DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Agency Information Collection Activities: Case Assistance Form (Ombudsman Form DHS–7001 and Instructions)

AGENCY: Office of the Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman, DHS.

ACTION: 30-Day Notice and request for comments: Extension without change of a currently approved collection, 1601–0004.

SUMMARY: The Department of Homeland Security, Office of the Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman, will submit the following Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). DHS previously published this information collection request (ICR) in the Federal Register on Friday, October 17, 2014 at 79 FR 62450 for a 60-day public comment period. No comments were received by DHS. The purpose of this notice is to allow additional 30-days for public comments.

DATES: Comments are encouraged and will be accepted until February 13, 2015. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.1.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed information collection to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget. Comments should be addressed to OMB Desk Officer, Department of Homeland Security and sent via electronic mail to oira_submission@omb.eop.gov or faxed to (202) 395–5806.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) Ombudsman was created under section 452 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107–296) to: (1) Assist individuals and employers in resolving problems with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS); (2) to identify areas in which individuals and employers have problems in dealing with USCIS; and (3) to the extent possible, propose changes in the administrative practices of USCIS to mitigate problems. This form is used by an applicant who is experiencing problems with USCIS during the processing of an immigration benefit.

The information collected on this form will allow the CIS Ombudsman to identify such problems as: (1) A case problem which is a request for information about a case that was filed with USCIS (“case problem”); or (2) the identification of a systemic issue that may or may not pertain to an individual case which the individual, attorney or employer is seeking to bring to the attention of the CIS Ombudsman (“trend”). For case problems, the CIS Ombudsman will refer case specific issues to the Customer Assistance Office for USCIS for further research, and review.

For trends received, the CIS Ombudsman notes the systemic issue identified in the correspondence which may or may not be incorporated into future recommendations submitted to the Director of USCIS pursuant to section 452(d)(4) of Public Law 107–296.

The use of this form provides the most efficient means for collecting and processing the required data. The CIS Ombudsman is now employing the use of information technology in collecting and processing information by offering the option for electronic submission of the Ombudsman Form 7001 through the Ombudsman Case Assistance Online System. Per PRA requirements, a fillable PDF version of the form is provided on the Ombudsman’s Web site. The PDF form can be completed online, printed out and sent to the Ombudsman’s office at the address indicated on the form. It is noted on the form that using the paper method can result in significant processing delays for the Ombudsman’s office to provide the requested case assistance. After approval of the changes to form detailed in this supporting statement, the online form will be updated and posted on the Ombudsman’s Web site at http://www.dhs.gov/case-assistance for electronic online submission of the form.

The assurance of confidentiality provided to the respondents for this information collection is provided by: (a) The CIS Ombudsman statute and mandate as established by Homeland Security Act Section 452; (b) the Privacy Impact Assessment for the Office of the Citizenship & Immigration Services Ombudsman (CISOMB) Virtual Ombudsman System (March 19, 2010) and the (c) Systems of Records Notice: 9110–9B Department of Homeland Security, Office of the Secretary [Docket No. DHS–2009–0146] Privacy Act of 1974; Department of Homeland Security Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman—001 Online Ombudsman Form DHS–7001 System of Records. The DHS Privacy Office will receive the entire package of documents for this information collection to assure authorization for renewal of the collection.

The CISOMB Form DHS–7001 and the Online Ombudsman Form DHS–7001 system is constructed in compliance with all applicable DHS Privacy Office, DHS CIO, DHS Records Management, and OMB regulations regarding data collection, use, storage, and retrieval. The proposed public use data collection system is therefore intended to be distributed for public use primarily by electronic means with limited paper distribution and processing of paper forms.

The CISOMB Form DHS–7001 (PDF) and the Online Ombudsman Form DHS–7001 (Ombudsman Case Assistance Online System) has been constructed in compliance with regulations and authorities under the purview of the DHS Privacy Office, DHS CIO, DHS Records Management, and OMB regulations regarding data collection, use, sharing, storage, information security and retrieval of information.

