

pad inspection protocols, there is not an increased safety risk due to the vehicle being operated with worn rear brake pads. In the worst case, if a vehicle with fully worn brake pads on the rear axle continued to operate, given the brake force distribution and the performance of the rear brakes, the vehicle would continue to meet the braking distance requirement of FMVSS No. 135. Furthermore, the brakes on the rear axle will continue to operate, even with completely worn rear brake pads, the driver will hear the unmistakable sound of metal being pressed against the brake discs. Moreover, the ABS and ESC functionality is not affected by worn rear brake pads and will continue to function normally, as needed.

6. Mercedes-Benz is not aware of any reports or complaints about the issue from the field and it has corrected the condition in production.

Mercedes-Benz concluded by expressing the belief that the subject noncompliance is inconsequential as it relates to motor vehicle safety, and that its petition to be exempted from providing notification of the noncompliance, as required by 49 U.S.C. 30118, and a remedy for the noncompliance, as required by 49 U.S.C. 30120, should be granted.

NHTSA notes that the statutory provisions (49 U.S.C. 30118(d) and 30120(h)) that permit manufacturers to file petitions for a determination of inconsequentiality allow NHTSA to exempt manufacturers only from the duties found in sections 30118 and 30120, respectively, to notify owners, purchasers, and dealers of a defect or noncompliance and to remedy the defect or noncompliance. Therefore, any decision on this petition only applies to the subject vehicles that Mercedes-Benz no longer controlled at the time it determined that the noncompliance existed. However, any decision on this petition does not relieve vehicle distributors and dealers of the prohibitions on the sale, offer for sale, or introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce of the noncompliant vehicles under their control after Mercedes-Benz notified them that the subject noncompliance existed.

(Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30118, 30120; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.95 and 501.8)

Otto G. Matheke III,

Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.

[FR Doc. 2020-27258 Filed 12-10-20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Financial Crimes Enforcement Network

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Renewal; Comment Request; Renewal Without Change of Administrative Rulings Regulations

AGENCY: Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, FinCEN invites comments on the proposed renewal, without change, of a currently approved information collection found in existing Bank Secrecy Act (BSA) regulations. Specifically, the regulations provide procedures for requestors to seek, and for FinCEN to issue, administrative rulings. This request for comments is made pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Written comments are welcome and must be received on or before February 9, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Federal E-rulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Refer to Docket Number FINCEN-2020-0017 and the specific Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number 1506-0050.

- *Mail:* Policy Division, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, P.O. Box 39, Vienna, VA 22183. Refer to Docket Number FINCEN-2020-0017 and OMB control number 1506-0050.

Please submit comments by one method only. Comments will also be incorporated into FinCEN's review of existing regulations, as provided by Treasury's 2011 Plan for Retrospective Analysis of Existing Rules. All comments submitted in response to this notice will become a matter of public record. Therefore, you should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The FinCEN Regulatory Support Section at 1-800-767-2825 or electronically at frc@fincen.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Statutory and Regulatory Provisions

The legislative framework generally referred to as the Bank Secrecy Act (BSA) consists of the Currency and Financial Transactions Reporting Act of 1970, as amended by the Uniting and

Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001 (USA PATRIOT Act) (Pub. L. 107-56) and other legislation. The BSA is codified at 12 U.S.C. 1829b, 12 U.S.C. 1951-1959, 31 U.S.C. 5311-5314 and 5316-5332, and notes thereto, with implementing regulations at 31 CFR Chapter X.

The BSA authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury, *inter alia*, to require financial institutions to keep records and file reports that are determined to have a high degree of usefulness in criminal, tax, and regulatory matters, or in the conduct of intelligence or counter-intelligence activities to protect against international terrorism, and to implement anti-money laundering (AML) programs and compliance procedures.¹ Regulations implementing the BSA appear at 31 CFR Chapter X. The authority of the Secretary to administer the BSA has been delegated to the Director of FinCEN.²

A FinCEN administrative ruling is a written ruling interpreting the relationship between the regulations implementing the BSA at 31 CFR Chapter X and each situation for which such a ruling has been requested in conformity with the regulatory requirements.³ The regulations implementing the procedures for requestors to submit, and for FinCEN to issue, administrative rulings appear in Part 1010, Subpart G—Administrative Rulings. Specifically, the regulations address the following: (a) How to submit a request for an administrative ruling (31 CFR 1010.711); (b) treatment of non-conforming requests (31 CFR 1010.712); (c) treatment of oral communications (31 CFR 1010.713); (d) withdrawal of administrative ruling requests (31 CFR 1010.714); (e) issuance of administrative rulings (31 CFR 1010.715); (e) modification and rescission of administrative rulings (31 CFR 1010.716); and (f) disclosure of administrative ruling (31 CFR 1010.717). An administrative ruling has precedential value, and may be relied upon by others similarly situated, only if FinCEN makes them available to the public through publication on the FinCEN website or other appropriate forum.⁴

¹ Section 358 of the USA PATRIOT Act added language expanding the scope of the BSA to intelligence or counter-intelligence activities to protect against international terrorism.

² Treasury Order 180-01 (re-affirmed Jan. 14, 2020).

³ See 31 CFR 1010.715.

⁴ *Id.* FinCEN's administrative rulings are collected on the FinCEN website at the following address:

Continued

II. Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA)⁵

Title: Administrative rulings regulations (Subpart G—31 CFR 1010.710 through 31 CFR 1010.717).
OMB Control Number: 1506–0050.
Report Number: Not applicable.
Abstract: FinCEN is issuing this notice to renew the OMB control number for the administrative rulings regulations.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit institutions, non-profit institutions, and individuals.

Type of Review: Renewal without change of a currently approved information collection.

Frequency: As required.

Estimated Number of Requests Annually: 33 requests.⁶

Estimated Recordkeeping Burden: FinCEN receives approximately 33 administrative ruling requests per year. FinCEN continues to estimate that it takes a requestor approximately two hours to draft and submit an administrative rule request to FinCEN.⁷ This results in an estimated total annual burden of 66 hours (33 administrative ruling requests multiplied by two hours per request).

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Records required to be retained under the BSA must be retained for five years.

III. General Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (i) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (ii) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (iii) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (iv) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information

technology; and (v) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Michael G. Mosier,
Deputy Director, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network.

[FR Doc. 2020–27370 Filed 12–10–20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0715]

Agency Information Collection Activity: Servicerv's Staff Appraisal Reviewer (SAR) Application

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

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 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. Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0715” 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. Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0715” 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: VA FORM 26–0829 Servicerv's Staff Appraisal Reviewer (SAR) Application.

OMB Control Number: 2900–0715.

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 Servicervs 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 Servicerv Appraisal Processing Program (SAPP), codified in 38 CFR 36.4348.

Affected Public: Individuals (employees of servicervs making applications).

Estimated Annual Burden: 2 hours.

Estimated Average Burden per Respondent: 5 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 20 per year.

By direction of the Secretary.

Danny S. Green,
VA PRA Clearance Officer, Office of Quality, Performance and Risk, Department of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2020–27346 Filed 12–10–20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0658]

Agency Information Collection Activity: Lender's Staff Appraisal Reviewer (SAR) Application

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

<https://www.fincen.gov/resources/statutes-regulations/administrative-rulings>.

⁵Public Law 104–13, 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A).

⁶In 2018, 2019, and 2020, FinCEN received a total of 98 administrative ruling requests.

⁷When this OMB control number was last renewed in 2017, FinCEN estimated the total burden per requestor to draft and submit an administrative ruling request was two hours per requestor.