

APO is a violation which is subject to sanction.

Notification to Interested Parties

We are issuing and publishing the final results and this notice in accordance with sections 751(c), 752(b), and 777(i)(1) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.218.

Dated: May 18, 2022.

Lisa W. Wang,

Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

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[FR Doc. 2022–11212 Filed 5–24–22; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. PTO–C–2022–0013]

Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Request for nominations for the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)—America’s Innovation Agency—is seeking nominations for up to three members of its Patent Public Advisory Committee (PPAC) to advise the Director of the USPTO on patent policy and for up to three members of its Trademark Public Advisory Committee (TPAC) to advise the Director on trademark policy. Each new member, who can serve remotely, will serve a three-year term. The members represent the interests of the public and the stakeholders of the USPTO.

DATES: Nominations must be electronically transmitted on or before July 1, 2022.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to submit nominations will be required to electronically complete the appropriate

Public Advisory Committee application form by entering detailed information and qualifications at: <https://tinyurl.com/ynae4a67> for the Patent Public Advisory Committee, and <https://tinyurl.com/hcux6462> for the Trademark Public Advisory Committee.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cordelia Zecher, Acting Chief of Staff, Office of the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO, at 571–272–8600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On November 29, 1999, the President signed into law the Patent and Trademark Office Efficiency Act (Act). The Act established two Public Advisory Committees—the PPAC and TPAC—to review the policies, goals, performance, budget, and user fees of the USPTO. The America Invents Act Technical Corrections set staggered terms for members of the Advisory Committees, with each term starting and ending on December 1.

The PPAC and TPAC members shall:

- Advise the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO on matters relating to policies, goals, performance, budget, and user fees of the USPTO relating to patents and trademarks, respectively (35 U.S.C. 5); and
- Within 60 days after the end of each fiscal year: (1) Prepare an annual report on matters listed above; (2) transmit the report to the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary), the President, and the Committees on the Judiciary of the Senate and the House of Representatives; and (3) publish the report in the Official Gazette of the USPTO. *Id.*

Public Advisory Committees

The Public Advisory Committees are each composed of nine voting members who are appointed by the Secretary and serve at the pleasure of the Secretary for three-year terms. Members are eligible for reappointment for a second consecutive three-year term. The Public Advisory Committee members must be citizens of the United States. Members must also certify that they are not required to register with the Department of Justice as a foreign agent under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, and that they are not a federally-registered lobbyist. Members are chosen to represent the interests of diverse users of the USPTO and must represent small and large entity applicants located in the United States in proportion to the number of applications filed by such applicants. In no case, however, shall members who

represent small entity patent applicants, including small business concerns, independent inventors, and nonprofit organizations, constitute less than 25 percent of the members of the Patent Public Advisory Committee. There must at least one independent inventor on the Patent Public Advisory Committee. The Committees must include individuals with a “substantial background and achievement in finance, management, labor relations, science, technology, and office automation.” 35 U.S.C. 5(b)(3). Each of the Public Advisory Committees also includes three non-voting members representing each labor organization recognized by the USPTO.

Procedures and Guidelines of the PPAC and TPAC

Each newly appointed member of the PPAC and TPAC will serve for a three-year term that begins on December 1, 2022, and ends on December 1, 2025. As required by the 1999 Act, members of the PPAC and TPAC will receive compensation for each day (including travel time) they attend meetings or engage in the business of their Advisory Committee. The enabling statute states that members are to be compensated at the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay in effect for level III of the Executive Schedule under 5 U.S.C. 5314. Committee members are compensated on an hourly basis, calculated at the daily rate. While away from home or their regular place of business, each member shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5703.

Applicability of Certain Ethics Laws

Public Advisory Committee members are Special Government Employees within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. 202. The following additional information includes several, but not all, of the ethics rules that apply to members, and assumes that members are not engaged in Public Advisory Committee business more than 60 days during any period of 365 consecutive days.

