

CBAC Mortgages and Small Business Lending Markets Subcommittee will take place on Thursday, March 22, 2018, 1:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. eastern daylight time.

ADDRESSES: The meeting location is the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20552.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Crystal Dully, Outreach and Engagement Associate, 202-435-9588, CFPB_CABandCouncilsEvents@cfpb.gov, Consumer Advisory Board and Councils Office, External Affairs, 1700 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20552. If you require this document in an alternative electronic format, please contact CFPB_Accessibility@cfpb.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Section 2 of the CBAC Charter provides: Pursuant to the executive and administrative powers conferred on the Bureau by section 1012 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Dodd-Frank Act), the Director established the Community Bank Advisory Council under agency authority.

Section 3 of the CBAC Charter states: "The purpose of the Advisory Council is to advise the Bureau in the exercise of its functions under the federal consumer financial laws as they pertain to community banks with total assets of \$10 billion or less"

II. Agenda

The Community Bank Advisory Council will discuss a call for evidence, regulatory updates, and the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA).

Persons who need a reasonable accommodation to participate should contact CFPB_504Request@cfpb.gov, 202-435-9EEO, 1-855-233-0362, or 202-435-9742 (TTY) at least ten business days prior to the meeting or event to request assistance. The request must identify the date, time, location, and title of the meeting or event, the nature of the assistance requested, and contact information for the requester. CFPB will strive to provide, but cannot guarantee that accommodation will be provided for late requests.

Written comments will be accepted from interested members of the public and should be sent to CFPB_CABandCouncilsEvents@cfpb.gov, a minimum of seven (7) days in advance of the meeting. The comments will be provided to the CBAC members for consideration. Individuals who wish to attend the Community Bank Advisory Council meeting must RSVP to cfpb_cabandcouncilsevents@cfpb.gov

by noon, Wednesday, March 21, 2018. Members of the public must RSVP by the due date and must include "CBAC" in the subject line of the RSVP.

III. Availability

The Council's agenda will be made available to the public on Wednesday March 7, 2018, via consumerfinance.gov. Individuals should express in their RSVP if they require a paper copy of the agenda.

A recording and summary of this meeting will be available after the meeting on the CFPB's website consumerfinance.gov.

Dated: February 28, 2018.

Kirsten Sutton,

Chief of Staff, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

[FR Doc. 2018-04438 Filed 3-5-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-AM-P

BUREAU OF CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION

[Docket No. CFPB-2 018-0006]

Request for Information Regarding Bureau Public Reporting Practices of Consumer Complaint Information

AGENCY: Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

ACTION: Notice and request for information.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection (Bureau) is seeking comments and information from interested parties to assist the Bureau in assessing potential changes that can be implemented to the Bureau's public reporting practices of consumer complaint information, consistent with law, to consider whether any changes to the practices would be appropriate.

DATES: Comments must be received by June 4, 2018.

ADDRESSES: You may submit responsive information and other comments, identified by Docket No. CFPB-2018-0006, by any of the following methods:

- *Electronic:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Email:* FederalRegisterComments@cfpb.gov. Include Docket No. CFPB-2018-0006 in the subject line of the message.

- *Mail:* Comment Intake, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20552.

- *Hand Delivery/Courier:* Comment Intake, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20552.

Instructions: The Bureau encourages the early submission of comments. All submissions must include the document title and docket number. Please note the number of the topic on which you are commenting at the top of each response (you do not need to address all topics). Because paper mail in the Washington, DC area and at the Bureau is subject to delay, commenters are encouraged to submit comments electronically. In general, all comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>. In addition, comments will be available for public inspection and copying at 1700 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20552, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. eastern time. You can make an appointment to inspect the documents by telephoning 202-435-7275.

All submissions in response to this request for information, including attachments and other supporting materials, will become part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. Proprietary information or sensitive personal information, such as account numbers or Social Security numbers, or names of other individuals, should not be included. Submissions will not be edited to remove any identifying or contact information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Darian Dorsey, Deputy Assistant Director, Office of Consumer Response, at 202-435-7268. If you require this document in an alternative electronic format, please contact CFPB_Accessibility@cfpb.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: An important aspect of the Bureau's mission is hearing directly from the American public about their experiences in the consumer financial marketplace. Pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 5511(c)(2), "collecting, investigating, and responding to consumer complaints" is one of the six statutory "primary functions" of the Bureau. Since it began collecting complaints in July 2011, the Bureau has published a variety of reports analyzing complaints and responses. Some of these reports are specifically required by the Act.¹ Others are intended to meet the Bureau's objective of ensuring "markets for consumer financial products and services operate transparently and efficiently to facilitate access and innovation."²

Reports Required by the Act

The Act requires the Bureau to provide certain information to Congress

¹ 12 U.S.C. 5493(b)(3)(C), 5496(c)(4).

