Board, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The applications 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 (12 U.S.C. 1843). Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States. Additional information on all bank holding companies may be obtained from the National Information Center website at www.ffiec.gov/nic/.

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 September 14, 2010.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
(Glenda Wilson, Community Affairs Officer) P.O. Box 442, St. Louis, Missouri 63166–2034:
1. Benefit Financial Group, Inc., Fort Smith, Arkansas; to become a bank holding company upon the conversion of its subsidiary bank, Benefit Bank, Fort Smith, Arkansas, from a federally chartered savings institution to a state chartered bank.


Robert deV. Frier son,
Deputy Secretary of the Board.

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GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Maximum Per Diem Rates for the Continental United States (CONUS)

AGENCY: Office of Governmentwide Policy (OGP), General Services Administration (GSA).

ACTION: Notice of Per Diem Bulletin 11–01, Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 Continental United States (CONUS) per diem rates.

SUMMARY: The General Services Administration’s (GSA) annual per diem review has resulted in lodging and meal allowance changes for locations within CONUS to provide for the reimbursement of Federal employees’ expenses covered by per diem. This Per Diem Bulletin updates the maximum per diem amounts in existing per diem localities and updates the standard CONUS rate. The CONUS per diem rates prescribed in Bulletin 11–01 may be found at http://www.gsa.gov/perd iem. GSA bases the lodging per diem rates on the average daily rate that the lodging industry reports to an independent organization. The use of such data in the per diem rate setting process enhances the government’s ability to obtain policy-compliant lodging where it is needed. In conjunction with the annual lodging study, GSA identified five new non-standard areas (NSAs): West Des Moines, Iowa (Dallas County); Queen Anne County, Maryland; Moab, Utah (Grand County); Richland, Washington (Benton County); and Berkeley County, West Virginia.

If a per diem rate is insufficient to meet necessary expenses in any given location, Federal executive agencies can request that GSA review that location. Please review numbers five and six of GSA’s per diem Frequently Asked Questions at (http://www.gsa.gov/ per diemfaqs) for more information on the special review process.

In addition, the Federal Travel Regulation allows for actual expense reimbursement as directed in § 301–11.306 through 301–11.309. GSA may begin asking agencies for data related to their use of actual expense approvals; if so, more information will be forthcoming.

DATES: This notice is effective October 1, 2010, and applies for travel performed on or after October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For clarification of content, contact Ms. Jill Denning, Office of Governmentwide Policy, Office of Travel, Transportation, and Asset Management, at (202) 208–7642, or by e-mail at travelpolicy@gsa.gov. Please cite Notice of Per Diem Bulletin 11–01.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

After analyzing recent lodging data, GSA determined that lodging rates for certain localities do not adequately reflect the current lodging markets. GSA used the same lodging rate setting methodology for establishing the FY 2011 per diem rates as when establishing the FY 2010 rates.

GSA issues and publishes the CONUS per diem rates, formerly published in Appendix A to 41 CFR Chapter 301, solely on the Internet at http://www.gsa.gov/perd iem. This process, implemented in 2003, ensures more timely changes in per diem rates established by GSA for Federal employees on official travel within CONUS. Notices published periodically in the Federal Register, such as this one, now constitute the only notification of revisions in CONUS per diem rates to agencies.


Craig Flynn,
Assistant Deputy Associate Administrator.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Agency Information Collection Request; 60-Day Public Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, HHS.

In compliance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of the Secretary (OS), Department of Health and Human Services, is publishing the following summary of a proposed information collection request for public comment. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any of the following subjects: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency’s functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden. To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed paperwork collections referenced above, e-mail your request, including your address, phone number, OMB number, and OS document identifier, to Sherette.Fanncoleman@hhs.gov, or call the Reports Clearance Office on (202) 690–6162. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collections must be directed to the OS Paperwork Clearance Officer at the above e-mail address within 60 days.


Abstract: Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is requesting an extension by Office of Management and Budget for the collection of information to specifically comply with the requirements in Title 19 of the Social Security Act at 1903(q) and 42