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. Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

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 29, 1998.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta (Lois Berthaume, Vice President) 104 Marietta Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303-2713:

1. First American Corporation, Nashville, Tennessee; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of Peoples Bank, Dickson, Tennessee.

B. Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City (D. Michael Manies, Assistant Vice President) 925 Grand Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri 64198-0001:

1. First Commerce Bancshares, Inc., Lincoln, Nebraska; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of Western Nebraska National Bank, Valentine, Nebraska.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, April 30, 1998.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 98–11975 Filed 5–5–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210–01–F

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Notice of Proposals to Engage in Permissible Nonbanking Activities or to Acquire Companies that are Engaged in Permissible Nonbanking Activities

The companies listed in this notice have given notice under section 4 of the Bank Holding Company Act (12 U.S.C. 1843) (BHC Act) and Regulation Y, (12 CFR Part 225) to engage *de novo*, or to acquire or control voting securities or assets of a company, including the companies listed below, that engages either directly or through a subsidiary or other company, in a nonbanking activity that is listed in § 225.28 of Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.28) or that the Board has determined by Order to be closely related to banking and permissible for bank holding companies. Unless otherwise noted, these activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Each notice is available for inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The notice also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the question whether the proposal complies with the standards of section 4 of the BHC Act.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding the applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than May 20, 1998.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of New York (Betsy Buttrill White, Senior Vice President) 33 Liberty Street, New York, New York 10045-0001:

1. The Bank of Nova Scotia, Toronto, Canada; to acquire American Securities Transfer & Trust Incorporated, Denver, Colorado, and thereby engage in certain shareholder services, including acting as a stock transfer and dividend disbursing agent and providing similar custodial or agency services, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(5) of the Board's Regulation Y.

B. Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago (Philip Jackson, Applications Officer) 230 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60690-1413:

1. First Chicago NBD Corporation, Chicago, Illinois; to acquire indirectly through First Chicago Trust Company, New York, New York, 50 percent of the voting shares of Boston EquiServe, L.P., Canton, Massachusetts, and thereby engage in the nonbanking activities of providing data processing services and performing trust company operations pursuant to §§ 225.28(b)(14) and 225.28(b)(5) of the Board's Regulation Y.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, April 30, 1998.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 98–11976 Filed 5–5–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210–01–F

FEDRAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Sunshine Act Meeting

TIME AND DATE: 11:00 a.m., Monday, May 11, 1998.

PLACE: Marriner S. Eccles Federal Reserve Board Building, 20th and C Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20551.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Personnel actions (appointments, promotions, assignments, reassignments, and salary actions) involving individual Federal Reserve System employees.
2. Any items carried forward from a previously announced meeting.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Joseph R. Coyne, Assistant to the Board; 202–452–3204.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: You may call 202–452–3206 beginning at approximately 5 p.m. two business days before the meeting for a recorded announcement of bank and bank holding company applications scheduled for the meeting; or you may contact the Board's Web site at http://www.bog.frb.fed.us for an electronic announcement that not only lists applications, but also indicates procedural and other information about the meeting.

Dated: May 1, 1998

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 98–12097 Filed 5–1–98; 5:08 pm]

BILLING CODE 6210–01–P

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

Survey of Rent-to-Own Customers; Proposed Information Collection

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

ACTION: Proposed information collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The FTC invites comments on a proposed telephone survey before submitting a request for OMB review under the Paperwork Reduction Act.

DATES: Comments on the proposed survey must be submitted on or before July 6, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to Elaine W. Crockett,

Attorney, Office of the General Counsel, Room 598, 6th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20850. Telephone: (202) 326–2453. E-mail: ECrockett@FTC.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Signe-Mary McKernan, Economist, Federal Trade Commission, 6th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20580. Telephone: (202) 326–3480. E-mail: SMcKernan@FTC.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FTC seeks comments concerning a proposed telephone survey of consumers in order to: (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the FTC, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) Evaluate the accuracy of the FTC's 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.

Title: Survey of Rent-to-Own Customers.

Type of review: New.

Frequency: Once.

Affected public: Consumers.

