

effects a change in an existing service of OCC that (i) does not adversely affect the safeguarding of securities or funds in the custody or control of OCC or for which it is responsible and (ii) does not significantly affect the respective rights or obligations of OCC or persons using the service. At any time within sixty days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609. Comments may also be submitted electronically at the following e-mail address: rule-comments@sec.gov. All comment letters should refer to File No. SR-FICC-2002-13. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help us process and review comments more efficiently, comments should be sent in hardcopy or by e-mail but not by both methods. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Section, 450 Fifth Street NW., Washington, DC 20549. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of FICC. All submissions should refer to the File No. SR-FICC-2002-13 and should be submitted by April 22, 2003.

For the Commission by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.⁶

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-7758 Filed 3-31-03; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-47565; File No. SR-MSRB-2003-01]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change Relating to the Establishment of an Optional Procedure for Electronic Submission of Forms G-37/G-38 and G-37x Under Rule G-37, on Political Contributions and Prohibitions on Municipal Securities Business, and Rule G-38, on Consultants

March 25, 2003.

Pursuant to section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") and rule 19b-4 thereunder,¹ notice is hereby given that on March 21, 2003, the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (the "MSRB" or "Board") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") a proposed rule change (File No. SR-MSRB-2003-01) (the "proposed rule change") described in items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the MSRB. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The MSRB has filed with the Commission a proposed rule change amending Rule G-37, on political contributions and prohibitions on municipal securities business, and Rule G-38, on consultants, to establish an optional procedure for electronic submission of Forms G-37/G-38 and G-37x. The proposed rule change will become effective on the later of June 30, 2003 or 30 days after Commission approval, and the MSRB expects that the new electronic submission system will become operational concurrently therewith. The text of the proposed rule change is set forth below. Additions are italicized; deletions are bracketed.

Rule G-37—Political Contributions and Prohibitions on Municipal Securities Business

(a)-(d) No change.
(e)(i) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (e)(ii), each broker, dealer or municipal securities dealer shall, by the last day of the month following the end of each calendar quarter (these dates correspond to January 31, April 30, July

31 and October 31) send to the Board [by certified or registered mail, or some other equally prompt means that provides a record of sending, two copies of] Form G-37/G-38 setting forth, in the prescribed format, the following information:

(A)-(E) No change.

The Board shall make public a copy of each Form G-37/G-38 received from any broker, dealer or municipal securities dealer.

(ii)(A) No broker, dealer or municipal securities dealer shall be required to send Form G-37/G-38 to the Board for any calendar quarter in which either:

(1) No change.

(2) Subject to clause (B) of this paragraph (e)(ii), such broker, dealer or municipal securities dealer has not engaged in municipal securities business, but only if such broker, dealer or municipal securities dealer:

(a) No change.

(b) Has sent to the Board[, by certified or registered mail or some other equally prompt means that provides a record of sending, two copies of a] completed Form G-37x setting forth, in the prescribed format, (i) a certification to the effect that such broker, dealer or municipal securities dealer did not engage in municipal securities business during the eight consecutive calendar quarters immediately preceding the date of such certification, (ii) certain acknowledgments as are set forth in said Form G-37x regarding the obligations of such broker, dealer or municipal securities dealer in connection with Forms G-37/G-38 and G-37x under this paragraph (e)(ii) and rule G-8(a)(xvi), and (iii) such other identifying information required by Form G-37x; provided that, if a broker, dealer or municipal securities dealer has engaged in municipal securities business subsequent to the submission of Form G-37x to the Board, such broker, dealer or municipal securities dealer shall be required to submit a new Form G-37x to the Board in order to again qualify for an exemption under this subclause (A)(2). The Board shall make public a copy of each Form G-37x received from any broker, dealer or municipal securities dealer.

(B) No change.

(iii) No change.

(iv) A broker, dealer or municipal securities dealer that submits Form G-37/G-38 or Form G-37x to the Board shall either:

(A) Send two copies of such form to the Board by certified or registered mail, or some other equally prompt means that provides a record of sending; or
(B) submit an electronic version of such form to the Board in such format

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1) and 17 CFR 240.19b-4 thereunder.

⁶ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

and manner specified in the current Instructions for Form G-37/G-38 and Form G-37x.

(f)-(i) No change.

* * * * *

Rule G-38—Consultants

(a)-(d) No change.