In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, the Department of Homeland Security is giving notice that it proposes to renew the Department of Homeland Security system of records notice titled, “Department of Homeland Security Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman—001 Online Ombudsman Form DHS–7001 and Ombudsman Case Assistance Online System of Records.” This system of records will continue to ensure the efficient and secure processing of information to aid the Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman in providing assistance to individuals, employers, and their representatives in resolving problems with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services; identify areas in which individuals, employers, and their representatives have problems working with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services; and to the extent possible, propose changes to mitigate problems pursuant to 6 U.S.C. 272. This system will continue to be included in the Department of Homeland Security’s inventory of record systems.

There has been an increase of 6,200 in the estimated annual burden hours previously reported for this information collection. The increase in burden hours is a reflection of agency estimates. There is no change in the information being collected, however there have been cosmetic changes to the form including punctuation, formatting, sequencing of information, and text changes to make the form more understandable and streamlined for use by respondents. The number of response fields has been reduced from 13 to 10 to be arranged in a way that streamlines completion, submission and processing of the form.
The title of the form has changed from “Case Problem Submission Worksheet (CIS Ombudsman Form DHS–7001)” to “Case Assistance Form (Ombudsman Form DHS–7001)”. The name of the system has changed from “Virtual Ombudsman System” to “Ombudsman Case Assistance Online”. The following narrative explains the changes made on the form and the corresponding instructions:

The Original 7001 form had the sections arranged in the following order:
1. Name: Please identify the individual or employer encountering difficulties with USCIS (applicant/beneficiary/petitioner).
2. Contact Information: Please provide information on the individual or employer encountering difficulties with USCIS (applicant/beneficiary/petitioner).
3. Date of Birth.
5. Alien Registration Number (A–Number): The A–number appears in the following format: A123–456–789.
6. Person Preparing This Form: Please indicate who is completing this form.
7. Applications/Petitions Filed: List all applications and/or petitions pending with USCIS related to your case inquiry.
8. Type of Immigration Benefit: Please provide the type of immigration benefit sought from USCIS.
9. Reason for Inquiry: Please indicate if any of the options apply. Provide a description in section 10.
10. Description: Describe the difficulties experienced with USCIS. Attach additional pages if needed.
11. Prior Actions Taken: Check all that apply: Please describe the response USCIS provided and attach any relevant correspondence.
12. Consent: If you are the beneficiary of an immigration petition, consent of the individual or employer that submitted the petition on your behalf is required. The petitioner must sign.

The instructions have been updated to reflect the electronic submission options as detailed in the previous paragraphs.

Instructions for electronic submission will be posted on the CIS Ombudsman Web site at www.dhs.gov/cisombudsman. The electronic version of the form will be developed by DHS OCIO (Office of the Chief Information Officer) based upon the approved version of the amended 7001 as described herein.

There is no change in the terms of clearance from the previously approved collection have been addressed by updates to the: (a) Privacy Impact Assessment for the Office of the Citizenship & Immigration Services Ombudsman (CISOMB) Virtual Ombudsman System (March 19, 2010); and the (b) Systems of Records Notice: 9110–9B Department of Homeland Security, Office of the Secretary [Docket No. DHS–2009–0146] Privacy Act of 1974; Department of Homeland Security Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman—001 Virtual Ombudsman System (March 2010) to reflect the name change to Online Ombudsman Form DHS–7001 System of Records.

The Office of Management and Budget is particularly interested in comments which:
1. Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. Evaluate the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
4. Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
[Docket No. DHS–2014–0077]

The Critical Infrastructure Partnership Advisory Council

AGENCY: National Protection and Programs Directorate, DHS.


