

Peachtree Street, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30309:

1. *Whitney Holding Corporation*, New Orleans, Louisiana; to merge with Signature Financial Holdings, Inc., and thereby acquire Signature Bank, both of St. Petersburg, Florida.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, November 8, 2006.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. E6-19200 Filed 11-13-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-S

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

Notice of Interest Rate on Overdue Debts

Section 30.13 of the Department of Health and Human Services' claims collection regulations (45 CFR Part 30) provides that the Secretary shall charge an annual rate of interest as fixed by the Secretary of the Treasury after taking into consideration private consumer rates of interest prevailing on the date that HHS becomes entitled to recovery. The rate generally cannot be lower than the Department of Treasury's current value of funds rate or the applicable rate determined from the "Schedule of Certified Interest Rates with Range of Maturities." This rate may be revised quarterly by the Secretary of the Treasury and shall be published quarterly by the Department of Health and Human Services in the **Federal Register**.

The Secretary of the Treasury has certified a rate of 12 $\frac{3}{8}$ % for the quarter ended September 30, 2006. This interest rate will remain in effect until such time as the Secretary of the Treasury notifies HHS of any change.

Dated: November 1, 2006.

Jean Augustine,

Director, Office of Financial Policy and Reporting.

[FR Doc. 06-9187 Filed 11-13-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[30Day-07-06AW]

Agency Forms Undergoing Paperwork Reduction Act Review

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) publishes a list of information collection requests under review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). To request a copy of these requests, call the CDC Reports Clearance Officer at (404) 639-5960 or send an e-mail to omb@cdc.gov. Send written comments to CDC Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC or by fax to (202) 395-6974. Written comments should be received within 30 days of this notice.

Proposed Project

Supplement to the National Birth Defects Prevention Study: Qualitative Assessment of the Attitudes Mothers Have Toward Collecting Biological Specimens on their Infants and Young Children to Study Risk Factors for Birth Defects and Preterm Delivery—New—National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Background and Brief Description

The National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), has been conducting the National Birth Defects Prevention Study (OMB number 0920-0010, Exp. 5/31/2009) since 1997. The NBDPS is a case-control study of major birth defects that includes cases identified from existing birth defect surveillance registries in nine states, including metropolitan Atlanta. Control infants are randomly selected from birth certificates or birth hospital records. Mothers of case and control infants are interviewed using a computer-assisted telephone interview. Parents are asked to collect cheek cells from themselves and their infants for DNA testing. Information gathered from both the interviews and the DNA specimens will be used to study independent genetic and environmental factors as well as gene-environment interactions for a

broad range of carefully classified birth defects.

This proposed supplement to the National Birth Defects Prevention Study will use qualitative research to provide data on the barriers to participation in the collection of biological specimens by mothers on themselves, their infants, and young children. It is costly to implement the collection of biological specimens into an interview/questionnaire-based study. However, an ever-increasing number of studies include the examination of environmental and genetic interactions to help medical and public health professionals' better target appropriate interventions. A critical component for studies of gene variants is the collection of biological specimens. Participation and non-participation in the collection of biological specimens is not fully understood. We will conduct multiple well-designed focus groups to assess the attitudes of both mothers who participated and mothers who did not participate in the collection of biological specimens to increase the effectiveness of these studies. This information will be useful to many groups at the CDC who are currently collecting biological specimens from infants and their families but with less than optimal response rates and those who are working to implement studies that include the use of biological specimens.

Scientists from the National Birth Defects Prevention Study (NBDPS) in NCBDDD, the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) in NCCDPHP, and the Office of Genomics and Disease Prevention (OGDP) have received Collaborative Initiative intramural funding to conduct focus groups aimed at gaining insight into the barriers and motivations women have for participating in the collection of biological specimens. Among the three collaborating Centers within the Coordinating Center for Health Promotion, NCBDDD's National Birth Defects Prevention Study provides a unique opportunity for exploring the barriers and motivations toward collection of genetic material. This focus group project will recruit mothers who participated in the maternal interview for the National Birth Defects Prevention Study (NBDPS). There are no costs to the respondents other than their time. The total estimated annualized burden hours are 214.

ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS

| Type of respondent | Number of respondents | Frequency of response | Avg. burden/response (in hours) | Annual burden (in hours) |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Focus group Participants | 72 | 1 | 2.5 | 180 |

Dated: November 6, 2006.

Joan F. Karr,

Acting Reports Clearance Officer, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

[FR Doc. E6-19144 Filed 11-13-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[60Day-07-0217]

Proposed Data Collections Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations

In compliance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects. To request more information on the proposed projects or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans and instruments, call 404-639-5960 and send comments to Seleda Perryman, CDC Assistant Reports Clearance Officer, 1600 Clifton Road, MS-D74, Atlanta, GA 30333 or send an e-mail to omb@cdc.gov.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including

whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Proposed Project

Vital Statistics Training Application, OMB No. 0920-0217—Extension—National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Background and Brief Description

In the United States, legal authority for the registration of vital events, *i.e.*, births, deaths, marriages, divorces, fetal deaths, and induced terminations of pregnancy, resides individually with the States (as well as cities in the case of New York City and Washington, DC) and Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. These governmental entities are the full legal proprietors of vital records and the information contained therein. As a result of this State authority, the collection of registration-based vital statistics at the national level, referred to as the U.S. National Vital Statistics

System (NVSS), depends on a cooperative relationship between the States and the Federal Government. This data collection, authorized by 42 U.S.C. 242k, has been carried out by NCHS since it was created in 1960.

NCHS assists in achieving the comparability needed for combining data from all States into national statistics, by conducting a training program for State and local vital statistics staff to assist in developing expertise in all aspects of vital registration and vital statistics. The training offered under this program includes courses for registration staff, statisticians, and coding specialists, all designed to bring about a high degree of uniformity and quality in the data provided by the States. This training program is authorized by 42 U.S.C. 242b, section 304(a). In order to offer the types of training that would be most useful to vital registration staff members, NCHS requests information from State and local vital registration officials about their projected needs for training. NCHS also asks individual candidates for training to submit an application form containing name, address, occupation, work experience, education, and previous training. These data enable NCHS to determine those individuals whose needs can best be met through the available training resources. NCHS is requesting 3 years of OMB clearance for this project. There is no cost to respondents in providing these data.

ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS

| Respondents | Number of respondents | Number of responses per respondent | Average burden per response (in hours) | Total burden hours |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| State, local, and Territory Registration Officials | 57 | 1 | 20/60 | 19 |
| Training applicants | 100 | 1 | 15/60 | 25 |
| Total | | | | 44 |