

Commission rules require that manufacturers of certain radio frequency (RF) equipment file FCC Form 731 to obtain approval prior to marketing their equipment. Manufacturers may then market their RF equipment based on a showing of compliance with technical standards established in the FCC Rules for each type of equipment or device operated under the applicable FCC Rule part. The following types of equipment are regulated (a) the RF equipment is regulated under certain rule sections of 47 CFR Part 15 and Part 18, and (b) in addition, rules governing certain RF equipment operating in the licensed services also require equipment authorization as established in the procedural rules in 47 CFR Part 2. The RF equipment manufacturers comply with the information collection requirements by (a) Filing FCC Form 731 electronically with the Commission, or (b) Submitting the information to a Telecommunications Certification Body (TCB), which acts on behalf of the FCC to issue grants of certification and may issue grants more expeditiously than the FCC. The TCBs have flexibility in the format in which they require the collection of information (i) TCBs may require applicants to submit the required information in FCC Form 731 format or in another format selected by the TCB, but (ii) whatever the information collection method, the information required is governed by the procedural rules in 47 CFR Part 2 and a showing of compliance with the FCC technical standards for the specific type of equipment. RF manufacturer applicants for equipment certification may also request "expedited authorization" to market their equipment by: (a) Choosing to pay the fee levied by a TCB, and (b) submitting their request to a TCB in order for expedited authorization to market. The TCB processes the RF equipment manufacturer's application as follows: (i) the TCB receives and reviews the RF manufacturer's information submission/application; and (ii) the TCB enters the information into the FCC Equipment Authorization System database using an interface that provides the TCB with the tools to issue a standardized Grant of Equipment Authorization. Whichever method the RF manufacturers choose to submit their information-via either the FCC on FCC Form 731 or the TCB, FCC Rules require that applicants supply the following data: (a) demographic information including grantee name and address, contact information, etc; (b) information specific to the equipment including FCC Identifier,

equipment class, technical specifications, etc; and (c) attachments that demonstrate compliance with FCC Rules that may include any combination of the following based on the applicable Rule parts for the equipment for which authorization is requested: (1) Identification of equipment (47 CFR 2.925); (2) attestation statements that may be required for specific equipments; (3) external photos of the equipment for which authorization is requested; (4) block diagram of the device; (5) schematics; (6) test report; (7) test setup photos; (8) Users Manual; (9) Internal Photos; (10) Parts List/Tune Up Information; (11) RF Exposure Information; (12) Operational Description; (13) Cover Letters; and, (14) Software Defined Radio/Cognitive Radio Files.

In general, an applicant's submission is as follows: (a) FCC Form 731 includes approximately two pages covering the demographic and equipment identification information; and (b) applicants must supply additional documentation and other information, as described above, demonstrating conformance with FCC Rules, which may range from 100–1000 pages. The supplemental information is essential to control potential interference to radio communications, which the FCC may use, as is necessary, to investigate complaints of harmful interference. In response to new technologies and in allocating spectrum, the Commission may establish new technical operating standards: (a) RF equipment manufacturers must meet the new standards to receive an equipment authorization, and (b) RF equipment manufacturers must still comply with the Commission's requirements in FCC Form 731 and demonstrate compliance as required by 47 CFR Part 2 of FCC Rules. Thus, this information collection applies to a variety of RF equipment: (a) that is currently manufactured, (b) that may be manufactured in the future, and (c) that operates under varying technical standards. On July 8, 2004, the Commission adopted a *Report and Order*, Modification of Parts 2 and 15 of the Commission's Rules for Unlicensed Devices and Equipment Approval, ET Docket No. 03–201, FCC 04–165. The change requires that all paper filings required in 47 CFR Sections 2.913, 2.926(c), 2.929(c), and 2.929(d) of the rules are outdated and now must be filed electronically via the Internet on FCC Form 731. The Commission believes that electronic filing speeds up application processing and supports the Commission in further streamlining to reduce cost and increase efficiency.

Information on the procedures for electronically filing equipment authorization applications can be obtained from the Commission's rules, and from the Internet at: [http://transition.fcc.gov/oet/ea/ea\\_app\\_info.html](http://transition.fcc.gov/oet/ea/ea_app_info.html).

Federal Communications Commission.

**Marlene H. Dortch,**

*Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Office of Managing Director.*

[FR Doc. 2013–29872 Filed 12–16–13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6712–01–P**

## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

### **National Institutes of Health**

#### **National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, Interagency Pain Research Coordinating Committee; Call for Committee Membership Nominations**

The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) has created the Interagency Pain Research Coordinating Committee and is seeking nominations for this committee. As specified in Public Law 111–148 ("Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act") the Committee will: (a) Develop a summary of advances in pain care research supported or conducted by the Federal agencies relevant to the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of pain and diseases and disorders associated with pain; (b) identify critical gaps in basic and clinical research on the symptoms and causes of pain; (c) make recommendations to ensure that the activities of the National Institutes of Health and other Federal agencies are free of unnecessary duplication of effort; (d) make recommendations on how best to disseminate information on pain care; and (e) make recommendations on how to expand partnerships between public entities and private entities to expand collaborative, cross-cutting research.

Membership on the committee will include six (6) non-Federal members from among scientists, physicians, and other health professionals and six (6) non-Federal members of the general public who are representatives of leading research, advocacy, and service organizations for individuals with pain-related conditions. Members will serve overlapping three year terms. It is anticipated that the committee will meet at least once a year.

