

which is staffed by contracting officers and other acquisition professionals. As such, CPO staff has the required technical knowledge to handle debarment and suspension referrals and is in the best position to learn of matters that may warrant debarment and/or suspension. Moreover, CPO is the first point of contact for Office of Inspector General (OIG) personnel and Contracting Officer's Representatives, who have direct knowledge of any problems with contractor conduct and/or performance. Thus, individuals—including OPM employees and members of the public—who believe that there may be grounds to debar or suspend a contractor should contact CPO and provide them with all relevant information. Whenever CPO learns of information that indicates there may be grounds for debarment or suspending a contractor, CPO will gather appropriate information and refer the matter to the debarment/suspension official if warranted. All such referrals will include a recommendation by the OPM Suspension and Debarment Committee (SDC) as to a proposed course of action. Likewise, CPO will have responsibility for recommending to the Director or other designated Debarment Official whether or not to continue current contracts with, solicit offers from, award contracts to, or consent to subcontracts with a contractor who is debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment.

Given its central role in OPM's procurement process, CPO, in consultation with OPM's Office of General Counsel, will also be responsible for establishing written procedures that address the key aspects of OPM's debarment/suspension program.

Accordingly, the OPM proposes to adopt the following policy and incorporate it into its contracting policies:

OPM will follow the policies and procedures contained at FAR Subpart 9.4—Debarment, Suspension, and Ineligibility. OPM will not solicit offers from, award contracts to, or consent to subcontracts with contractors who are listed on the Excluded Parties List (SAM/EPLS), except as otherwise provided for in FAR Subpart 9.4. OPM will report to the SAM/EPLS any contractor OPM debars, suspends, or proposes for debarment. Such action will have Government-wide reciprocity. Notwithstanding the debarment, suspension, or proposed debarment of a contractor, OPM may continue contracts or subcontracts in existence at the time the contractor was debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment, unless the

Director or other designated Debarment Official directs otherwise.

The Director or a designee will serve as the debarment official and suspending official (debarment/suspension official). The Director or designee will also decide (1) whether to solicit offers from, award contracts to, or consent to subcontracts with contractors who have been debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment, and (2) whether to terminate a current contract or subcontract in existence at the time the contractor was debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment.

CPO will have primary responsibility for investigating and submitting potential debarment/suspension actions to the SDC, which will have the responsibility for reviewing and referring actions to the debarment/suspension official for consideration. As such, any person who believes that there may be grounds to debar or suspend a person or entity from contracting with OPM should contact CPO and provide them with all relevant information.

CPO, in conjunction with the SDC, will also have responsibility for recommending to the Director or designee whether or not to continue current contracts with, solicit offers from, award contracts to, or consent to subcontracts with a contractor who is debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment. In consultation with the Office of General Counsel, CPO will establish and maintain written procedures for:

(1) The prompt reporting, investigation, and referral to the debarment/suspension official of matters appropriate for that official's consideration. All debarment/suspension referrals shall include a recommendation by the SDC as to a proposed course of action;

(2) The debarment decision-making process, which shall afford the contractor (and any specifically named affiliates) an opportunity to submit, in person, in writing, or through a representative, information and argument in opposition to the proposed debarment;

(3) The suspension decision-making process, which shall afford the contractor (and any specifically named affiliates) an opportunity, following the imposition of suspension, to submit, in person, in writing, or through presentation, information and argument in opposition to the suspension;

(4) Recommending to the Director or designee whether or not to solicit offers from, award contracts to, or consent to subcontracts with a contractor who is

debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment; and

(5) Recommending to the Director or designee whether or not to continue current contracts with a contractor or subcontractor who is debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment.

OPM's Office of General Counsel will review for legal sufficiency:

(1) Referrals by CPO and SDC to the debarment/suspension official;

(2) Recommendations by CPO to the Director or designee that OPM solicit offers from, award contracts to, or consent to subcontracts with a contractor who is listed in the SAM/EPLS as debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment;

(3) Recommendations by CPO and SDC to the Director or designee to terminate a current contract because a contractor or subcontractor was subsequently debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment; and

(4) Notices of proposed debarment, notices of suspension, or any other communication to a contractor regarding that contractor's potential or actual suspension or debarment.

U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

John Berry,

Director.

[FR Doc. 2013-03962 Filed 2-20-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-39-P

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Hispanic Council on Federal Employment

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Scheduling of Council Meetings.

SUMMARY: The Hispanic Council on Federal Employment will hold its 2013 Council meetings on the dates and location shown below. The Council is an advisory committee composed of representatives from Hispanic organizations and senior government officials. Along with its other responsibilities, the Council shall advise the Director of the Office of Personnel Management on matters involving the recruitment, hiring, and advancement of Hispanics in the Federal workforce. The Council is co-chaired by the Chief of Staff of the Office of Personnel Management and the Chair of the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda (NHLEA).

