

recommendations and should offer to help management understand satisfactory methods to address such recommendations.

At the conclusion of each examination of a minority depository institution directly supervised by the FDIC, the FDIC will offer to have representatives return to the institution approximately 90 to 120 days later to review areas of concern or topics of interest to the institution. The purpose of the return visits will be to assist management in understanding and implementing examination recommendations, not to identify new problems. The level of technical assistance provided should be commensurate with the issues facing the institution. As such, institutions where more examination recommendations are made would generally be offered more detailed technical assistance in implementing those recommendations.

FDIC employees can advise on risk management procedures, accounting practices, recruiting techniques, etc., but will not actually perform tasks expected of an institution's management or employees. For example, FDIC employees may explain Call Report instructions as they relate to specific accounts, but will not assist in the preparation of an institution's Call Report. As another example, FDIC employees may provide information on community reinvestment opportunities, but will not recommend a specific transaction.

Training and Educational Programs

The FDIC will work with trade associations representing minority depository institutions and other regulatory agencies to periodically assess the need for, and provide for, training opportunities and educational opportunities. We will partner with the trade associations to offer training programs during their annual conferences and other regional meetings.

The national coordinator and the regional coordinators will also work with trade associations and other organizations to attempt to identify groups that may be interested in establishing new minority depository institutions. FDIC representatives will be available to address such groups to discuss the application process, the requirements of becoming FDIC insured, and the various programs geared toward minority depository institutions.

Failing Institutions

The FDIC will attempt to preserve the minority character of failing institutions during the resolution process. In the

event of a potential failure of a minority depository institution, the Division of Resolutions and Receiverships will contact all minority depository institutions nationwide that qualify to bid on failing institutions. The Division of Resolutions and Receiverships will solicit qualified minority depository institutions' interest in the failing institution, discuss the bidding process, and upon request, offer to provide technical assistance regarding completion of the bid forms. In addition, the Division of Resolutions and Receiverships, with assistance from the Office of Diversity and Economic Opportunity, will maintain a list of minority individuals and nonbank entities that have expressed an interest in acquiring failing minority-owned institutions. Trade associations that represent minority depository institutions will also be contacted periodically to help identify possible interested parties.

Reporting

The regional coordinators will report their region's activities related to this Policy Statement to the national coordinator quarterly. The national coordinator will compile the results of the regional offices' reports and submit a quarterly summary to the Office of the Chairman. Our efforts to preserve and promote minority ownership of depository institutions will also be highlighted in the FDIC's Annual Report.

Internet Site

The FDIC will create a Webpage on its Internet site (www.fdic.gov) to promote the Minority Depository Institution Program. Among other things, the page will describe the program and include the name, phone number, and email address of the national coordinator and each regional coordinator. The page will also contain links to the list of minority depository institutions, pertinent trade associations, and other regulatory agency programs. We will also explore the feasibility and usefulness of posting other items to the page, such as statistical information and comparative data for minority depository institutions. Visitors will have the opportunity to provide feedback regarding the FDIC's program and the usefulness of the Webpage.

By order of the Board of Directors.

Dated at Washington, DC, this 9th day of April, 2002.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Robert E. Feldman,
Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-9155 Filed 4-15-02; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Notice

DATE AND TIME: Thursday, April 18, 2002 at 10 a.m.

PLACE: 999 E Street, NW., Washington, D.C. (ninth floor)

STATUS: This meeting will be open to the public.

The following item has been added to the agenda:

Report of the Audit Division on Bill Bradley for President, Inc.

PERSON TO CONTACT FOR INFORMATION: Ron Harris, Press Officer, Telephone (202) 694-1220.

Mary W. Dove,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 02-9371 Filed 4-12-02; 3:18 pm]

BILLING CODE 6715-01-M

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

First Responder Initiative Grant Process

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The President's Fiscal Year 2003 Budget proposes \$3.5 billion in funding to prepare State and local first responders for terrorist attacks. Specifically, the initiative would include grants for planning, training, exercises, and equipment. While Congress has not acted on the President's proposal, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is preparing to implement the program if enacted by Congress. As part of a preliminary exploration of the issues, FEMA is soliciting ideas from all interested parties on the design of the grant program and processes. During the comment period, FEMA also will hold meetings on this subject with invited representatives from the State and local responder community and overall emergency management profession for the purpose of obtaining a variety of individual opinions.