² 12 U.S.C. 5511(b)(5).

about complaints and responses. In particular, 12 U.S.C. 5493(b)(3)(C) requires the Bureau to report annually to Congress information and analysis about complaint numbers, types, and, where applicable, resolution. 12 U.S.C. 5496(c)(4) requires the Bureau to submit semi-annual reports to the President and certain congressional committees covering a range of topics, including “an analysis of complaints about consumer financial products or services that the Bureau has received and collected in its central database on complaints during the preceding year.”³ To meet its statutory obligations, the Bureau publishes these reports, highlighting aggregated complaint information, including complaint volume over time, company closure categories, and product and issue breakdowns. Reports also include qualitative analyses of common issues and trends in complaints for consumer financial products and services.

Monthly Complaint Reports

In July 2015, the Bureau began publishing a series of monthly complaint reports to highlight trends from consumer complaints submitted to the Bureau. Monthly complaint reports include complaint data on complaint volume, most-complained-about companies, state and local information, and product trends. Each report highlights a particular product and geographic location and provides insight into the consumer complaints handled by the Bureau. The report uses three-month rolling averages, comparing the current average to the same period in the prior year, where appropriate, to account for monthly and seasonal fluctuations. In some cases, month-to-month comparisons are used to highlight more immediate trends.

Special Edition Complaint Reports

In May 2017, the Bureau began publishing special edition monthly complaint reports that highlight complaint information not routinely covered by statutorily-required and monthly complaint reports. These reports include, for example, complaint information aggregated for all 50 States, complaint information aggregated by specific population groups (e.g., servicemembers), and consumer feedback aggregated by product category. Special edition complaint

³ In addition, 12 U.S.C. 5535(d)(1) directs the Private Education Loan Ombudsman—whose functions include reviewing and analyzing private education loan complaints—to “prepare an annual report that describes the activities, and evaluates the effectiveness of the Ombudsman during the preceding year.”

reports sometime include additional information about a subset of complaints that may be of interest to readers (e.g., a report on servicemembers included a breakdown on the branch of military service).

Consumer Complaint Database

After requesting public comment on a proposed policy statement, in June 2012 the Bureau issued a final policy statement and began publishing consumers’ credit card complaints in a public web-based database.⁴ The Bureau subsequently sought public comment on expansions of the database to include complaints about additional consumer financial products and services and consumer narratives.⁵ The purpose of the public Consumer Complaint Database is to provide timely and understandable information and to improve the functioning of the market, in line with the Bureau’s objectives.⁶ Complaints are listed in the database when the company responds to the complaint confirming a relationship with the consumer or after the company has had the complaint for 15 calendar days, whichever comes first. Complaints are not published if they do not meet all of the publication criteria described in the final policy statements.⁷ Complaints submitted by unauthorized third parties, complaints that are the result of fraud, scams, or business identity theft, and complaints referred to other regulators, such as complaints about depository institutions with less than \$10 billion in assets, are not published in the Consumer Complaint Database.

Overview of This Request for Information

The Bureau is using this request for information (RFI) to seek public input regarding potential changes that can be implemented to the Bureau’s public reporting practices of consumer complaint information, consistent with law, to consider whether any changes to the practices would be appropriate. The Bureau encourages comments from all interested members of the public. The Bureau anticipates that the responding

⁴ Disclosure of Certain Credit Card Complaint Data, 76 FR 76628 (December 8, 2011); Disclosure of Certain Credit Card Complaint Data, 77 FR 37558 (June 22, 2012).

⁵ Disclosure of Consumer Complaint Data, 77 FR 37616 (June 22, 2012); Disclosure of Consumer Complaint Data, 78 FR 21218 (April 10, 2013); Disclosure of Consumer Complaint Narrative Data, 79 FR 45183 (August 4, 2014); Disclosure of Consumer Complaint Narrative Data, 80 FR 15572 (March 24, 2015).

⁶ 12 U.S.C. 5511(b)(1), (5).

⁷ For additional information, see “Consumer Complaint Database,” <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/data-research/consumer-complaints/> (last visited Feb. 27, 2018).

public may include financial industry participants, government agencies, consumer advocacy and financial education groups, trade associations, academic and research organizations, and consumers.

The Bureau will issue a subsequent RFI seeking public input regarding consumer inquiries and related process activities. The purpose of this RFI is to seek feedback on all aspects of its consumer complaint reporting and publication practices; the Bureau is not seeking comment in this RFI on consumer inquiries and related process activities.

