

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION**Sunshine Act Meeting**

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Federal Maritime Commission.

TIME AND DATE: 5:00 a.m., October 23, 1997.

PLACE: 800 North Capitol Street, NW., Room 1000, Washington, D.C.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTER(S) TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Docket No. 96-20—Port Restrictions and Requirements in the United States/Japan Trade.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Joseph C. Polking, Secretary, (202) 523-5725.

Joseph C. Polking,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-28617 Filed 10-24-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6730-01-M

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM**Sunshine Act Meeting**

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

TIME AND DATE: 11:00 a.m., Monday, November 3, 1997.

PLACE: Marriner S. Eccles Federal Reserve Board Building, 20th and C Streets, NW., Washington, DC 20551.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Status Report of the Committee on the Federal Reserve in the Payments Mechanism (Alternative Roles for the Federal Reserve in the Retail Payments System). (This item was originally announced for a closed meeting on October 20, 1997.)

2. Personnel actions (appointments, promotions, assignments, reassignments, and salary actions) involving individual Federal Reserve System employees.

3. Any items carried forward from a previously announced meeting.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Mr. Joseph R. Coyne, Assistant to the Board; (202) 452-3204. You may call (202) 452-3207, beginning at approximately 5 p.m. two business days before this meeting, for a recorded announcement of bank and bank holding company applications scheduled for the meeting.

Dated: October 24, 1997.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 97-28682 Filed 10-24-97; 2:45 pm]

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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 published in its entirety on June 5, 1997 (62 FR 30859).

The statement of organization, functions and delegations of authority reflects the original transfer of the statutory basis for the Office of Inspector General from Pub. L. 94-505 to Pub. L. 95-452 (and made under the Inspector General Act Amendments of 1988, Pub. L. 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 reflect the reassignment of functions exercised by the Office of Enforcement and Compliance to two other components. As a result, the Office of Investigations will now be responsible for the development and processing of all program exclusion actions. The Office of Counsel to the Inspector General will now be responsible for final decisions regarding administrative sanctions, including program exclusions and civil money penalties (CMPs), and for developing corporate integrity and model compliance programs, as well as the monitoring of corporate integrity agreements. These organizational changes have been made in an effort to assist the Office of Inspector General 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 six 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 Counsel to the Inspector General (AFG).

- E. Office of Audit Services (AFH).

- F. 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