

servicing of guaranteed and insured loans and loans sold under 38 CFR 36.4600, the holder has the primary servicing responsibility. However, VA has the responsibility to see that the servicing efforts of holders are consistent with VA policies and guidelines. In those cases in which early payment of the delinquency appears unlikely, supplemental servicing by VA will be conducted to determine whether the holder may have overlooked any relief measures. Since there are ordinarily financial losses to both the borrower and the Government resulting from the foreclosure of a guaranteed loan, supplemental servicing can protect the interest of each by assuring that appropriate relief is extended to those borrowers whose loans can be reinstated within a reasonable period of time. VA Loan Service Representatives complete VA Form 26-6808 during the course of personal contacts with delinquent obligors. The information acquired may form the basis of VA's intercession with the holder for the acceptance of specially arranged repayment plans or other forbearance aimed at assisting the obligor in retaining his or her home.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 16,667 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 25 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 40,000.

Dated: April 22, 2004.

By direction of the Secretary:

Loise Russell,

Director, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 04-10136 Filed 5-4-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0546]

Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: National Cemetery Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Cemetery Administration (NCA), 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. This notice solicits comments on information needed to determine gravesite availability.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before July 6, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Mechelle Powell, National Cemetery Administration (41D1), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420 or e-mail *mechelle.powell@mail.va.gov*. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0546" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mechelle Powell at (202) 273-5181 or FAX (202) 273-6695.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501-21), 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, NCA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of NCA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of NCA'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.

Title: Gravesite Reservation Survey (2 Year), VA Form 40-40.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0546.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form Letter 40-40 is sent biennially to individuals holding gravesite set-asides to ascertain their wish to retain their set-aside, or relinquish it. Gravesite reservation surveys are necessary as some holders become ineligible, are buried elsewhere, or simply wish to cancel a gravesite set-aside for them. The survey is conducted to assure that gravesite set-asides do not go unused.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit.
Estimated Annual Burden: 3,000.
Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 10 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Biennially.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 18,000.

Dated: April 21, 2004.

By direction of the Secretary.

Loise Russell,

Director, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 04-10137 Filed 5-4-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Summary of Precedent Opinions of the General Counsel

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is publishing a summary of legal interpretations issued by the Department's Office of General Counsel involving veterans' benefits under laws administered by VA. These interpretations are considered precedential by VA and will be followed by VA officials and employees in future claim matters. They are being published to provide the public, and, in particular, veterans' benefit claimants and their representatives, with notice of VA's interpretations regarding the legal matters at issue.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan P. Sokoll, Law Librarian, Department of Veterans Affairs (026H), 810 Vermont Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20420. (202) 273-6558.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: VA regulations at 38 CFR 2.6(e)(8) and 14.507 authorize the Department's Office of General Counsel to issue written legal opinions having precedential effect in adjudications and appeals involving veterans' benefits under the laws administered by VA. The General Counsel's interpretations on legal matters, contained in such opinions, are conclusive as to all VA officials and employees not only in the matter at issue but also in future adjudications and appeals, in the absence of a change in controlling statute or regulation or a superseding written legal opinion of the General Counsel.

VA publishes summaries of such opinions in order to provide the public with notice of those interpretations of the General Counsel, which must be, followed in future benefit matters and to