

2004, from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Friday, February 20, 2004, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Hilton Hotel Crystal City, 2399 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Topics to be discussed at the meeting will include: USDA programs that encourage increased consumption of fruits and vegetables, grading and auditing programs offered by the Federal-State Inspection Service. AMS' microbiological data program, the organizational structure of the Perishable Agriculture Commodities Act Program, and methyl bromide issues.

Those parties that wish to speak at the meeting should register on or before February 13, 2004. To register as a speaker, please e-mail [Sandra.gardei@usda.gov](mailto:Sandra.gardei@usda.gov) or facsimile to (202) 720-0016. Registrants should include their name, address, and daytime telephone number. Depending on the number of registered speakers, time limits may be imposed on speakers. Speakers who have registered in advance will be given priority.

If you require special accommodations, such as a sign language interpreter, please contact the person listed for **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. The meeting will be recorded, and information about obtaining a transcript will be provided at the meeting.

The Secretary of Agriculture has selected a diverse group of members representing a broad spectrum of persons interested in providing suggestions and ideas on how USDA can tailor its programs to meet the fruit and vegetable industry's needs. Equal opportunity practices were considered in all appointments to the Committee in accordance with USDA policies.

Dated: January 14, 2004.

**A.J. Yates,**

*Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.*

[FR Doc. 04-1208 Filed 1-20-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-02-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Agricultural Research Service

#### Notice of Intent To Grant Exclusive License

**AGENCY:** Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, intends to grant Tetracore, Inc. of Gaithersburg, Maryland an exclusive license to U.S.

Patent No. 5,985,576, "Species-specific genetic identification of Mycobacterium paratuberculosis," issued on November 16, 1999. Notice of Availability of this invention for licensing was published in the **Federal Register** on November 3, 1999.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before February 20, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to: USDA, ARS, Office of Technology Transfer, 5601 Sunnyside Avenue, Room 4-1174, Beltsville, Maryland 20705-5131.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** June Blalock of the Office of Technology Transfer at the Beltsville address given above; telephone: 301-504-5989.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Federal Government's patent rights in this invention are assigned to the United States of America, as represented by the Secretary of Agriculture. It is in the public interest to so license this invention as Tetracore, Inc. of Gaithersburg, Maryland has submitted a complete and sufficient application for a license. The prospective license will be royalty-bearing and will comply with the terms and conditions of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The prospective license may be granted unless, within thirty (30) days from the date of this published Notice, the Agricultural Research Service receives written evidence and argument which establishes that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

**Michael D. Ruff,**

*Assistant Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 04-1206 Filed 1-20-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-03-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Bureau of the Census

#### Request for Nominations of Members To Serve on the Census Advisory Committee on the African American Population

**AGENCY:** Bureau of the Census, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of request for nominations.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 United States Code (U.S.C.), Appendix 2, Section 10(a)(b)), the Bureau of the Census (Census Bureau) requests nominations of individuals to the Census Advisory Committee on the African American Population. The Census Bureau will consider

nominations received in response to this Request for Nominations, as well as from other sources. The **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for this notice provides committee and membership criteria.

**DATES:** Please submit nominations by February 20, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Please submit nominations to Ms. Jeri Green, Chief, Census Advisory Committee Office, U.S. Census Bureau, Department of Commerce, Room 3627, Federal Building 3, Washington, DC 20233, or by fax to (301) 457-8608.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Jeri Green, Chief, Census Advisory Committee Office, at the above address or by telephone at (301) 763-2070.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Committee was established in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Title 5, U.S.C., Appendix 2) in 1995. The following provides information about the Committee, membership, and the nomination process.

#### Objectives and Duties

1. The Committee provides an organized and continuing channel of communication between African American communities and the Census Bureau. Committee members identify useful strategies to reduce the differential undercount for the African American population and ways data can be disseminated for maximum usefulness to the African American population.

2. The Committee draws upon prior decennial planning efforts, research studies, test censuses, and other experiences to provide advice and recommendations for the 2010 census, the American Community Survey, and related decennial programs.

3. The Committee functions solely as an advisory body under the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

4. The Committee reports to the Director of the Census Bureau.

#### Membership

1. Members are appointed by and serve at the discretion of the Secretary of Commerce.

2. Members are appointed to the nine-member Committee for a period of three years. Members will be reevaluated at the conclusion of the three-year term with the prospect of renewal, pending Advisory Committee needs and the Secretary's concurrence. Committee members are selected in accordance with applicable Department of Commerce guidelines. The Committee aims to have a balanced representation,