

Dated: October 22, 1998.

By Order of the Federal Maritime Commission.

**Joseph C. Polking,**

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-28779 Filed 10-27-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6730-01-M

## FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

### Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*) (BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR Part 225), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a bank holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or the power to vote shares of a bank or bank holding company and all of the banks and nonbanking companies owned by the bank holding company, including the companies listed below.

The applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The application also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)). If the proposal also involves the acquisition of a nonbanking company, the review also includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act. 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 November 23, 1998.

**A. Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond** (A. Linwood Gill III, Assistant Vice President) 701 East Byrd Street, Richmond, Virginia 23261-4528:

1. *Mason-Dixon Bancshares, Inc.*, Westminster, Maryland; to merge with Sterling Bancorp, Baltimore, Maryland, and thereby indirectly acquire Sterling Bank & Trust Co., Baltimore, Maryland.

**B. Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago** (Philip Jackson, Applications Officer) 230 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60690-1413:

1. *Freedom Holdings, L.C.*, West Des Moines, Iowa; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of

the voting shares of Freedom Financial Bank, West Des Moines, Iowa.

2. *First American Credit Corporation*, Jewell, Iowa; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of Freedom Holdings, L.C., West Des Moines, Iowa, and thereby indirectly acquire Freedom Financial Bank, West Des Moines, Iowa.

3. *First American Bank Group, Ltd.*, Fort Dodge, Iowa; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of First American Credit Corporation, Jewell, Iowa, and thereby indirectly acquire Freedom Holdings, L.C., West Des Moines, Iowa, and Freedom Financial Bank, West Des Moines, Iowa.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, October 23, 1998.

**Barbara R. Lowrey,**

Associate Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 98-28899 Filed 10-27-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Blood Safety and Availability

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

The Advisory Committee on Blood Safety and Availability will meet on November 24, 1998, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The meeting will take place in the Empire Room of the Omni Shoreham Hotel, 2500 Calvert St., NW., Washington DC. 20008. The meeting will be entirely open to the public.

The purpose of the meeting will be to consider the October 8, 1998 Report of the House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight titled, Hepatitis C: Silent Epidemic, Mute Public Health Response.

Prospective speakers should notify the Executive Security of their desire to address the Committee and should plan for no more than 5 minutes of comment.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Stephen D. Nightingale, M.D., Executive Secretary, Advisory Committee on Blood Safety and Availability, Office of Public Health and Safety, Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20201. Phone (202) 690-5560, FAX (202) 690-6584 e-mail SNIGHTIN@osophs.dhhs.gov.

Dated: October 19, 1998.

**Stephen D. Nightingale,**

Executive Secretary, Advisory Committee on Blood Safety and Availability.

[FR Doc. 98-28838 Filed 10-27-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT AND HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Agency for Health Care Policy and Research

#### Notice of Senior Executive Service Performance Review Board

The Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (AHCPR) announces the appointment of members to the AHCPR Senior Executive Service (SES) Performance Review Board (PRB). This action is being taken in accordance with Title 5, U.S. Code, Section 4314(c)(4) of the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 which requires members of performance review boards be published in the **Federal Register**.

The function of the PRB is to ensure consistency, stability and objectivity in SES performance appraisals, and to make recommendations to the Administrator, AHCPR, relating to the performance of senior executives in the Agency.

The following persons will serve on the FY 1999 AHCPR SES Performance Review Board:

#### Chairperson

Lisa A. Simpson, M.B., B.Ch. Deputy Administrator, Agency for Health Care Policy and Research.

#### Members

Douglas B. Kamerow, M.D., Director, Center for Practice and Technology, Agency for Health Care Policy and Research

Gregg S. Meyer, M.D., Director, Center for Quality Measurement and Improvement, Agency for Health Care Policy and Research

William A. Robinson, M.D., Director, Center for Quality, Health Resources and Services Administration

Evelyn M. White, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human Resources, Office of the Secretary

Phyllis M. Zucker, Public Health Advisor, Immediate Office of the Administrator, Agency for Health Care Policy and Research

For further information about the AHCPR Performance Review Board, contact Mr. Jeffrey Toven, AHCPR Human Resources Management Staff, Executive Office Center, Suite 601, 2101 East Jefferson Street, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

Dated: October 15, 1998.

**John M. Eisenburg,**  
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-28781 Filed 10-27-98; 8:45 am]

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