

Bank, National Association, Plano, Texas.

B. Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco (Tracy Basinger, Director, Regional and Community Bank Group) 101 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94105-1579:

1. Belvedere Capital LLC and Belvedere Capital Fund II, L.P., both of San Francisco, California; to become bank holding companies by acquiring up to 50 percent of the voting shares of Presidio Bank, San Francisco, California (in organization).

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, April 4, 2006.

Robert DeV. Frierson,
Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. E6-5103 Filed 4-6-06; 8:45 am]

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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. Additional information on all bank holding companies may be obtained from the National Information Center website at <http://www.ffcic.gov/nic/>.

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 April 24, 2006.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland (Cindy West, Manager) 1455 East Sixth Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44101-2566:

1. Kentucky Bancshares, Inc., Paris, Kentucky; to acquire Peoples Bancorp of Sandy Hook, Inc., Sandy Hook, Kentucky and thereby indirectly acquire voting shares of Peoples Secure, LLC, Lexington, Kentucky, and engage in data processing activities, pursuant to section 225.28(b)(14)(i) of Regulation Y.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, April 4, 2006.

Robert DeV. Frierson,
Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. E6-5104 Filed 4-6-06; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL RETIREMENT THRIFT INVESTMENT BOARD

Sunshine Act Notice

TIME AND DATE: 9 a.m. (EDT) April 17, 2006.

PLACE: 4th Floor Conference Room, 1250 H Street, NW., Washington, DC.

STATUS: Parts will be open to the public and parts closed to the public.

Matters to Be Considered

Parts Open to the Public

1. Approval of the minutes of the March 20, 2006, Board member meeting.
2. Thrift Savings Plan activity report by the Executive Director.
3. Quarterly Reports:
- Investment Policy Report [Board Vote].
- Performance Report.
- Vendor Financial Report.

Parts Closed to the Public

5. Internal personnel matters.
6. Procurement matters.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Thomas J. Trabucco, Director, Office of External Affairs. (202) 942-1640.

Dated: April 5, 2006.

Thomas K. Emswiler,
Acting Secretary to the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board.

[FR Doc. 06-3392 Filed 4-5-06; 11:42 am]

BILLING CODE 6760-01-P

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

Consumer Benefits and Harms: How Best to Distinguish Aggressive, Pro-Consumer Competition From Business Conduct To Attain or Maintain a Monopoly

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission and U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division.

ACTION: Notice of Public Hearings and Opportunity for Comment.

SUMMARY: The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) will hold a series of public Hearings to explore how best to identify anticompetitive exclusionary conduct for purposes of antitrust enforcement under section 2 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. 2. Among other things, the Hearings will examine whether and when specific types of conduct that potentially implicate section 2 are procompetitive or benign, and when they may harm competition and consumer welfare.

The Agencies expect to focus on legal doctrines and jurisprudence, economic research, and business and consumer experiences. To begin, the Agencies are soliciting public comment from lawyers, economists, the business community, consumer groups, academics (including business historians), and other interested parties on two general subjects: (1) The legal and economic principles relevant to the application of section 2, including the administrability of current or potential antitrust rules for section 2, and (2) the types of business practices that the Agencies should examine in the upcoming Hearings, including examples of real-world conduct that potentially raise issues under section 2. With respect to the Agencies' request for examples of real-world conduct, the Agencies are soliciting discussions of the business reasons for, and the actual or likely competitive effects of, such conduct, including actual or likely efficiencies and the theoretical underpinnings that inform the decision of whether the conduct had or has pro-or anticompetitive effects. The Agencies will solicit additional submissions about the topics to be covered at the individual Hearings at the time that each Hearing is announced.

The Agencies encourage submissions from business persons from a variety of unregulated and regulated markets, recognizing that market participants can offer unique insight into how competition works and that the implications of various business practices may differ depending on the industry context and market structure. The Agencies seek this practical input to provide a real-world foundation of knowledge from which to draw as the Hearings progress. Respondents are encouraged to respond on the basis of their actual experiences.

The goal of these Hearings is to promote dialogue, learning, and consensus building among all interested parties with respect to the appropriate legal analysis of conduct under section 2 of the Sherman Act, both for purposes