- Each member will be required to file a confidential financial disclosure form within 30 days of appointment. 5 CFR 2634.202(c), 2634.204, 2634.903, and 2634.904(b).
- Each member will be subject to many of the public integrity laws, including criminal bars against representing a party in a particular matter that comes before the member’s committee and that involves at least one specific party. 18 U.S.C. 205(c); *see also* 18 U.S.C. 207 for post-membership bars. Also, a member must not act on a matter in which the member (or any of certain

closely related entities) has a financial interest. 18 U.S.C. 208.

- Representation of foreign interests may also raise issues. 35 U.S.C. 5(a)(1) and 18 U.S.C. 219.

Meetings of the PPAC and TPAC

Meetings of each Public Advisory Committee will take place at the call of the respective Committee Chair to consider an agenda set by that Chair. Meetings may be conducted in person, telephonically, online, or by other appropriate means. The meetings of each Public Advisory Committee will be open to the public, except each Public Advisory Committee may, by majority vote, meet in an executive session when considering personnel, privileged, or other confidential information. Nominees must have the ability to participate in Public Advisory Committee business through the internet.

Katherine K. Vidal,

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Notice of Intent To Extend Collection 3038-0078: Conflicts of Interest Policies and Procedures by Futures Commission Merchants and Introducing Brokers

AGENCY: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“Commission”) is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed renewal of a collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (“PRA”), Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information, and to allow 60 days for public comment. This notice solicits comments on the collections of information mandated by a Commission regulation dealing with conflicts of interest policies and procedures by futures commission merchants and introducing brokers.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before July 25, 2022.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by “OMB Control Number

3038-0078” by any of the following methods:

- The Agency’s website, at <https://comments.cftc.gov/>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments through the website.

- **Mail:** Christopher Kirkpatrick, Secretary of the Commission, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20581.

- **Hand Delivery/Courier:** Same as Mail above.

Please submit your comments using only one method. All comments must be submitted in English, or if not, accompanied by an English translation. Comments will be posted as received to <https://www.cftc.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Andrew Chapin, Associate Chief Counsel, Market Participants Division, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, (202) 418-5465, email: achapin@cftc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA,¹ Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (“OMB”) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. “Collection of Information” is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3 and includes agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A), requires Federal agencies to provide a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information, before submitting the collection to OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, the Commission is publishing notice of the proposed collection of information listed below. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.²

Title: Conflicts of Interest Policies and Procedures by Futures Commission Merchants and Introducing Brokers (OMB Control Nos. 3038-0078). This is a request for an extension of currently approved information collection.

Abstract: On April 3, 2012, the Commission adopted Commission regulation 1.71 (Conflicts of interest policies and procedures by futures commission merchants and introducing

brokers)³ pursuant to sections 4d(c)⁴ of the Commodity Exchange Act (“CEA”).⁵ Commission regulation 1.71 generally requires that, among other things, generally that, among other things, futures commission merchants (“FCM”)⁶ and introducing brokers (“IB”)⁷ develop conflicts of interest procedures and disclosures, adopt and implement written policies and procedures reasonably designed to ensure compliance with their conflicts of interest and disclosure obligations, and maintain specified records related to those requirements.⁸ The Commission believes that the information collection obligations imposed by Commission regulation 1.71 are essential to (i) ensuring that FCMs and IBs develop and maintain the conflicts of interest systems, procedures and disclosures required by the CEA, and Commission regulations, and (ii) the effective evaluation of these registrants’ actual compliance with the CEA and Commission regulations. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

With respect to the collection of information, the Commission invites comments on:

- Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have a practical use;
- The accuracy of the Commission’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Ways to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Ways to minimize the burden of 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.

You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. If you wish the Commission to

³ 17 CFR 1.71.

⁴ 7 U.S.C. 6d(c).

⁵ 77 FR 20198.

⁶ For the definition of FCM, see section 1a(28) of the CEA and Commission regulation 1.3. 7 U.S.C. 1a(49) and 17 CFR 1.3.

⁷ For the definitions of IB, see section 1a(31) of the CEA and Commission regulation 1.3. 7 U.S.C. 1a(33) and 17 CFR 1.3.

⁸ See 17 CFR 1.71.

¹ 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*

² 44 U.S.C. 3512, 5 CFR 1320.5(b)(2)(i) and 1320.8(b)(3)(vi).