

authority vested by 31 U.S.C. 321(b) and 19 U.S.C. 2072(b), and it is ordered that:

1. Samuel H. Banks, Deputy Commissioner, United States Customs Service, shall act as Commissioner of Customs until a new Commissioner of Customs who is appointed pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2071 executes the oath of office. Mr. Banks is authorized to use the title of Acting Commissioner of Customs.

2. All duties and powers carried out by the Commissioner of Customs prior to the effective date of this Order shall be carried out by the Acting Commissioner of Customs.

3. *Effective Date.* The foregoing arrangements are effective as of September 1, 1997. To the extent that any action heretofore taken consistent with this Order may require ratification, it is hereby approved and ratified.

4. *Cancellation.* This temporary Order shall terminate without any further action when a new Commissioner of Customs who is appointed pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2071 executes the oath of office.

Robert E. Rubin,

Secretary of the Treasury.

[FR Doc. 97-25737 Filed 9-26-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms

[Notice No. 97-101]

The Department of the Treasury's Odor Recognition Proficiency Standard for Explosives Detection Canines (97R-2543P)

AGENCY: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury has established an odor recognition proficiency standard for explosives detection canines. This standard includes a minimum odor recognition proficiency test which may be used by agencies employing explosives detection canines. Further testing and validation of this standard will continue for a one year period beginning on October 1, 1997 and ending on September 30, 1998. A copy of this standard is available to all interested persons.

ADDRESSES: To receive a copy of the Department of the Treasury's Odor Recognition Proficiency Standard, send a written request, on official law enforcement or government letterhead,

to: Chief, Canine Operations Unit, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, 650 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Room 6200, Washington, DC 20226.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Rhonda Bokorney, Chief, Canine Operations Unit, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, 650 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20226 (202-927-7930).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On September 30, 1998, the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act of 1997, Pub. L. 104-208, authorized the Secretary of the Treasury to establish a standard for explosives detection canines. Section 653(a) of the Act provides the following: Sec. 653. (a) Authorization.—The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to establish scientific certification standards for explosives detection canines, and shall provide, on a reimbursable basis, for the certification of explosives detection canines employed by Federal agencies, or other agencies providing explosives detection services at airports in the United States.

The Secretary of the Treasury requested the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) to develop the standard. The standard establishes a minimum Odor Recognition Proficiency Test which may be used by law enforcement agencies employing explosives detection canines. ATF solicited recommendations from other Federal law enforcement agencies employing explosives detection canines. These recommendations were incorporated into the standard.

Additionally, ATF has agreed to test this standard for validation for a one year period. This standard is available for consideration and use by law enforcement agencies. A copy of this standard is available to all interested persons.

Authority and Issuance

Authority: Sec. 653, Pub. L. 104-208, 110 Stat. 3009.

Raymond W. Kelly,

Under Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900—New]

Submission for OMB Emergency Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of Management, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

Dated: September 22, 1997.

In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C., Chapter 35), this notice announces that the Office of Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) utilizing emergency review procedures. OMB approval has been requested by September 30, 1997. A copy of this PRA submission, with applicable supporting documentation, may be obtained from Ron Taylor, Information Management Service (045A4), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8015 or FAX (202) 273-5981.

Comments must be submitted on or before September 29, 1997. Send comments and recommendations on the proposal for the collection of information to VA's OMB Desk Officer, Allison Eydt, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, (202) 395-4650.

OMB is particularly interested in comments which: (1) evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected, and (4) minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

Title and Form Numbers: Request for IRS 1099-MISC Tax Collection and Federal 1057 Socio-Economic Status, VA Form Letter 4-555.

OMB Control Number: 2900—New.

Type of Review: New Collection.

Abstract: Federal agencies are required to collect Internal Revenue Service (IRS) 1099 tax reporting and Federal 1057 socio-economic information on Federal I.M.P.A.C. (International Merchant Purchase