

iii. The United States Conducted an Impartial and Independent Merger Analysis

Members of Congress refer to news reports that raise the possibility that the White House may have “exercised outsized influence” in the review of this transaction and other deals.¹⁰¹ The commenters do not make any specific claims regarding the investigation of this merger, but rather urge that antitrust enforcement “continue to be treated as a law enforcement matter properly left to the independent judgment of DOJ.”¹⁰²

Any suggestion that the settlement at issue here is or could be the result of improper lobbying or political pressure is both unsubstantiated and meritless. The settlement followed a thorough and comprehensive investigation, and it is the result of extensive, good faith negotiations between the United States and Defendants. The proposed Final Judgment requires substantial relief that addresses the competitive harm alleged in the Complaint. In short, there is no basis to allege that the settlement results from anything other than the United States’ independent investigation and analysis.

VI. Conclusion

After careful consideration of the public comments, the United States continues to believe that the proposed Final Judgment, as drafted, provides an effective and appropriate remedy for the antitrust violations alleged in the Complaint, and is therefore in the public interest. The United States will move this Court to enter the proposed Final Judgment after the comments and this response are published pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 16(d).

Dated: January 29, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

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[FR Doc. 2019–00810 Filed 2–1–19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410–11–P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[OMB Number 1121–0312]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed eCollection eComments Requested; Revision of a Currently Approved Collection: 2018–2020 Survey of State Criminal History Information Systems (SSCHIS)

AGENCY: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Department of Justice.

ACTION: 30-Day Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics, will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for 30 days until March 6, 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have additional comments especially on the estimated public burden or associated response time, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions or additional information, please contact Devon Adams, Supervisory Program Manager, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 810 Seventh Street NW, Washington, DC 20531 (email: devon.adams@ojp.usdoj.gov; telephone: (202–305–0765).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information are encouraged. Your comments should address one or more of the following four points:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Bureau of Justice Statistics, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- 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;
- Evaluate whether and if so how the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected can be enhanced; and
- 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 submission of responses.

Overview of this information collection:

(1) *Type of Information Collection:* Revision of a currently collection approved collection.

(2) *The Title of the Form/Collection:* 2018–2020 Survey of State Criminal History Information Systems (SSCHIS).

(3) *The agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department sponsoring the collection:* The form number is N/A. The applicable component within the Department of Justice is the Bureau of Justice Statistics, in the Office of Justice Programs.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Respondents are state government agencies, primarily state criminal history record repositories. The SSCHIS report, the most comprehensive data available on the collection and maintenance of information by state criminal history record systems, describes the status of such systems and record repositories on a biennial basis. Data collected from state record repositories serves as the basis for estimating the percentage of total state records that are immediately available through the FBI’s Interstate Identification Index (III), and the percentage of arrest records that include dispositions. Other data presented include the number of records maintained by each state, the percentage of automated records in the system, and the number of states participating in the National Fingerprint File and the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact which authorizes the interstate exchange of criminal history records for noncriminal justice purposes. The SSCHIS also contains information regarding the timeliness and completeness of data in state record systems and procedures employed to improve data quality.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* The total number of respondents is 56. The average length of time per respondent is 6.75 hours. This estimate is based on the average amount of time reported by five states that reviewed the survey.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* The total burden associated with this collection is estimated to be 378 hours.

If additional information is required contact: Melody Braswell, Department

¹⁰¹ Members of Cong. Comment (Exhibit 3) at 2–3.

¹⁰² *Id.* at 2.

Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice, Justice Management Division, Policy and Planning Staff, Two Constitution Square, 145 N Street NE, 3E.405A, Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: January 30, 2019.

Melody Braswell,

Department Clearance Officer for PRA, U.S. Department of Justice.

[FR Doc. 2019-00844 Filed 2-1-19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-18-P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[OMB Number 1121-0249]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed eCollection Activities; Proposed eCollection Comments Requested; Extension of a Currently Approved Collection: Mortality in Correctional Institutions (State Prisons)

AGENCY: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Department of Justice.