Response Hour Burden:

Pre-test questionnaire: approximately 10 minutes × 50 people=8 hours.

Screening question: One initial question within a survey of 20,000 people (other topics are also submitted from third party entities). Approximately 30 seconds × 20,000 people=167 hours.

Questionnaire response: Approximately 300–500 consumers × 10 minutes=83 hours.

Total burden hours: Approximately 260.

Abstract: The FTC proposes to survey rent-to-own customers in order to evaluate their experiences with rent-to-own transactions. This information will be used to assess reported consumer protection concerns and in consideration of possible future Commission actions. All information will be collected on a voluntary basis and the identities of respondents will remain confidential.

If OMB approves, the FTC will contract with a survey firm to identify 300 to 500 rent-to-own consumers and to briefly obtain information about their experience with the rent-to-own industry. Survey respondents will be identified through screening questions included in a preexisting random digit dialing survey of a nationally representative sample of approximately 1,000 individuals. The screening survey will include routine demographic questions as well as specific questions contracted by other firms and organizations. Given the low (roughly 2%) incidence rate of rent-to-own customers within the general population, the FTC estimates that approximately 20,000 people will be screened in order to obtain a sample of 300 to 500 customers.

The survey questionnaire will be pretested on approximately 50 respondents to ensure that all questions are easily understood. The pretest will take approximately 10 minutes apiece, for a total of 8 hours. The final survey will involve 300–500 respondents, again for approximately 10 minutes apiece, for a total of 83 hours.

By direction of the Commission.

Donald S. Clark,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–11941 Filed 5–5–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6750–01–M

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

''Year 2000'' Consumer Issues; Request for Comment

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.

ACTION: Request for public comments.

SUMMARY: The Federal Trade Commission (''Commission'') seeks comment on the various types of ''Year 2000'' problems that consumers are likely to face. The term ''Year 2000 problems'' (hereinafter ''Y2K problems'') as used in this **Federal Register** Notice (hereinafter ''Notice'') refers to problems caused by the inability of software and/or electronic products, including personal computers (hereinafter ''PCs'') and other computer systems, to process, store, display, or otherwise utilize dates correctly beginning in the year 2000. This inability usually stems from a failure to distinguish between the year 2000 (and subsequent years) and the year 1900 (and subsequent years). Additionally, it might include an inability to recognize the year 2000 as a leap year.

Specifically, the Commission seeks comment on what types of consumer software and electronic products are likely to experience Y2K problems, as well as what steps have been taken or will be taken by software publishers, electronics manufacturers, and others to notify consumers of any anticipated Y2K problems and to remedy any such problems. The Commission also seeks comment on potential Y2K problems likely facing various segments of the consumer financial services industry, such as finance entities, consumer reporting agencies (some of which are commonly referred to as credit bureaus), and other businesses involved in consumer financial services. Lastly, the Commission seeks comment regarding interest in participating in or attending one or more workshops to discuss the issues raised in this Notice.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before June 22, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be submitted to: Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, Room H–159, Sixth Street and Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, D.C. 20580. The Commission requests that the original comment be filed with five copies, if feasible. The Commission also requests, if possible, that the comment be submitted in electronic form on a computer disk. (Programs based on DOS or Windows are preferred. Files from other operating systems should be submitted in ASCII text format.) The disk label should identify the commenter's name and the name and version of the word processing program used to create the comment. Alternatively, the Commission will accept comments submitted to the following e-mail address <y2k@ftc.gov>. All submissions should be captioned: ''Year 2000 Consumer Issues—Comment, FTC File No. P984238.''

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions concerning consumer software or electronic products: Jonathan M. Cowen, Attorney, Division of Enforcement, Federal Trade Commission, Sixth Street & Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20580, telephone 202–326–2533, e-mail (for questions or information only) <jcowen@ftc.gov>. For questions concerning consumer financial services: Rolando Berrelez, Attorney, Division of Credit Practices, Federal Trade Commission, Sixth Street and Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20580, telephone 202–326–3211, e-mail (for questions or information only) <rberrelez@ftc.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Commission believes that consumers might potentially experience