services helps HHS operating divisions and the Office of the Secretary staff divisions to develop policies to manage grants and procurements and policies to establish indirect cost rates. It performs pre-award audits of grant or contract proposals to determine the financial capability of the grantees or contractors and conducts post-award audits.

C. The office reviews legislative, regulatory and policy proposals for audit implications. It recommends improvements in the accountability and integrity features of legislation, regulations and policy. It prepares reports of audits and special studies for the Secretary, heads of HHS operating divisions, Regional Directors and others. It gathers data on unresolved audit findings for the statutorily required Semiannual Reports to the Congress and for the Deputy Secretary as Chairman of the Audit Resolution Council. It conducts follow-up examinations and special analyses of actions taken on previously reported audit findings and recommendations to ensure completeness and propriety.

D. The office decides when audits can or may be performed by audit organizations outside the Department, including those by other Federal or nonfederal governmental agencies, contractors, or public accounting firms. It assures that any audit performed by non-OIG auditors complies with the Government auditing standards established by the Comptroller General of the United States. It evaluates audits performed for the Department by outside organizations. It coordinates the development of the OIG Annual Work Plan and produces summaries of both (1) the Orange Book—a summary of unimplemented program and management improvements recommended—and (2) the Red Book—a summary of significant monetary recommendations not yet implemented.

E. The office serves as the focal point for all financial audit activity within the Department and provides the primary liaison conduit between the OIG and

departmental management. The office provides overall leadership and direction in carrying out the responsibilities mandated under the Chief Financial Officers Act relating to financial statement audits.

Section AFH.10, Office of Audit Services—Organization

The Office of Audit Services comprises the following components:

- A. Immediate Office
- B. Audit Operations and Financial Statement Activities.
- C. Health Care Financing Audits.
- D. Administrations of Children, Family and Aging Audits.
- E. Public Health Audits.

Section AFH.20, Office of Audit Services—Functions

A. Immediate Office of the Deputy Inspector General for Audit Services. This office is directed by the Deputy Inspector General for Audit Services who carries out the functions designated in the law for the position, Assistant Inspector General for Auditing. The Deputy Inspector General for Audit Services is responsible to the Inspector General for carrying out OIG's audit mission and supervises the Assistant Inspectors General heading OAS offices described below.

The Immediate Office manages the human and financial resources of the Office of Audit Services including developing staffing allocation plans and issuing policy for, coordinating and monitoring all budget, staffing, recruiting and training activities of the office. It maintains a professional development program for Office of Audit Services staff which meets the requirements of Government auditing standards. The office provides liaison with the General Accounting Office. It reviews all replies to GAO reports to ensure they are responsive, properly coordinated and representative of HHS policy and advises the Secretary and other officials about significant findings.

B. Audit Operations and Financial Statement Activities. This office is directed by the Assistant Inspector General for Audit Operations and Financial Statement Activities. In addition to directing this office, the Assistant Inspector General supervises the eight Regional Inspectors General for Audit Services. The office's principal functions include providing direction and oversight to OAS through its work planning and quality assurance activities; the direct-line responsibility for audits of financial statements and financial related audits, including internal audits of functional areas

within the Department; and directing field audit operations.

1. The office serves as the focal point for all financial statement and financial related audit activity within the Department and serves as the primary liaison conduit between the OIG and departmental management.

2. The office operates an internal quality assurance system that provides reasonable assurance that applicable laws, regulations, policies, procedures, standards and other requirements are followed in all audit activities performed by, or on behalf of, the Department.

3. The office evaluates audit work, including performing quality control reviews of audit reports, and develops and monitors audit work plans. It develops audit policy, procedures, standards, criteria and instructions for all audit activities performed by, on behalf of, or conforming with departmental programs, grants, contracts or operations in accordance with GAGAS and other legal, regulatory and administrative requirements.

