

c. VA Form 29-389e-15 minutes.
Frequency of Response: On occasion.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 25,288.

- a. VA Form 29-389-16,993.
- b. VA Form 29-389-1-6,359.
- c. VA Form 29-389e-1,936.

Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-7316. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0128" in any correspondence.

Dated: February 7, 2002.

By direction of the Secretary.

Barbara H. Epps,

Management Analyst, Information Management Service.

[FR Doc. 02-4127 Filed 2-20-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0605]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Office of General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C., 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Office of General Counsel (OGC), Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The

PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden; it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before March 25, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE SUBMISSION CONTACT: Denise McLamb, Information Management Service (045A4), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8030, FAX (202) 273-5981 or e-mail: *denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov*. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0605."

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Title: Application for Accreditation as a Claims Agent, VA Form 21a.
OMB Control Number: 2900-0605.
Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.
Abstract: Applicants for accreditation as claims agents to represent benefit claimants before VA are required to file VA Form 21a with VA Office of General Counsel to establish initial eligibility for accreditation. The information requested includes basic identifying information, information concerning past representation, military service, employment, criminal activity and mental health and is necessary to establish that statutory and regulatory eligibility requirement; e.g., good character and reputation are met. The form further ensures that VA has the information necessary to make decisions concerning an applicant's potential eligibility for accreditation as a claims agent.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB

control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on November 8, 2001, at pages 56591 and 56592.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 15 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 45 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 20.

Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-7316. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0605" in any correspondence.

Dated: February 8, 2002.

By direction of the Secretary.

Barbara H. Epps,

Management Analyst, Information Management Service.

[FR Doc. 02-4128 Filed 2-20-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Medical Research Service Merit Review Committee, Notice of Meetings

The Department of Veterans Affairs gives notice under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., of the following meetings to be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. as indicated below:

| Subcommittee for | Date | Location |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Surgery | March 18, 2002 | Holiday Inn Central. |
| Mental Hlth & Behav Sciences | March 18-19, 2002 | Holiday Inn Central. |
| Nephrology | March 19, 2002 | Holiday Inn Central. |
| Cardiovascular Studies | March 21, 2002 | Holiday Inn Central. |
| Alcoholism & Drug Dependence | March 22, 2002 | Holiday Inn Central. |
| Epidemiology | March 22, 2002 | 1400 I St, NW, Ste 400. |
| Gastroenterology | March 25-26, 2002 | Holiday Inn Central. |
| Endocrinology | April 4-5, 2002 | Marriott Residence Inn. |
| Neurobiology-C | April 5, 2002 | Holiday Inn Central. |
| Respiration | April 5, 2002 | Holiday Inn Central. |
| General Medical Science | April 8-9, 2002 | Holiday Inn Central. |
| Hematology | April 11, 2002 | Holiday Inn Central. |
| Immunology & Dermatology | April 11, 2002 | Holiday Inn Central. |
| Oncology | April 15-16, 2002 | Marriott Residence Inn. |
| Aging and Clinical Geriatrics | April 19, 2002 | 1400 I St, NW, Ste 400. |
| Neurobiology-D | April 25-26, 2002 | Holiday Inn Central. |
| Infectious Diseases | April 29-30, 2002 | Holiday Inn Central. |
| Medical Research Service Merit Review Committee | June 6, 2002 | Marriott Residence Inn. |

The addresses of the hotels are:
Holiday Inn Central Hotel, 1501 Rhode
Island Avenue, NW, Washington, DC
20005

Marriott residence Inn Washington—
Thomas Circle, 1199 Vermont
Avenue, Washington, DC 20005

These subcommittee meetings are for
the purpose of evaluating the scientific
merit of research conducted in each
specialty by Department of Veterans
Affairs (VA) investigators working in
VA Medical Centers and Clinics.

The subcommittee meetings will be
open to the public for approximately
one hour at the start of each meeting to
discuss the general status of the
program. The remaining portion of each
subcommittee meeting will be closed to

the public for the review, discussion,
and evaluation of initial and renewal
projects.

The closed portion of the meetings
involves discussion, examination,
reference to, and oral review of site
visits, staff and consultant critiques of
research protocols and similar
documents. During this portion of the
subcommittee meetings, discussion and
recommendations will deal with
qualifications of personnel conducting
the studies, the disclosure of which
would constitute a clearly unwarranted
invasion of personal privacy, as well as
research information, the premature
disclosure of which could significantly
frustrate implementation of proposed
agency action regarding such research
projects.

As provided by subsection 10(d) of
Public Law 92-463, as amended by
Public Law 94-409, closing portions of
these subcommittee meetings is in
accordance with 5 U.S.C., 552b(c)(6)
and (9)(B). Those who plan to attend or
would like to obtain a copy of minutes
of the subcommittee meetings and
rosters of the members of the
subcommittees should contact LeRoy G.
Frey, Ph.D., Chief, Program Review
Division, Medical Research Service,
Department of Veterans Affairs,
Washington, DC, (202) 408-3630.

Dated: February 13, 2002.

Nora E. Egan,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-4135 Filed 2-20-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M