

By Order of the Federal Maritime Commission.

Dated: December 28, 1998.

Joseph C. Polking,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-34723 Filed 12-30-98; 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 January 28, 1999.

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

1. *First Business Bancshares, Inc.*, Madison, Wisconsin; to acquire 50.05 percent of the voting shares of Fox River Valley Bancorp, Inc., Appleton, Wisconsin, and thereby indirectly acquire First Business Bank of Fox River Valley, Appleton, Wisconsin, a *de novo* bank.

2. *First DuPage Bancorp, Inc.*, Westmont, Illinois; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of First DuPage Bank, Westmont, Illinois.

3. *Fox River Valley Bancorp, Inc.*, Appleton, Wisconsin; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares First Business Bank of Fox River Valley, Appleton, Wisconsin, a *de novo* bank.

4. *First Merchants Corporation*, Muncie, Indiana; to merge with Jay Financial Corporation, Portland, Indiana, and thereby indirectly acquire First National Bank of Portland, Portland, Indiana.

5. *Standard Bancshares, Inc.*, Evergreen Park, Illinois; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of Norton Capital Corporation, Morris, Illinois, and thereby indirectly acquire Exchange Bank, Gardner, Illinois.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, December 28, 1998.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 98-34724 Filed 12-30-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

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, including the companies listed below, that engages either directly or through a subsidiary or other company, in a nonbanking activity that is listed in § 225.28 of Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.28) 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. The notice also will 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.

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 January 19, 1999.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco (Maria Villanueva, Manager of Analytical Support, Consumer

Regulation Group) 101 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94105-1579:

1. *Wells Fargo & Company*, San Francisco, California; Norwest Mortgage, Inc., Des Moines, Iowa; and Norwest Ventures, LLC, Des Moines, Iowa; to engage *de novo* through their subsidiary, MidAmerican Home Services Mortgage, LLC, West Des Moines, Iowa, in residential mortgage lending, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(1) of Regulation Y.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, December 28, 1998.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 98-34725 Filed 12-30-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Notice of a Meeting of the National Bioethics Advisory Commission (NBAC)

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is given of a meeting of the National Bioethics Advisory Commission. The Commission will address (1) research involving human embryonic stem cells and (2) the use of human biological materials in research. Some Commission members may participate by telephone conference. The meeting is open to the public and opportunities for statements by the public will be provided on January 19, 1999 from 11:45 am to 12:15 pm.

Dates/Times, and Location

January 19, 1999, 8:30 am-5:00 pm; The New Hampshire Ballroom, Sheraton City Centre Hotel, 1143 New Hampshire Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.

January 20, 1999, 8:00 am-5:00 pm; Same Location as Above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The President established the National Bioethics Advisory Commission (NBAC) on October 3, 1995 by Executive Order 12975 as amended. The mission of the NBAC is to advise and make recommendations to the National Science and Technology Council, its Chair, the President, and other entities on bioethical issues arising from the research on human biology and behavior, and from the applications of that research.

Public Participation

The meeting is open to the public with attendance limited by the