SUMMARY: The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced the establishment of the Critical Infrastructure Partnership Advisory Council (CIPAC) in a Federal Register Notice (71 FR 14930–14933) dated March 24, 2006, which identified the purpose of CIPAC, as well as its membership. This notice provides the revised charter signed by Secretary Jeh Johnson on December 7, 2014.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Renee Murphy, Designated Federal Officer, Critical Infrastructure Partnership Advisory Council, Sector Outreach and Programs Division, Office of Infrastructure Protection, National Protection and Programs Directorate, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 245 Murray Lane, Mail Stop 0607, Arlington, VA 20598–0607; telephone: (703) 603–5083; email: CIPAC@dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice of CIPAC Charter Revisions: The Secretary of Homeland Security extended the CIPAC Charter on March 18, 2014 for a period of two years. This charter has now been revised to further clarify the participation by federally registered lobbyists per the guidance released by the Office of Management and Budget in Federal Register Notice 79 FR 47482 released on August 13, 2014. The revised charter was signed by the Secretary of Homeland Security on December 7, 2014. The current CIPAC charter is available on the CIPAC Web site (http://www.dhs.gov/cipac).

Purpose and Activity: The CIPAC facilitates interaction between government officials and representatives of the community of owners and/or operators for each of the critical infrastructure sectors defined by Presidential Policy Directive 21 and identified in National Infrastructure Protection Plan 2013: Partnering for Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience (NIPP 2013). The scope of activities covered by the CIPAC includes: Planning; coordinating among government and critical infrastructure owner and operator security partners; implementing security program initiatives; conducting operational activities related to critical infrastructure protection security measures, incident response, recovery, and infrastructure resilience; reconstituting critical infrastructure assets and systems for both manmade and naturally occurring events; and sharing threat, vulnerability, risk mitigation, and infrastructure continuity information.

Organizational Structure: The NIPP 2013 organizes the critical infrastructure community into 16 critical infrastructure sectors. Each of these sectors has a Government Coordinating Council (GCC) whose membership includes: (i) A lead Federal agency that is defined as the Sector-Specific Agency; (ii) all relevant Federal, State, local, tribal, and/or territorial government agencies (or their representative bodies) whose mission interests also involve the scope of the CIPAC activities for that particular sector; and (iii) a Sector Coordinating Council (SCC) whose membership includes critical infrastructure owners and/or operators or their representative trade associations.

CIPAC Membership: CIPAC Membership may include: (i) Critical Infrastructure (CI) owner and operator members of a DHS-recognized Sector SCC, including their representative trade associations or equivalent organization members of an SCC as determined by the SCC. (ii) Federal, State, local, and tribal governmental entities comprising the members of the GCC for each sector, including the GCC representative bodies; organizations; members of the State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Government Coordinating Council; and representatives of other Federal agencies with responsibility for CI activities.

CIPAC membership is organizational. Multiple individuals may participate in CIPAC activities on behalf of a member organization.

Dated: January 7, 2015.

Renee Murphy,
Designated Federal Officer for the CIPAC.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
[Docket No. FR–5654–N–02]

Section 8 Housing Assistance Programs Proposed Management and Occupancy Review Schedule

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Through this notice, FHA solicits comment from interested members of the public on HUD’s proposed Management and Occupancy Review (MOR) schedule for the seven project-based Section 8 programs administered by the Office of Multifamily Housing. This proposed schedule will reduce the frequency of unnecessary MORs, thereby minimizing interruptions in property operations created by onsite reviews, preserving staff time, and reducing costs. The proposed schedule ties the project’s annual MOR rating with HUD’s new

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[CIS No. 2550–14; DHS Docket No. USCIS–2007–0028]

RIN 1615–ZB36

Extension of the Designation of El Salvador for Temporary Protected Status

Correction

In notice document 2015–00031 beginning on page 893 in the issue of Wednesday, January 7, make the following correction:

On page 893, in the third column, in the 7th line, “March 9, 2015March 9, 2015” should read “March 9, 2015”.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

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