

**SUMMARY:** Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before February 9, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information through Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov) or to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20M33), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420 or email to [nancy.kessinger@va.gov](mailto:nancy.kessinger@va.gov). Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0658” in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Danny S. Green, (202) 421–1354 or email [Danny.Green2@va.gov](mailto:Danny.Green2@va.gov). Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0658” in any correspondence.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA of 1995, Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, VBA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VBA’s functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VBA’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

*Authority:* Public Law 104–13; 44 U.S.C. 3501–3521.

*Title:* Lender’s Staff Appraisal Reviewer (SAR) Application (VA Form 26–0785)

*OMB Control Number:* 2900–0658.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Abstract:* Title 38 U.S.C. 3702(d) authorizes the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to establish standards for lenders making automatically guaranteed loans and 38 U.S.C. 3731(f) authorizes VA to establish, in regulation, standards and procedures to authorize a lender to determine the reasonable value of property. VA has implemented this authority through its Lender Appraisal Processing Program (LAPP), codified in 38 CFR 36.4347.

*Affected Public:* Individuals (employees of lenders making applications).

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 200 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden per*

*Respondent:* 5 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 2,400 per year.

By direction of the Secretary:

**Danny S. Green,**

*VA PRA Clearance Officer, Office of Quality, Performance and Risk, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Solicitation of Nominations for Appointment to the Advisory Committee on Structural Safety of Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Facilities

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Office of Construction and Facilities Management, is seeking nominations of qualified candidates to be considered for appointment to the Advisory Committee on Structural Safety of Department Facilities (“the Committee”).

**DATES:** Nominations for membership on the Committee must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. EST on December 31, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** All nominations should be submitted to Mr. Juan Archilla by email at [juan.archilla@va.gov](mailto:juan.archilla@va.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Juan Archilla, Office of Construction & Facilities Management (CFM), Department of Veterans Affairs, via email at [juan.archilla@va.gov](mailto:juan.archilla@va.gov), or via telephone at (202) 632–5967. A copy of the Committee charter and list of the current membership can be obtained by contacting Mr. Archilla or by accessing the website: <http://www.va.gov/>

*ADVISORY/Advisory\_Committee\_on\_Structural\_Safety\_of\_Department\_of\_Veterans\_Affairs\_facilities\_Statutory.asp.*

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In carrying out the duties set forth, the Committee responsibilities include:

(1) Providing advice to the Secretary of VA on all matters of structural safety in the construction and altering of medical facilities and recommending standards for use by VA in the construction and alteration of facilities.

(2) Reviewing of appropriate State and local laws, ordinances, building codes, climatic and seismic conditions, relevant existing information, and current research.

(3) Recommending changes to the current VA standards for structural safety, on a state or regional basis.

(4) Recommending the engagement of the services of other experts or consultants to assist in preparing reports on present knowledge in specific technical areas.

(5) Reviewing of questions regarding the application of codes and standards and making recommendations regarding new and existing facilities when requested to do so by VA.

*Authority:* The Committee was established in accordance with 38 U.S.C. 8105, to provide advice to the Secretary on all matters of structural safety in the construction and altering of medical facilities and recommends standards for use by VA in the construction and alteration of facilities. Nominations of qualified candidates are being sought to fill current and upcoming vacancies on the Committee.

*Membership Criteria and Professional Qualifications:* CFM is requesting nominations for current and upcoming vacancies on the Committee. The Committee is composed of five members, in addition to ex-officio members. The Committee is required to include at least one architect and one structural engineer who are experts in structural resistance to fire, earthquake, and other natural disasters and who are not employees of the Federal Government. To satisfy this requirement and ensure the Committee has the expertise to fulfill its statutory objectives, VA seeks nominees from the following professions at this time:

(1) *Architect:* Candidate must be a licensed Architect experienced in the design requirements of health care facilities. Expert knowledge in codes and standards for health care and life safety is required;

(2) *Practicing Structural Engineer:* Candidate must have experience in both

new building seismic analysis and design and strengthening of existing buildings in high seismic regions. Expert knowledge of building codes and standards, with a focus on seismic safety, is required. Experience designing for structural resistance to other natural disasters is desired. A licensed Structural Engineer or Professional Engineer with a focus on structural engineering is required;

(3) *Research Structural Engineer:* Candidate must have experience leading experimental and/or computational engineering to advance building structural performance and/or design methods against natural disasters, such as earthquakes, fire, hurricanes, tornados, etc.;

Prior experience serving on nationally recognized professional and technical committees is also desired.

*Requirements for Nomination Submission:* Nominations should be type written (one nomination per nominator). Nomination package should include: (1) A letter of nomination that clearly states the name and affiliation of

the nominee, the basis for the nomination (*i.e.* specific attributes which qualify the nominee for service in this capacity), and a statement from the nominee indicating a willingness to serve as a member of the Committee; (2) the nominee's contact information, including name, mailing address, telephone numbers, and email address; (3) the nominee's curriculum vitae, and (4) a summary of the nominee's experience and qualification relative to the *professional qualifications* criteria listed above.

*Membership Terms:* Individuals selected for appointment to the Committee shall be invited to serve a two-year term. At the Secretary's discretion, members may be reappointed to serve an additional term. All members will receive travel expenses and a per diem allowance in accordance with the Federal Travel Regulation for any travel made in connection with their duties as members of the Committee. The Department makes every effort to ensure that the membership of its 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 a broad representation of geographic areas, gender, racial and ethnic minority groups, and the disabled are given consideration for membership. Appointment to this Committee shall be made without discrimination because of a person's race, color, religion, sex (including gender identity, transgender status, sexual orientation, and pregnancy), national origin, age, disability, or genetic information. Nominations must state that the nominee is willing to serve as a member of the Committee and appears to have no conflict of interest that would preclude membership. An ethics review is conducted for each selected nominee.

Dated: December 8, 2020.

**Jelessa M. Burney,**

*Federal Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

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