(e) Disclosure to Board. Each broker, dealer and municipal securities dealer shall send to the Board, [by certified or registered mail, or some other equally prompt means that provides a record of sending,] and the Board shall make public, reports of all consultants used by the broker, dealer or municipal securities dealer during each calendar quarter. *Such* [Two copies of the] reports must be sent to the Board on Form G-37/G-38 by the last day of the month following the end of each calendar quarter (these dates correspond to January 31, April 30, July 31, and October 31) *in the manner provided under Rule G-37*. Such reports shall include, for each consultant, in the prescribed format, the consultant's name pursuant to the Consultant Agreement, business address, role (including the state or geographic area in which the consultant is working on behalf of the broker, dealer or municipal securities dealer), compensation arrangement, any municipal securities business obtained or retained by the consultant with each such business listed separately, and, if applicable, dollar amounts paid to the consultant connected with particular municipal securities business. Such reports shall indicate the total dollar amount of payments made to each consultant during the report period. In addition, such reports shall include the following information to the extent required to be obtained during such calendar quarter pursuant to paragraph (c)(i) of this rule:

(i)-(ii) No change.

(iii) if applicable, a statement that the consultant failed to provide any report of information to the *broker, dealer or municipal securities* dealer concerning reportable political contributions or reportable political party payments.

Once a contribution or payment has been disclosed on a report, the *broker, dealer or municipal securities* dealer should not continue to disclose that particular contribution or payment on subsequent reports.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the MSRB included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any

comments it received on the proposed rule change. The texts of these statements may be examined at the places specified in item IV below. The MSRB has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

(1) Purpose

Rules G-37 and G-38 require brokers, dealers and municipal securities dealers ("dealers") to submit to the MSRB on Form G-37/G-38 certain information regarding political contributions to issuer officials, payments to state and local political parties, issuers with which the dealer has engaged in municipal securities business and consultants engaged by the dealer to obtain municipal securities business. In addition, certain dealers that wish to be exempted from the Form G-37/G-38 submission requirement must submit Form G-37x to the MSRB. The MSRB is implementing an optional system of electronic submission by dealers of Forms G-37/G-38 and G-37x to the MSRB. The MSRB also is amending rules G-37 and G-38 in order to effectuate this electronic system.²

Dealers will not be required to make submissions electronically and the MSRB will continue to accept submissions made on paper. Dealers that submit Forms G-37/G-38 and G-37x on paper will continue to be required to send two copies of each form to the MSRB by certified or registered mail, or some other equally prompt means that provides a record of sending.³ Electronic submissions will be made as described below.⁴

Electronic submissions will be made by dealers through a secure, password-protected Internet website. A password will be assigned to a dealer prior to the first use by such dealer of the electronic system in a manner intended to assure authentication of submitters using the

² Technical amendments to the final sentence of Rule G-38(e) and to Rule G-38(e)(iii) are also made to conform language to usage throughout MSRB rules.

³ Procedures for making submissions by paper are removed from Rules G-37(e)(i), G-37(e)(ii)(A)(2)(b) and G-38(e) and are consolidated in amended Rule G-37(e)(iv)(A).

⁴ Amended Rule G-37(e)(iv)(B) provides that procedures for making submissions using the electronic system would be set forth in the MSRB's Instructions for Form G-37/G-38 and Form G-37x to be published upon implementation of the system. These instructions will replace the current Instructions of Completing and Filing Form G-37/G-38.

system. Each dealer will be required to submit an e-mail address for purposes of receiving electronic records of submissions as well as to provide for follow-up by MSRB staff should any submission prove to be incomplete or incorrect.

Forms G-37/G-38 and G-37x will be submitted electronically by completion of an on-line data entry form, by uploading of an electronic file of a completed form, or a combination of on-line data entry and uploading of files.⁵ On-line forms will elicit the same information as paper Forms G-37/G-38 and G-37x and will be in substantially the same format. All uploaded files must be in Adobe Acrobat® portable document format ("PDF"). The MSRB will continue to make all Forms G-37/G-38 and G-37x available to the public for viewing and printing through its website.