The Department strives to ensure that the membership of HHS Federal advisory committees is fairly balanced in terms of points of view represented and the committee's function. Every

effort is made to ensure that the views of all ethnic and racial groups and people with disabilities are represented on HHS Federal advisory committees and, therefore, the Department encourages nominations of qualified candidates from these groups. The Department also encourages geographic diversity in the composition of the Committee. Appointment to this Committee shall be made without discrimination on the basis of age, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability, and cultural, religious, or socioeconomic status.

The Department is soliciting nominations for three non-federal members from among scientists, physicians, and other health professionals and for two non-federal members of the general public who are representatives of leading research, advocacy, and service organizations for people with pain-related conditions. These candidates will be considered to fill positions opened through completion of member terms. Nominations are due by COB, January 22, 2014, and should be sent to Linda Porter, Ph.D., NINDS/NIH, 31 Center Drive, Room 8A03, Bethesda, MD 20892, [porterl@ninds.nih.gov](mailto:porterl@ninds.nih.gov) by either USPS mail or email. Nominations should include contact information, and a current curriculum vitae or resume.

Dated: December 5, 2013.

**Story C. Landis,**

*Director, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, National Institutes of Health.*

[FR Doc. 2013-29869 Filed 12-16-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

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**FEDERAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS EXAMINATION COUNCIL**

[Docket No. FFIEC-2013-0002]

**Social Media: Consumer Compliance Risk Management Guidance**

**AGENCY:** Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC).

**ACTION:** Notice; final guidance.

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**SUMMARY:** The Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC), on behalf of its members, is issuing this final supervisory guidance entitled "Social Media: Consumer Compliance Risk Management Guidance" (Guidance). The Guidance is being published after consideration of comments received from the public. The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC); the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Board); the Federal Deposit Insurance

Corporation (FDIC); the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA); and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) (collectively, the Agencies) will use it as supervisory guidance for the institutions that they supervise, and the State Liaison Committee (SLC) of the FFIEC encourages state regulators to adopt the Guidance. Accordingly, financial institutions are expected to use the Guidance in their efforts to ensure that their policies and procedures provide oversight and controls commensurate with the risks posed by their involvement with social media.

**DATES:** Effective immediately.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

**OCC:** Eric Gott, Compliance Specialist, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 400 7th Street SW., Washington DC 20219, (202) 649-7181.

**Board:** Lanette Meister, Senior Supervisory Consumer Financial Services Analyst, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 20th and C Streets NW., Washington, DC 20551, (202) 452-2705.

**FDIC:** Elizabeth Khalil, Senior Policy Analyst, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street NW., Room F-6016, Washington, DC 20429-0002, (202) 898-3534.

**NCUA:** Robert J. Polcyn, Consumer Compliance Policy and Outreach Analyst, National Credit Union Administration, 1775 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, (703) 664-3916.

**CFPB:** Edna Boateng, Senior Consumer Financial Protection Analyst, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street NW., Washington, DC 20552, (202) 435-7697.

**SLC:** Matthew Lambert, Policy Counsel, Conference of State Bank Supervisors, 1129 20th Street NW., 9th Floor, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 407-7130.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background Information**

The FFIEC is publishing this Guidance to address the applicability of federal consumer protection and compliance laws, regulations, and policies to activities conducted via social media by banks, savings associations, and credit unions, as well as by nonbank entities supervised by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) (collectively, financial institutions). The Guidance does not impose any new requirements on financial institutions. Rather, it is a guide to help financial institutions understand the applicability of existing requirements and supervisory expectations associated with the use of social media. Financial institutions are

expected to manage risks associated with all types of consumer and customer communications, no matter the medium. The Guidance provides considerations that financial institutions may find useful in conducting risk assessments and crafting and evaluating policies and procedures regarding social media. Thus, rather than discouraging the use of social media or establishing any new obligations related to the use of this technology, the Guidance is intended to help financial institutions understand and successfully manage risks in this area.

The six members of the FFIEC are the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC); the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Board); the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC); the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA); the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) (collectively, the Agencies); and the State Liaison Committee (SLC). As part of its mission, the FFIEC makes recommendations regarding supervisory matters and the adequacy of supervisory tools to the Agencies. The FFIEC also develops procedures for examinations of financial institutions that are used by the Agencies. The Agencies expect that all financial institutions they supervise will effectively assess and manage risks associated with activities conducted via social media. The Agencies and SLC will use this Guidance to the extent consistent with their respective authorities. After consideration of comments received from the public, the FFIEC is issuing this document on behalf of its members as guidance to the institutions that the member Agencies supervise. Accordingly, such institutions are expected to use the Guidance in their efforts to ensure that their risk management and consumer protection practices adequately address consumer compliance and legal risks, as well as related risks, such as reputation and operational risks, raised by activities conducted via social media. The SLC, which is composed of representatives of five state agencies that supervise financial institutions, was established to encourage the application of uniform examination principles and standards by state and federal supervisory agencies. The SLC encourages the adoption of the Guidance by state regulators. State agencies that adopt the Guidance will expect the entities that they regulate to use the Guidance in their efforts to ensure that their risk management and consumer protection practices adequately address the compliance and