4. The office tracks, monitors and reports on audit resolution and follow-up in accordance with OMB Circular A-50.

5. The office provides oversight for audits of governments, universities and nonprofit organizations conducted by nonfederal auditors and those under contract with the OIG (external audit resources).

6. The office coordinates with the other OIG components in developing the semiannual report to Congress.

C. Health Care Financing Audits. This office is directed by the Assistant Inspector General for Health Care Financing Audits. The office conducts audits of HCFA program operations and oversees nationwide the audits of the Medicare and Medicaid programs, their contractors, and providers of services and products. It maintains an internal quality assurance system, including periodic quality control reviews, to provide reasonable assurance that applicable laws, regulations, policies, procedures, standards and other requirements are followed in all HCFA audit activities performed by, or on behalf of, the Department.

D. Administrations of Children, Family and Aging Audits. This office is directed by the Assistant Inspector General for Administrations of Children, Family and Aging Audits. The office conducts and oversees audits of the operations and programs of the Administration for Children and Families and the Administration on Aging, as well as statewide cost allocation plans. It maintains an internal

quality assurance system, including periodic quality control reviews, to provide reasonable assurance that applicable laws, regulations, policies, procedures, standards and other requirements are followed in its audit activities.

E. Public Health Audits. This office is directed by the Assistant Inspector General for Public Health Audits. The office conducts and oversees audits of the programs and activities of the public health related agencies, including the Food and Drug Administration; the National Institutes of Health; the Health Resources and Services Administration; the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry; the Indian Health Service and the Surgeon General, as well as those colleges, universities and nonprofit organizations that receive research grants from the Federal Government. It maintains an internal quality assurance system, including periodic quality control reviews, to provide reasonable assurance that applicable laws, regulations, policies, procedures, standards and other requirements are followed in all public health related audit activities performed by, or on behalf of, the Department.

Section AFJ.00, Office of Investigations (OI)—Mission

The Office of Investigations is responsible for conducting and coordinating investigative activities related to fraud, waste, abuse and mismanagement in HHS programs and operations, including wrongdoing by applicants, grantees, or contractors, or by HHS employees in the performance of their official duties. It serves as OIG liaison to DoJ on all matters relating to investigations of HHS programs and personnel, and reports to the Attorney General when the OIG has reasonable grounds to believe Federal criminal law has been violated. It works with other investigative agencies and organizations on special projects and assignments. In support of its mission, the office carries out and maintains an internal quality assurance system. The system includes quality assessment studies and quality control reviews of OI processes and products to ensure that policies and procedures are followed effectively, and are functioning as intended.

Section AFJ.10, Office of Investigations—Organization

The Office of Investigations comprises the following components:

- A. Immediate Office.
- B. Criminal Investigations.

C. Investigations Policy and Oversight.

Section AFJ.20, Office of Investigations—Functions

A. *Immediate Office of the Deputy Inspector General for Investigations.* This office is directed by the Deputy Inspector General for Investigations who is responsible for the functions designated in the law for the position, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations. The Deputy Inspector General for Investigations supervises the Assistant Inspectors General who head the OI offices described below.

The Deputy Inspector General for Investigations is responsible to the Inspector General for carrying out the investigative mission of the OIG and for leading and providing general supervision to the OIG investigative component. The Immediate Office coordinates quality assurance studies to ensure that applicable laws, regulations, policies, procedures, standards and other requirements are followed in all investigative activities performed by, or on behalf of, the Department.

B. *Criminal Investigations.* This office is directed by the Assistant Inspector General for Criminal Investigations who supervises a headquarters policy and review staff and the Regional Inspectors General for Investigations who carry out investigative activities in their assigned geographic areas.

1. The headquarters staff assists the Deputy Inspector General for Investigations to establish investigative priorities, to evaluate the progress of investigations, and to report to the Inspector General on the effectiveness of investigative efforts. It develops and implements investigative techniques, programs, guidelines and policies. It provides programmatic expertise and issues information on new programs, procedures, regulations and statutes. It directs and coordinates the investigative field offices.