DATES: Comments must be received by May 16, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Please send written comments to the Rules Docket Clerk,

Office of the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street, SW., room 840, Washington DC 20472, (facsimile) 202-646-4536, or (e-mail) rules@fema.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gil Jamieson, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Office of National Preparedness, 500 C Street, SW., Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-4090 or e-mail gil.jamieson@fema.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In preliminary exploration of the issues surrounding design of the President's proposed First Responder Initiative grant program, FEMA is soliciting responses to the following questions:

1. Does your jurisdiction have a plan in place that outlines the planning, training, equipment, and exercise needs of first responders? If not, would your jurisdiction be willing to develop such a plan? Do you have a recommendation as to how State and local governments and first response organizations may develop such plans jointly?

2. Does your jurisdiction have legislative, regulatory or budgetary restrictions that would prevent it from applying for, matching, or expending first responder grants?

3. Does your jurisdiction participate in mutual aid agreements? If local, what kinds of assistance are covered by the agreements and what is the extent of coverage: statewide, metropolitan area, or other? If a State, to which interstate mutual aid arrangements is your State a party? Does your State have a statewide mutual aid system? Should the Federal Government require States to participate in an interstate agreement and maintain an internal statewide mutual aid system as a condition of receiving these first responder grants?

4. Should meeting certain standards be a requirement for grantees? In what areas should standards be developed (e.g., training, interoperable communications and equipment, etc.) as part of this program? Do you have recommendations on the content of such standards? Should meeting any of these standards be a precondition of assistance rather than an outcome of the assistance?

5. What factors should be considered in deciding how much each State grantee and local subgrantee should receive (e.g., population, critical infrastructure)?

6. Does your jurisdiction have organizations in place to prepare grant applications, distribute funds, and report on progress? Please briefly describe this process.

7. Has your jurisdiction established a Citizen Corps Council to organize local

volunteer efforts to assist first responders, or does it already have another organization performing that function? 8. What other factors should be considered in developing the First Responder grant program (e.g., participation in Citizen Corps or Citizen Corps related activities)?

Dated: April 9, 2002.

Bruce P. Baughman,

Director, Office of National Preparedness.

[FR Doc. 02-9153 Filed 4-15-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6718-32-P

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Change in Bank Control Notices; Acquisition of Shares of Bank or Bank Holding Companies

The notificants listed below have applied under the Change in Bank Control Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)) and § 225.41 of the Board's Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.41) to acquire a bank or bank holding company. The factors that are considered in acting on the notices are set forth in paragraph 7 of the Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(7)).

The notices are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The notices also will be available for inspection at the office of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing to the Reserve Bank indicated for that notice or to the offices of the Board of Governors. Comments must be received not later than April 30, 2002.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

(W. Arthur Tribble, Vice President) 2200 North Pearl Street, Dallas, Texas 75201-2272:

1. *Mr. Gilbert Garza*, San Benito, Texas; to increase control of First San Benito Bancshares Corporation, San Benito, Texas, its intermediate tier bank holding company, First Community Holdings, Inc., Carson City, Nevada, and its subsidiary bank, First National Bank, San Benito, Texas.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, April 10, 2002.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 02-9151 Filed 4-15-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-S

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Bank Holding Company

Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*) (BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR Part 225), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a bank holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or the power to vote shares of a bank or bank holding company and all of the banks and nonbanking companies owned by the bank holding company, including the companies listed below.

The applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The application also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)). If the proposal also involves the acquisition of a nonbanking company, the review also includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1843). Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States. Additional information on all bank holding companies may be obtained from the National Information Center website at www.ffiec.gov/nic/.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than May 10, 2002.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of

Minneapolis (Julie Stackhouse, Vice President) 90 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55480-0291:

1. *Empire Federal Bancorp, Inc.*, Livingston, Montana; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of Montana First National Bancorporation, Kalispell, Montana, and thereby indirectly acquire voting shares of Montana First National Bank, Kalispell, Montana.

In connection with this application, Applicant also has applied to retain ownership of Empire Bank, Livingston Montana, and thereby engage in owning and operating a federal savings bank, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(4)(ii) of Regulation Y.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, April 10, 2002.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 02-9150 Filed 4-15-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-S