The new system will provide a dealer that makes an electronic submission with an electronic record confirming receipt of the submission and providing a control number assigned by the system. This electronic record, together with a PDF copy of the Form G-37/G-38 or G-37x submitted by the dealer made available by the system on-line, is intended to satisfy the requirement under Rule G-8(a)(xvi)(H) that dealers maintain copies of Forms G-37/G-38 and G-37x and records of sending such forms to the MSRB.⁶

The MSRB currently requires that any incomplete or incorrect submission be corrected by the submitter prior to the MSRB accepting the submission as in compliance with Rules G-37 and G-38. Thus, any submission through the electronic system will be subject to such automated and/or manual review as MSRB staff deems appropriate prior to final acceptance. The electronic record of submission sent by the system as described above should not be viewed as a record of acceptance by the MSRB.

(2) Basis

The MSRB believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with section 15B(b)(2)(C) of the Exchange Act, which requires that the MSRB's rules:

be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with

⁵ For example, a dealer could provide information regarding political contributions through direct data entry into the on-line form and could upload an internally-generated electronic file listing all municipal securities business engaged in during the calendar quarter.

⁶ Of course, this electronic record must be maintained in a manner that complies with section (e) of Rule G-9, on preservation of records.

persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in municipal securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market in municipal securities, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

The MSRB believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the Exchange Act in that it allows for a more efficient process of submitting required information by dealers to the MSRB.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The MSRB does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Exchange Act since it would apply equally to all dealers

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within 35 days of the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

(A) By order approve the proposed rule change, or

(B) Institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

The MSRB has requested that the proposed rule change become effective on the later of June 30, 2003 or 30 days after Commission approval.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule is consistent with the Exchange Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20549-0608. Copies of the submissions, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the SEC, and all written communications relating to

the proposed rule change between the SEC and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the SEC's Public Reference Room. Copies of the filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the MSRB's principal offices. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-MSRB-2003-01 and should be submitted by April 22, 2003.

For the Commission by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.⁷

Jill M. Peterson,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-7731 Filed 3-31-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Privacy Act of 1974; Alteration to an Existing System of Records

AGENCY: Social Security Administration (SSA).

ACTION: Notice of alteration to an existing Privacy Act system of records.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(4)) we are issuing public notice of our intent to alter an existing system of records, the *Claims Folders System, 60-0089*, by expanding the categories of records mentioned in the System. We discuss this proposed change in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below.

We invite public comments on these proposals.

DATES: We filed a report of the proposed alteration with the Chairwoman of the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, the Chairman of the House Government Reform Committee, and the Director, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on March 25, 2003. The proposed alteration will become effective on May 8, 2003, unless we receive comments on or before that date that would warrant our not implementing the proposed alteration.

ADDRESSES: Interested individuals may comment on this publication by writing to the Executive Director, Office of Public Disclosure, Office of the General Counsel, Social Security Administration, 3-A-6 Operations Building, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21235-6401. All

⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

comments received will be available for public inspection at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Linda Thibodeaux, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Room 3-C-2 Operations Building, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21235-6401, telephone (410) 965-9821, e-mail: linda.thibodeaux@ssa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background and Purpose of the Proposed Alteration to Existing Privacy Act System of Records, the Claims Folders System, 60-0089

A. General Background

The Social Security Administration (SSA) plans to conduct several pilot projects designed to test and gather information on the use of photographic identification to address the issue of complicit impersonation in the disability and blindness claims process. The part of the disability and blindness determination process used by SSA to supplement existing medical evidence from treatment sources when there is not enough information to make a disability or blindness determination or decision is the consultative examination (CE). Complicit impersonation is accomplished when an individual posing as the intended claimant, and with the consent of the claimant, responds to a CE appointment in order to misrepresent the claimant's true medical condition or provides false or misleading information that affects eligibility during interviews with SSA field office employees.

SSA is promulgating temporary regulations that will provide the authority for us to require individuals filing for title II or title XVI disability and blindness benefits in the pilot sites to have their photograph taken. Once these regulations are promulgated, failure to comply with the pilot requirements will result in denial of benefits.

The claimant identification pilot projects will be in effect for a six-month period of time that will begin 30 days after final rules providing regulatory authority for the pilots are published in the **Federal Register**. The pilot sites include all SSA field offices in the States of South Carolina and Kansas; the Augusta, Georgia SSA field office; and nine SSA field offices located in New York City: Uptown (Manhattan); East Bronx (Bronx); Parkway (Bronx); West Farms (Bronx); Bushwick (Brooklyn); East New York (Brooklyn); Avenue X (Brooklyn); Flatbush (Brooklyn) and Flushing (Queens).