The meeting is open to the public. Please contact the Office of Personnel Management at the address shown below if you wish to present material to the Council at any of the meetings. The

manner and time prescribed for presentations may be limited, depending upon the number of parties that express interest in presenting information.

DATES:

March 7, 2013 from 2 p.m.–4 p.m.
 April 25, 2013 from 2 p.m.–4 p.m.
 June 27, 2013 from 2 p.m.–4 p.m.
 August 29, 2013 from 2 p.m.–4 p.m.
 October 31, 2013 from 2 p.m.–4 p.m.
 December 12, 2013 from 2 p.m.–4 p.m.

Location: U.S. Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E St. NW., Washington, DC 20415.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Veronica E. Villalobos, Director for the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E St. NW., Suite 5H35, Washington, DC 20415. Phone (202) 606–0020 Fax (202) 606–2183 or email at veronica.villalobos@opm.gov.

U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

John Berry,

Director.

[FR Doc. 2013–03961 Filed 2–20–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325–46–P

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. CP2013–1; Order No. 1659]

New Postal Product; Negotiated Service Agreement

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission is noticing a recent Postal Service filing concerning an amendment to the existing Express Mail & Priority Mail Contract 11 Negotiated Service Agreement. This notice informs the public of the filing, invites public comment, and takes other administrative steps.

DATES: *Comments are due:* February 21, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically via the Commission's Filing Online system at <http://www.prc.gov>. Those who cannot submit comments electronically should contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section by telephone for advice on filing alternatives.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen L. Sharfman, General Counsel, at 202–789–6820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Table of Contents**

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- II. Contents of Filing

III. Ordering Paragraphs**I. Introduction**

On February 13, 2013, the Postal Service filed notice that it has agreed to an amendment to the existing Express Mail & Priority Mail Contract 11 subject to this docket.¹ The Postal Service includes one attachment in support of its Notice:

- Attachment A—a redacted copy of the amendment to the existing Express Mail & Priority Mail Contract 11.

The Postal Service also filed the unredacted amendment under seal. It asserts that the “supporting financial documentation and financial certification initially provided in this docket remain applicable.” *Id.* at 1. It also seeks to incorporate by reference the Application for Non-Public Treatment originally filed in this docket for the protection of customer-identifying information that it has filed under seal. *Id.*

The amendment changes the definition of the term “Contract Quarters” to provide that the first contract quarter begins on October 1 rather than July 1. *Id.* Attachment A at 1. The Postal Service intends for the amendment to become effective on the day after the date that the Commission completes its review of the Notice. *Id.*

II. Notice of Filings

Interested persons may submit comments on whether the changes presented in the Postal Service's Notice are consistent with the policies of 39 U.S.C. 3632, 3633, or 3642, 39 CFR 3015.5, and 39 CFR part 3020, subpart B. Comments are due no later than February 21, 2013. The public portions of these filings can be accessed via the Commission's Web site (<http://www.prc.gov>).

The Commission appoints Lawrence E. Fenster to serve as Public Representative in this docket.

III. Ordering Paragraphs

It is ordered:

1. The Commission shall review the Notice of United States Postal Service of Amendment to Express Mail & Priority Mail Contract 11 with Portions Filed Under Seal, filed on February 13, 2013 in Docket No. CP2013–1.

2. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, Lawrence E. Fenster is appointed to serve as an officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in this proceeding.

¹ Notice of United States Postal Service of Amendment to Express Mail & Priority Mail Contract 11, With Portions Filed Under Seal, February 13, 2013 (Notice).

3. Comments by interested persons in these proceedings are due no later than February 21, 2013.

4. The Secretary shall arrange for publication of this order in the **Federal Register**.

By the Commission.

Ruth Ann Abrams,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2013–03900 Filed 2–20–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710–FW–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

Upon Written Request Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Investor Education and Advocacy, Washington, DC 20549–0213.

Extension:

Rule 17a–5; SEC File No. 270–155, OMB Control No. 3235–0123.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) is soliciting comments on the existing collection of information provided for in Rule 17a–5 (17 CFR 240.17a–5), under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a *et seq.*). The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget (“OMB”) for extension and approval.

Rule 17a–5 is the basic financial reporting rule for brokers and dealers.¹ The Rule requires the filing of Form X–17A–5, the Financial and Operational Combined Uniform Single Report (“FOCUS Report”), which was the result of years of study and comments by representatives of the securities industry through advisory committees and through the normal rule proposal methods. The FOCUS Report was designed to eliminate the overlapping regulatory reports required by various self-regulatory organizations and the Commission and to reduce reporting burdens as much as possible. The Rule also requires the filing of an annual audited report of financial statements.

The FOCUS Report consists of: (1) Part I, which is a monthly report that must be filed by brokers or dealers that clear transactions or carry customer securities; (2) one of three alternative quarterly reports: Part II, which must be

¹ Rule 17a–5(c) requires a broker or dealer to furnish certain of its financial information to customers and is subject to a separate PRA filing (OMB Control Number 3235–0199).