ACTION: 30-Day notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics, will be submitting an extension to an existing information collection to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for 30 days until April 5, 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have additional comments, especially on the estimated public burden or associated response time, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions or additional information, please contact E. Ann Carson, Statistician, 810 Seventh Street NW, Washington, DC 20531 (email: elizabeth.carson@usdoj.gov; telephone: 202-616-3496).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information are encouraged. Your comments should address one or more of the following four points:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Bureau of Justice Statistics, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- 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;
- Evaluate whether and if so how the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected can be enhanced; and
- 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 submission of responses.

Overview of This Information Collection

1. *Type of Information Collection:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

2. *The Title of the Form/Collection:* Mortality in Correctional Institutions (State Prisons) (MCI-State Prisons).

3. The agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department sponsoring the collection:

The MCI-State Prisons collection currently includes the following forms:

- NPS-4: *Annual Summary of Inmate Deaths in State Prisons.* Annually, this form is sent to the 50 state DOCs to collect the number of state prisoner deaths in a calendar year.

- NPS-4A: *State Prison Inmate Death Report Form.* Annually, this form is sent to the 50 state DOCs to collect details about each state prisoner death.

The applicable component within the Department of Justice is the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), in the Office of Justice Programs.

BJS proposes to transfer the MCI-Jails information collection from the currently approved OMB collection under control number 1121-0094, where it was bundled with the Annual Survey of Jails and the Survey of Jails in Indian Country collections in 2015, to this collection (OMB Control Number 1121-0249, expiration 03/31/2019) to form a single mortality collection program.

The combined mortality collection would include the 50 state departments of corrections (DOCs) plus approximately 3,000 local jail jurisdictions and would collect data on the number and characteristics of inmate deaths in the custody of state and local correctional facilities.

Prior to 2015, BJS collected mortality data from both state prisons and local jails under the OMB Control Number 1121-0249. In 2015, the Mortality in Correctional Institutions (Jails) (MCI-Jails) portion of the collection was bundled with the Annual Survey of Jails (ASJ) and the Survey of Jails in Indian

Country (SJIC) in an attempt to consolidate the response burden placed on jails. However, the overlap among these three collections is small, both in terms of jails covered in each and context collected.

- MCI-Jails requests annual data from about 3,000 jail jurisdictions on deaths, the confined population as of December 31, average daily population (ADP), number of holds for other jurisdictions, and number of admissions to the jail during the calendar year.

- The ASJ samples approximately 900 local jails, and provides data to estimate the number and characteristics of local jail inmates nationwide. The ASJ collects population information, including the number of confined inmates, number of individuals supervised in the community by local jails, average daily population, and the number of holds for other authorities as of June 30. The ASJ also obtains data on inmate movements, including the number of admissions and discharges; facility characteristics, including rated and peak capacities and staffing; and inmate characteristics, including race and ethnicity, sex, age group (adult or juvenile), primary offense, and conviction status.

- The SJIC collects data from Indian country jails that are not part of either the ASJ or the MCI-Jails collections. The SJIC collects information from confinement facilities, detention centers, jails, and other facilities operated by tribal authorities or the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Although there is some duplication in data collected by the ASJ and MCI-Jails, the reference dates are different and the ASJ is a sample, whereas MCI-Jails is a full enumeration of jail jurisdictions. Due to seasonal fluctuations in jail populations, and fewer inmates held at year-end (December 31), the ASJ uses the last weekday in June as its reference date. MCI-Jails uses December 31 as its reference date, and more importantly, uses ADP from January 1 to December 31 as the denominator in calculating mortality rates, which is consistent with the time period represented by the numerator, the number of deaths in a calendar year.

The following forms are proposed to be transferred from OMB Control Number 1121-0094 to OMB Control Number 1121-0249:

- CJ-9: *Death Report on Inmates under Jail Jurisdiction.* This form goes to all jail jurisdictions that are operated by a county or city. Jail administrators are requested to complete the form if their facilities had one or more deaths in a calendar year.