

of Coast Community Bancshares, Inc., Biloxi, Mississippi, and thereby indirectly acquire Coast Community Bank, Biloxi, Mississippi.

**B. Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas**  
(W. Arthur Tribble, Vice President) 2200 North Pearl Street, Dallas, Texas 75201-2272:

1. *Woodforest Bancshares, Inc.*, Houston, Texas, and Sun Belt Bancshares Corporation, Wilmington, Delaware; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of HB Financial Corporation, Highlands, Texas, HB Financial Corporation of Delaware, Wilmington Delaware, and Highlands State Bank, Highlands, Texas, through the merger of Woodforest Bancshares and HB Financial Corporation, Sun Belt Bancshares Corporation, and HB Financial Corporation of Delaware, and Woodforest National Bank, Houston, Texas, and Highlands Bank. These mergers will occur simultaneously.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, January 19, 1999.

**Robert deV. Frierson,**

*Associate Secretary of the Board.*

[FR Doc. 99-1493 Filed 1-21-99; 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 February 4, 1999.

**A. Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta**  
(Lois Berthaume, Vice President) 104 Marietta Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303-2713:

1. *Wrightsville Bancshares, Inc.*, Wrightsville, Georgia; to acquire WBS Financial Services, Inc., Wrightsville, Georgia, and thereby engage in insurance agency activities, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(11)(iii) of Regulation Y.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, January 15, 1999.

**Robert deV. Frierson,**

*Associate Secretary of the Board.*

[FR Doc. 99-1421 Filed 1-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

## FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

### Sunshine Act Meeting

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

**TIME AND DATE:** 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 27, 1999.

**PLACE:** Marriner S. Eccles Federal Reserve Board Building, 20th and C Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20551.

**STATUS:** Closed.

#### MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Personnel actions (appointments, promotions, assignments, reassignments, and salary actions) involving individual Federal Reserve System employees.
2. Any matters carried forward from a previously announced meeting.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Lynn S. Fox, Assistant to the Board; 202-452-3204.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** You may call 202-452-3206 beginning at approximately 5 p.m. two business days before the meeting for a recorded announcement of bank and bank holding company applications scheduled for the meeting; or you may contact the Board's Web site at <http://www.federalreserve.gov> for an electronic announcement that not only lists applications, but also indicates procedural and other information about the meeting.

Dated: January 20, 1999.

**Robert deV. Frierson,**

*Associate Secretary of the Board.*

[FR Doc. 99-1549 Filed 1-20-99; 10:47 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Bioethics Advisory Commission (NBAC) Meeting

**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 February 2, 1999 from 11:30 am to 12 noon.

Dates/times	Location
February 2, 1999, 8:00 am-5:30 pm.	Whig Hall-Senate Chamber, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey 08544.
February 3, 1999, 8:00 am-12 noon.	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 availability of space on a first come, first serve basis. Members of the public who wish to present oral statements should contact Ms. Patricia Norris by telephone, fax machine, or mail as shown below and as soon as possible at least 4 days before the meeting. The Chair will reserve time for presentations by persons requesting to speak and asks that oral statements be limited to five minutes. The order of persons wanting to make a statement will be assigned in the order in which requests are received. Individuals unable to make oral presentations can mail or fax their written comments to the NBAC staff office at least five business days prior to the meeting for distribution to the Commission and inclusion in the public record. The Commission also accepts general comments at its website at

bioethics.gov. Persons needing special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other special accommodations, should contact NBAC staff at the address or telephone number listed below as soon as possible.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Patricia Norris, National Bioethics Advisory Commission, 6100 Executive Boulevard, Suite 5B01, Rockville, Maryland 20892-7508, telephone 301-402-4242, fax number 301-480-6900.

Dated: January 15, 1999.

**Eric M. Meslin,**

*Executive Director, National Bioethics Advisory Commission.*

[FR Doc. 99-1416 Filed 1-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-17-M

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics: Meeting

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Department of Health and Human Services announces the following advisory committee meeting.

*Name:* National Committee on Vital Statistics (NCVHS).

*Times and Dates:* 9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m., February 3, 1999; 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., February 4, 1999.

*Place:* Conference Room 705A, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue S.W., Washington D.C. 20201.

*Status:* Open.

*Purpose:* The meeting will focus on a variety of health data policy and privacy issues. Department officials will update the Committee on recent activities of the HHS Data Council and the status of HHS activities in implementing the administrative simplification provisions of P.L. 104-191, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). The Committee also will be briefed on developments in the national health information infrastructure in Australia and an overview of public health surveillance in the U.S. Panel discussions are planned on data requirements for Medicare risk adjusted payments, and standardizing surveillance data for immunizations. In addition, Subcommittee breakout sessions are planned. All topics are tentative and subject to change. Please check the NCVHS website, where a detailed agenda will be posted prior to the meeting.

*Contact Person For More Information:* Substantive information as well as summaries of NCVHS meetings and a roster of committee members may be obtained by visiting the NCVHS website (<http://aspe.os.dhhs.gov/ncvhs>) where an agenda for the meeting will be posted when available. Additional information may be obtained by calling James Scanlon, NCVHS Executive Staff Director, Office of the Assistant

Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, DHHS, Room 440-D, Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201, telephone (202) 690-7100, or Marjorie S. Greenberg, Executive Secretary, NCVHS, NCHS, CDC, Room 1100, Presidential Building, 6525 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, Maryland 20782, telephone 301/436-7050.

*Note:* In the interest of security, the Department has instituted stringent procedures for entrance to the Hubert H. Humphrey Building by non-government employees. Thus, individuals without a government identification card may need to have the guard call for an escort to the meeting room.

Dated: January 14, 1999.

**James Scanlon,**

*Director, Division of Data Policy.*

[FR Doc. 99-1385 Filed 1-21-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4151-04-M

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[INFO-99-07]

#### Proposed Data Collections Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations

In compliance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects. To request more information on the proposed projects or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans and instruments, call the CDC Reports Clearance Officer on (404) 639-7090.

*Comments are invited on:* (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques for other forms of information technology. Send comments to Seleda Perryman, CDC Assistant Reports Clearance Officer, 1600 Clifton Road, MS-D24, Atlanta, GA 30333. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

## Proposed Project

*The Role of Positive and Negative Emotion in Promoting Hearing Conservation Behaviors Among Coal Miners—New—*The mission of the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is to promote "safety and health at work for all people through research and prevention." NIOSH investigates and identifies occupational safety and health hazards and conducts a variety of activities, including educational programs with workers, to help prevent work-related illness and injury.

One of the most widespread, but often overlooked, occupational hazards is noise. As a result, hearing loss is the most common occupational diseases in the United States today. More than 30 million workers are exposed to hazardous noise levels.

The risk of hearing loss is particularly high in certain occupations. Research shows that more than 90 percent of coal miners will experience moderate to significant hearing loss by the time they reach retirement. This level of hearing loss has a number of negative implications for both the affected individual and others: (1) impaired communication with family members, friends, and coworkers can result in social isolation; (2) unrelenting tinnitus (ringing in the ears) can significantly lower one's quality of life; (3) a diminished ability to monitor the work environment (including warning signals, etc.) increases the risk of accidents and further injury at the workplace; and finally, (4) there are economic costs that result from workers compensation and lower productivity.

NIOSH believes that there are two broad strategies for reducing the risk of hearing loss. First, wherever possible, engineering controls have to be implemented at the source of the hazardous noise. Second, workers have to be educated about hazardous levels of noise and what they can do to prevent hearing loss. This study falls into the latter category.

The study is required because past efforts at educating coal miners about hearing loss have had only mixed success. Hearing loss occurs without pain or obvious physical abnormalities, so it has been difficult to create a sense of urgency about this problem among workers. NIOSH has to identify new and more effective ways of promoting hearing conservation behaviors.

In this study, NIOSH proposes working with the United Mine Workers of America, and experts in health communication, to test the effectiveness of several innovative approaches to