

file declaration of intention; form N-300.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) has submitted the following information collection request for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The proposed information collection is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for sixty days until January 27, 2003.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the 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.

Overview of this information collection:

(1) *Type of Information Collection:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* Application to File Declaration of Intention.

(3) *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department of Homeland Security sponsoring the collection:* Form N-300. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Primary: Individuals or Households. This form will be used by permanent residents to file a declaration of intention to become a citizen of the United States. This collection is also used to satisfy documentary requirements for those seeking to work in certain occupations or professions, or to obtain various licenses.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time*

estimated for an average respondent to respond: 433 responses at 45 minutes per response.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* 325 annual burden hours.

If you have additional comments, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions, or additional information, please contact Richard A. Sloan 202-514-3291, Director, Regulations and Forms Services Division, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, Room 4304, 425 I Street, NW., Washington, DC 20536. Additionally, comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time may also be directed to Mr. Richard A. Sloan.

If additional information is required contact: Mr. Steve Cooper, PRA Clearance Officer, Department of Homeland Security, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Regional Office Building 3, 7th and D Streets, SW., Suite 4636-26, Washington, DC 20202.

Dated: November 21, 2003.

Richard A. Sloan,

Department Clearance Officer, Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

[FR Doc. 03-29705 Filed 11-26-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Citizenship and Immigration Services

Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request

ACTION: 60-day notice of information collection under review; request for certification of military or naval service; form N-426.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS), has submitted the following information collection request for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The proposed information collection is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for sixty days until January 27, 2004.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the 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.

Overview of this information collection:

(1) *Type of Information Collection:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* Request for Certification of Military or Naval Service.

(3) *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department of Homeland Security sponsoring the collection:* Form N-426. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Primary: Individuals or Households. This form will be used by the CIS to request a verification of the military or naval service claim by an applicant filing for naturalization on the basis of honorable service in the U.S. armed forces.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* 45,000 responses at 45 minutes per response.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* 33,750 annual burden hours.

If you have additional comments, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions, or additional information, please contact Richard A. Sloan 202-514-3291, Director, Regulations and Forms Services Division, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, Room 4034, 425 I Street, NW., Washington, DC 20536. Additionally, comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden

and associated response time may also be directed to Mr. Richard A. Sloan.

If additional information is required contact: Mr. Steve Cooper, PRA Clearance Officer, Department of Homeland Security, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Regional Office Building 3, 7th and D Streets, SW., Suite 4636-26, Washington, DC 20202.

Dated: November 21, 2003.

Richard A. Sloan,

Department Clearance Officer, Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

[FR Doc. 03-29706 Filed 11-26-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[CGD05-03-184]

Area Maritime Security Committee, Captain of the Port Baltimore, Maryland

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Area Maritime Security (AMS) Committee for the Captain of the Port Baltimore, MD zone will meet to discuss various issues relating to maritime security for the Captain of the Port Baltimore zone. The meeting will be open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Thursday, December 18, 2003, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Comments and related material must reach the Coast Guard on or before December 8, 2003.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies (MITAGS), 5700 Hammonds Ferry Road, Linthicum Heights, MD. You may mail comments and related material to Commander, U.S. Coast Guard Activities, 2401 Hawkins Point Road, Baltimore, MD 21226-1791. Comments and materials received from the public, as well as documents indicated in this preamble as being available in the docket, are part of docket [CGD05-03-184] and are available for inspection or copying at U.S. Coast Guard Activities, 2401 Hawkins Point Road, Baltimore, MD, 21226-1791.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lieutenant Charles Bright at U.S. Coast Guard Activities Baltimore, telephone 410-576-2676 or Petty Officer Courtney Dawkins, telephone 410-576-2616, of the Planning and Preparedness Division. Comments and related material may be faxed to 410-576-2553.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 102 of the Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA) of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-295) added section 70112 to Title 46 of the U.S. Code, and authorizes the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating to establish Area Maritime Security Advisory Committees (AMS Committees) for any port area of the United States. The MTSA includes a provision exempting these AMS Committees from the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), Pub. L. 92-436, 86 Stat. 470 (5 U.S.C. App. 2). The Coast Guard COTP Baltimore is holding a public meeting, in order to introduce the public to the purpose of and applications procedure for their AMS Committee. This meeting will serve as a general overview of the work that AMS Committee members will be completing, as well as offer the public the opportunity to ask questions regarding membership on the AMS Committee.

Agenda of Meeting

The agenda includes the following:

- (1) General Welcome and Introduction.
- (2) Review and Discussion of Maritime Security Regulations.
- (3) General Committee Structure and Processes.
- (4) Review and Discussion Area Maritime Plan.
- (5) Frequency of Area Maritime Security meetings.
- (6) Open Forum.

Procedural

The meeting is open to the public. Please note that the meeting may close early if all business is finished. At the Captain of the Port's discretion, members of the public may make oral presentations during the meeting. If you would like to make an oral presentation at the meeting, please notify Petty Officer Dawkins listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** no later than December 8, 2003. Written material for distribution at the meeting should reach the Coast Guard no later than December 8, 2003. If you would like a copy of your material distributed at the meeting, please submit 40 copies to the Coast Guard listed under **ADDRESSES**.

Information on Services for Individuals With Disabilities

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance at the meeting, contact the Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies (MITAGS) as soon as possible.

Dated: November 14, 2003.

Curtis A. Springer,

Captain, Coast Guard, Captain of the Port, Baltimore, Maryland.

[FR Doc. 03-29651 Filed 11-26-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[USCG-2003-16546]

Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (MERPAC) will hold a working group meeting to discuss training requirements and certification for a vessel security officer. MERPAC agreed at its September 19, 2003, meeting to accept task statement number 44 on security training and certification for vessel security officer and other vessel personnel. To facilitate the development of any additional training requirements in support of the U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Transportation Security regulations and complete the task statement, the working group will meet to discuss both training requirements and certification of vessel security officers. This meeting will be open to the public.

DATES: The MERPAC working group will meet on Wednesday, January 7, 2004, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The meeting may adjourn early if all business is finished.

ADDRESSES: The MERPAC working group will meet in room 6319, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC. This notice and task statement number 44 are available on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov> under docket number USCG-2003-16546.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions on this notice, contact Commander Brian J. Peter, Executive Director of MERPAC, or Mr. Mark C. Gould, Assistant to the Director, telephone 202-267-6890, fax 202-267-4570, or e-mail mgould@comdt.uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2. The Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee advises the Secretary of Homeland Security on matters relating to the training,