2. The headquarters staff reviews completed reports of investigations to ensure accuracy and compliance with guidelines. It issues the reports to pertinent agencies, management officials and the Secretary and recommends appropriate debarment actions, administrative sanctions, CMPs and other civil actions, or prosecution under criminal law. It identifies systemic and programmatic vulnerabilities in the Department's operations and makes recommendations for change to the appropriate managers.

3. The staff provides for the personal protection of the Secretary.

4. The field offices conduct investigations of allegations of fraud,

waste, abuse, mismanagement and violations of standards of conduct and other investigative matters within the jurisdiction of the OIG. They coordinate investigations and confer with HHS operating divisions, staff divisions, OIG counterparts and other investigative and law enforcement agencies. They prepare investigative and management improvement reports.

C. *Investigations Policy and Oversight.* This office is directed by the Assistant Inspector General for Investigations Policy and Oversight who leads outreach activities to State and local investigative agencies, and the general management functions of the Office of Investigations.

1. The office oversees State Medicaid fraud control units and is responsible for certifying and recertifying these units and for auditing their Federal funding. The office provides pertinent information from HHS records to assist Federal, State and local investigative agencies to detect, investigate and prosecute fraud. It manages the HHS Hotline to receive complaints and allegations of fraud, waste and abuse, and to refer the information for investigation, audit, program review, or other appropriate action. It coordinates with the GAO hotline and hotlines from other agencies.

2. The office maintains an automated data and management information system used by all OI managers and investigators. It provides technical expertise on computer applications for investigations and coordinates and approves investigative computer matches with other agencies.

3. The office develops general management policy for the OI. It develops and issues instructional media on detecting wrongdoing and on investigating and processing cases. The office reviews proposed legislation, regulations, policies and procedures to identify vulnerabilities and recommends modification where appropriate. It reviews investigative files in response to Privacy and Freedom of Information Act requests. It plans, develops, implements and evaluates all levels of employee training for investigations, management, support skills and other functions, and serves as OIG liaison to the Office of the Secretary for Freedom of Information and Privacy Act requests. It coordinates general management processes, e.g., compiles reports on the budget, on awards and on other personnel matters for OI as a whole; implements policies and procedures published in the OIG Administrative Manual; and processes procurement requests and other service related actions.

Dated: April 25, 1996.

June Gibbs Brown,

Inspector General.

[FR Doc. 96-11844 Filed 5-10-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4150-04-P

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Clinical Laboratory Improvement Advisory Committee (CLIAC): Meeting

In accordance with section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the following committee meeting.

Name: Clinical Laboratory Improvement Advisory Committee.

Times and Dates: 1-5 p.m., May 29, 1996; 8 a.m.-4 p.m., May 30, 1996.

Place: CDC, Auditorium B, Building 2, 1600 Clifton Road, NE., Atlanta, Georgia 30333.

Status: Open to the public, limited only by the space available.

Purpose: This committee is charged with providing scientific and technical advice and guidance to the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Assistant Secretary for Health, and the Director, CDC, regarding the need for, and the nature of, revisions to the standards under which clinical laboratories are regulated; the impact of proposed revisions to the standards; and the modification of the standards to accommodate technological advances.

Matters To Be Discussed: Agenda items include: An update on the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA), review of CLIA quality control issues discussed at the August 30-31, 1995, CLIAC meeting; and proposals for addressing these issues.

Agenda items are subject to change as priorities dictate.

Contact Person for Additional Information: John C. Ridderhof, Dr. P.H., Division of Laboratory Systems, Public Health Practice Program Office, CDC, 4770 Buford Highway, NE., M/S G-25, Atlanta, Georgia 30341-3724, telephone 404/488-7660.

Dated: May 2, 1996.

Carolyn J. Russell,

Director, Management Analysis and Services Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

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Injury Research Grant Review Committee: Meeting

In accordance with section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the following committee meeting.