Suggested Topics for Commenters

To allow the Bureau to more effectively evaluate suggestions, the Bureau requests that, where possible, comments include:

- The usefulness of complaint reporting and analysis to external stakeholders, including but not limited to financial industry participants, government agencies, consumer advocacy and financial education groups, trade associations, academic and research organizations, and consumers; and
- Specific suggestions or best practices for complaint reporting and publication given the Bureau’s statutory objectives, including the Bureau’s objective to ensure that markets for consumer financial products and services operate transparently and efficiently to facilitate access and innovation.⁸

The following represents a preliminary attempt by the Bureau to identify elements of Bureau complaint reporting and publication practices on which it should immediately focus. This non-exhaustive list is meant to assist in the formulation of comments and is not intended to restrict the issues that may be addressed. In addressing these issues and questions, the Bureau requests that commenters identify with specificity the consumer complaint reporting and publication practices at issue, providing legal citations where appropriate and available.

The Bureau is seeking feedback on all aspects of its consumer complaint reporting and publication practices, including:

1. Specific, statutorily-permissible suggestions regarding the frequency of the Bureau’s reporting on consumer complaints;
2. Specific, statutorily-permissible suggestions on the content of the Bureau’s reporting on consumer complaints, including:

⁸ 12 U.S.C. 5511(b)(5).

a. Whether the Bureau should include more, less, or the same amount of reporting on State and local complaint trends;

b. Whether it is net beneficial or net harmful to the transparent and efficient operation of markets for consumer financial products and services for the Bureau to publish the names of the most-complained-about companies;

c. Whether the Bureau should provide more, less, or the same data fields in the Consumer Complaint Database;

d. Whether the Bureau should provide more, less, or the same amount of context for complaint information, particularly with regard to product or service market size and company share;

e. Whether the Bureau should supplement observations from consumer complaints with observations of company responses to complaints;

f. Whether the Bureau should share more, less, or the same amount of information on month-to-month trends; and

g. Whether the Bureau should share more, less, or the same amount of information on particular products and services;

3. Specific suggestions on the reporting methodology, including:

a. Should the Bureau continue to analyze data for seasonal fluctuations? If so, how?; and

b. Should the Bureau provide more, less, or the same amount of context for complaint information, particularly with regard to product and service market size and company share, including what data set(s) or data source(s) the Bureau should use;

4. Specific, statutorily-permissible suggestions for the publication process of consumer complaint information, including:

a. Whether the Bureau should provide the public with a publication schedule;

b. Whether the Bureau should notify the most-complained-about companies of their inclusion in a Bureau report prior to publication and invite company comment;

c. Whether the Bureau should devote resources to building tools to enable users to analyze complaint information; and

d. Whether the Bureau should expand, limit, or maintain the same level of access to complaint information available to external stakeholders such as financial institutions and the public.

Authority: 12 U.S.C. 5511(c).

Dated: March 1, 2018.

Mick Mulvaney,

Acting Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

[FR Doc. 2018-04544 Filed 3-5-18; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Defense Acquisition Regulations System

Early Engagement Opportunity: Implementation of National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: DoD announces an early engagement opportunity regarding implementation of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 within the acquisition regulations.

DATES: Early inputs should be submitted in writing via the Defense Acquisition Regulations System (DARS) website shown below. The website will be updated when early inputs will no longer be accepted.

ADDRESSES: Submit early inputs via the DARS website at <http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/dars/index.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Send inquiries via email to osd.dfars@mail.mil and reference "Early Engagement Opportunity: Implementation of NDAA for FY 2018" in the subject line.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: DoD is providing an opportunity for the public to provide early inputs on implementation of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 within the acquisition regulations. The public is invited to submit early inputs on sections of the NDAA for FY 2018 via the DARS website at <http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/dars/index.html>. The website will be updated when early inputs will no longer be accepted. Please note, this venue does not replace or circumvent the rulemaking process; DARS will engage in formal rulemaking, in accordance with 41 U.S.C. 1303, when it has been determined that rulemaking is required to implement a section of the NDAA for FY 2018 within the acquisition regulations.

Jennifer L. Hawes,

Regulatory Control Officer Defense Acquisition Regulations System.

[FR Doc. 2018-04511 Filed 3-5-18; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Defense Acquisition Regulations System

[Docket Number DARS-2018-0009; OMB Control Number 0704-0479]

Information Collection Requirement; Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Earned Value Management System

AGENCY: Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments regarding a proposed extension of an approved information collection requirement.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, DoD announces the proposed extension of a public information collection requirement and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. *DoD invites comments on:* Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of DoD, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved this information collection requirement for use through September 30, 2018. DoD proposes that OMB extend its approval for three additional years.

DATES: DoD will consider all comments received by May 7, 2018.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by OMB Control Number 0704-0479, using any of the following methods:

○ *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

○ *Email:* osd.dfars@mail.mil. Include OMB Control Number 0704-0479 in the subject line of the message.

○ *Fax:* 571-372-6094.

○ *Mail:* Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Attn: Mr. Mark Gomersall, OUSD (A&S) DPAP (DARS), 3060 Defense Pentagon, Room 3B941, Washington, DC 20301-3060.

Comments received generally will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided.