

agency's Preliminary Report on "Auto Theft and Recovery Effects of the Anti-Car Theft Act of 1992 and the Motor Vehicle Theft Law Enforcement Act of 1984", (Docket 97-042; Notice 1), showed that between MYs 1987 and 1993, the Chevrolet Camaro and Pontiac Firebird vehicle lines experienced a significant theft rate reduction after installation of a Pass-Key like anti-theft device as standard equipment on the vehicle lines.

GM also stated that the theft data, as provided by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and compiled by the agency, show that theft rates are lower for exempted GM models equipped with the PASS-Key systems than the theft rates for earlier models with similar appearance and construction. Based on the performance of the PASS-Key, PASS-Key II and PASS-Key III devices on other GM models, and the advanced technology utilized in PASS-Key III+ and the Keyless Access Device, GM believes that these devices will be more effective in deterring theft than the parts-marking requirements of 49 CFR part 541.

Additionally, GM stated that the PASS-Key III+ is installed as standard equipment on the Cadillac CTS vehicle line. GM was granted an exemption from the parts-marking requirements by the agency for the Cadillac CTS vehicle line beginning with the 2011 MY (See 74 FR 62385, November 27, 2009). The average theft rate using 3 MYs theft data (MYs 2007-2009) provided by the agency for the Cadillac CTS vehicle line is 1.5882.

GM believes that these devices will be more effective in deterring theft than the parts-marking requirements and that the agency should find that inclusion of the PASS-Key III+ device on the Buick Verano vehicle line is sufficient to qualify it for full exemption from the parts-marking requirements.

GM's proposed device lacks an audible or visible alarm. Therefore, this device cannot perform one of the functions listed in 49 CFR 543.6(a)(3), that is, to call attention to unauthorized attempts to enter or move the vehicle. Based on comparison of the reduction in the theft rates of Chevrolet Corvettes using a passive theft deterrent system along with an audible/visible alarm system to the reduction in theft rates for the Chevrolet Camaro and the Pontiac Firebird models equipped with a passive theft deterrent device without an alarm, GM finds that the lack of an alarm or attention-attracting device does not compromise the theft deterrent performance of a device such as PASS-Key III+ system. Theft data have

indicated a decline in theft rates for vehicle lines equipped with comparable devices that have received full exemptions from the parts-marking requirements. In these instances, the agency has concluded that the lack of an audible or visible alarm has not prevented these anti-theft devices from being effective protection against theft.

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 33106 and 49 CFR 543.7(b), the agency grants a petition for exemption from the parts-marking requirements of Part 541, either in whole or in part, if it determines that, based upon substantial evidence, the standard equipment anti-theft device is likely to be as effective in reducing and deterring motor vehicle theft as compliance with the parts-marking requirements of Part 541. The agency finds that GM has provided adequate reasons for its belief that the anti-theft device for the Buick Verano vehicle line is likely to be as effective in reducing and deterring motor vehicle theft as compliance with the parts-marking requirements of the Theft Prevention Standard (49 CFR part 541). This conclusion is based on the information GM provided about its device.

The agency concludes that the device will provide four of the five types of performance listed in § 543.6(a)(3): Promoting activation, preventing defeat or circumvention of the device by unauthorized persons, preventing operation of the vehicle by unauthorized entrants and ensuring the reliability and durability of the device.

Based on the evidence submitted by GM, the agency believes that the anti-theft device for the Buick Verano vehicle line is likely to be as effective in reducing and deterring motor vehicle theft as compliance with the parts-marking requirements of the Theft Prevention Standard (49 CFR part 541).

For the foregoing reasons, the agency hereby grants in full GM's petition for exemption for the Buick Verano vehicle line from the parts-marking requirements of 49 CFR part 541, beginning with the 2013 model year vehicles. The agency notes that 49 CFR part 541, Appendix A-1, identifies those lines that are exempted from the Theft Prevention Standard for a given model year. 49 CFR 543.7(f) contains publication requirements incident to the disposition of all Part 543 petitions. Advanced listing, including the release of future product nameplates, the beginning model year for which the petition is granted and a general description of the anti-theft device is necessary in order to notify law enforcement agencies of new vehicle lines exempted from the parts marking

requirements of the Theft Prevention Standard.

If GM decides not to use the exemption for this line, it shall formally notify the agency. If such a decision is made, the line must be fully marked according to the requirements under 49 CFR 541.5 and 541.6 (marking of major component parts and replacement parts).

NHTSA notes that if GM wishes in the future to modify the device on which this exemption is based, the company may have to submit a petition to modify the exemption. Section 543.7(d) states that a Part 543 exemption applies only to vehicles that belong to a line exempted under this part and equipped with the anti-theft device on which the line's exemption is based. Further, § 543.9(c)(2) provides for the submission of petitions "to modify an exemption to permit the use of an anti-theft device similar to but differing from the one specified in that exemption."

The agency wishes to minimize the administrative burden that § 543.9(c)(2) could place on exempted vehicle manufacturers and itself. The agency did not intend in drafting Part 543 to require the submission of a modification petition for every change to the components or design of an anti-theft device. The significance of many such changes could be *de minimis*. Therefore, NHTSA suggests that if the manufacturer contemplates making any changes, the effects of which might be characterized as *de minimis*, it should consult the agency before preparing and submitting a petition to modify.

**Authority:** 49 U.S.C. 33106; delegation of authority at 49 CFR 1.50.

Issued on: April 24, 2012.

**Christopher J. Bonanti,**

*Associate Administrator for Rulemaking.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Fiscal Service

#### **Surety Companies Acceptable On Federal Bonds: Pacific Employers Insurance Company**

**AGENCY:** Financial Management Service, Fiscal Service, Department of the Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This is Supplement No. 18 to the Treasury Department Circular 570, 2011 Revision, published July 1, 2011, at 76 FR 38892.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Surety Bond Branch at (202) 874-6850.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A Certificate of Authority as an acceptable surety on Federal bonds is hereby issued under 31 U.S.C. 9305 to the following company: Pacific Employers Insurance Company (NAIC #22748). *Business Address:* 436 Walnut Street, P.O. Box 1000, Philadelphia, PA 19106. *Phone:* (215) 640-1000. *Underwriting Limitation b/:* \$104,839,000. *Surety Licenses c/:* AL, AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, VI, WA, WV, WI, WY. *Incorporated In:* Pennsylvania.

Federal bond-approving officers should annotate their reference copies of the Treasury Circular 570 ("Circular"), 2011 Revision, to reflect this addition.

Certificates of Authority expire on June 30th each year, unless revoked prior to that date. The Certificates are subject to subsequent annual renewal as long as the companies remain qualified (see 31 CFR part 223). A list of qualified companies is published annually as of July 1st in the Circular, which outlines details as to the underwriting limitations, areas in which companies are licensed to transact surety business, and other information.

The Circular may be viewed and downloaded through the Internet at <http://www.fms.treas.gov/c570>.

Questions concerning this Notice may be directed to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service, Financial Accounting and Services Division, Surety Bond Branch, 3700 East-West Highway, Room 6F01, Hyattsville, MD 20782.

Dated: April 10, 2012.

**Laura Carrico,**

*Director, Financial Accounting and Services Division.*

[FR Doc. 2012-10128 Filed 4-27-12; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Fiscal Service

#### **Surety Companies Acceptable On Federal Bonds: Endurance American Insurance Company**

**AGENCY:** Financial Management Service, Fiscal Service, Department of the Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This is Supplement No. 17 to the Treasury Department Circular 570, 2011 Revision, published July 1, 2011, at 76 FR 38892.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Surety Bond Branch at (202) 874-6850.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A Certificate of Authority as an acceptable surety on Federal bonds is hereby issued under 31 U.S.C. 9305 to the following company: Endurance American Insurance Company (NAIC #10641). *Business Address:* 333 Westchester Avenue, White Plains, New York 10604. *Phone:* (914) 468-8000. *Underwriting Limitation b/:* \$23,566,000. *Surety Licenses c/:* AL, AK, AZ, AR, CO, DE, DC, GA, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, MD, MA, MI, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WV, WI, WY. *Incorporated In:* Delaware.

Federal bond-approving officers should annotate their reference copies of the Treasury Circular 570 ("Circular"), 2011 Revision, to reflect this addition.

Certificates of Authority expire on June 30th each year, unless revoked prior to that date. The Certificates are subject to subsequent annual renewal as long as the companies remain qualified (see 31 CFR part 223). A list of qualified companies is published annually as of July 1st in the Circular, which outlines details as to the underwriting limitations, areas in which companies are licensed to transact surety business, and other information.

The Circular may be viewed and downloaded through the Internet at <http://www.fms.treas.gov/c570>.

Questions concerning this Notice may be directed to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service, Financial Accounting and Services Division, Surety Bond Branch, 3700 East-West Highway, Room 6F01, Hyattsville, MD 20782.

Dated: April 10, 2012.

**Laura Carrico,**

*Director, Financial Accounting and Services Division.*

[FR Doc. 2012-10138 Filed 4-27-12; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Office of Foreign Assets Control

#### **Unblocking of Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons Pursuant to Executive Order 12978**

**AGENCY:** Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control ("OFAC") is publishing the

names of nine individuals and three entities whose property and interests in property have been unblocked pursuant to Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995, "Blocking Assets and Prohibiting Transactions With Significant Narcotics Traffickers".

**DATES:** The unblocking and removal from the list of Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons ("SDN List") of the nine individuals and three entities identified in this notice whose property and interests in property were blocked pursuant to Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995, is effective on April 19, 2012.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Assistant Director, Sanctions Compliance & Evaluation, Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Washington, DC 20220, Tel: (202) 622-2490.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Electronic and Facsimile Availability**

This document and additional information concerning OFAC are available from OFAC's Web site ([www.treas.gov/ofac](http://www.treas.gov/ofac)) or via facsimile through a 24-hour fax-on demand service at (202) 622-0077.

##### **Background**

On October 21, 1995, the President, invoking the authority, *inter alia*, of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701-1706) ("IEEPA"), issued Executive Order 12978 (60 FR 54579, October 24, 1995) (the "Order"). In the Order, the President declared a national emergency to deal with the threat posed by significant foreign narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia and the harm that they cause in the United States and abroad.

Section 1 of the Order blocks, with certain exceptions, all property and interests in property that are in the United States, or that hereafter come within the United States or that are or hereafter come within the possession or control of United States persons, of: (1) The foreign persons listed in an Annex to the Order; (2) any foreign person determined by the Secretary of Treasury, in consultation with the Attorney General and the Secretary of State: (a) To play a significant role in international narcotics trafficking centered in Colombia; or (b) to materially assist in, or provide financial or technological support for or goods or services in support of, the narcotics trafficking activities of persons designated in or pursuant to the Order; and (3) persons determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, in