

are other banks, certain governmental entities, or businesses for which reporting would serve little or no law enforcement purpose. The amendments also authorize Treasury to exempt certain other businesses.

On September 8, 1997, and September 21, 1998, Treasury issued final rules regarding these statutory amendments (62 FR 47141 and 63 FR 50147, respectively). The final rules reform and simplify the process by which banks may exempt eligible customers.

Under the simplified procedures of the new rules, a key requirement is a "designation" sent to the Treasury indicating that a customer will be treated by the bank as an exempt person, so that no further currency transaction reports will be filed on the customer's cash transactions exceeding \$10,000. As part of the simplification process, Treasury is issuing a new form specifically for making that designation. This dedicated-use form will be easier to use than the current procedure, which requires banks to complete certain entries on the currency transaction report itself. The dedicated-use form will also enable Treasury to develop procedures for the magnetic media filing of exemptions.

The information collected on the new form, Designation of Exempt Person, TD F 90-22.53 is required to exempt bank customers from currency transaction reporting. The information is used to help determine whether a bank has properly exempted its customers. The collection of information is mandatory.

Type of Review: New information collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 19,000.

Estimated Total Annual Responses: 250,000.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: Reporting average of 10 minutes per response; recordkeeping average of 1 hour per response. Estimated total annual burden hours: Reporting burden of 41,667 hours; recordkeeping burden of 250,000 hours, for an estimated combined total of 291,667 hours.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Records required to be retained under the Bank Secrecy Act must be retained for five years. Generally, information collected pursuant to the Bank Secrecy Act is confidential, but may be shared as provided by law with regulatory and law enforcement authorities.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the 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 collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (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; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance and purchase of services to provide information.

Dated: January 13, 1999.

William F. Baity,

Acting Director, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network.

[FR Doc. 99-1485 Filed 1-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4820-03-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Customs Service

Announcement Concerning Y2K Compliance

AGENCY: Customs Service, Treasury.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: Customs computer systems have been modified to ensure that they are Y2K compliant—meaning that Customs computer program systems will process data entered for the year 2000 as 2000 and not as the year 1900. This notice announces Customs plan to allow members of the trade with electronic filing capabilities that are approved to interface with Customs through Customs automated systems and that can meet certain operational requirements to transmit trial data to establish if their computer software applications will interface properly with Customs Y2K compliant systems. The purpose of these compliance trials is to provide an opportunity for the trade community to assess their computer applications' Y2K readiness and raise the confidence level of the trade community in Customs Y2k renovated systems.

This notice invites comments concerning any aspect of this exercise and informs interested members of the trade community of the operational

requirements for voluntary participation in the exercise.

DATES: The compliance trials will commence no earlier than February 1, 1999 and will run for approximately four months. Any electronic filer interested in participating should contact their Customs or Census client representative on or before February 1, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written comments regarding this notice and/or requests to participate in these trials should be addressed to the Chief, Trade Support Branch, U. S. Customs Service, 7501 Boston Blvd., #211, Springfield, VA 22153.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information in general, contact your Customs or Census client representative. For carriers filing in the Advance Passenger Information System (APIS), contact the APIS Technical coordinator, Charles Fife (703) 921-5816; Fax (703) 921-5901.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Because of a decision made at the dawn of the computer age to save scarce computer memory by giving all dates a two-digit field in the belief that those early computers would be replaced by the year 2000, computer systems worldwide may malfunction or produce inaccurate information on January 1, 2000. The reason these computer systems may malfunction is that the computers may misinterpret data entered for the year 2000 ("00") as 1900, rather than 2000. This problem is frequently referred to as the Y2K (for Year 2000) problem. Unless corrected, such failures will have a costly widespread impact on federal, state, and local governments, foreign governments, and private sector organizations. All sectors of the economy, many of which provide goods and services that are vital to the nation's health and well being, are at risk, including: telecommunications; public utilities; transportation; banking and finance; commerce and small business; national defense; government revenue collection and benefit payments; and health, safety, and emergency services. Moreover, a Y2K problem in one sector may cascade to others due to the many interdependencies and linkages among them.

The various Customs automated interfaces that may be affected by the Y2K problem include, the Automated Broker Interface, the Automated Manifest System, the Automated Commercial Environment, the Advance

Passenger Information System (APIS) and the Automated Export System.

On February 4, 1998, the President issued Executive Order 13073 (63 FR 6467; 3 CFR 1998 Compilation __; 34 Weekly Comp.Pres.Doc. 198) concerning Year 2000 Conversion. That Order directed, in part, that executive branch agencies:

(1) Assure that no critical Federal program experiences disruption because of the Y2K problem;

(2) Assist and cooperate with State, local, and tribal governments to address the Y2K problem where those governments depend on Federal information or information technology or the Federal Government is dependent on those governments to perform critical missions; and

(3) Cooperate with the private sector operators of critical national and local systems, including the banking and financial, the telecommunications, the public health, the transportation, and the electronic power generation systems, in addressing the Y2K problem.

This notice addresses the third of these concerns and seeks to allow those members of the trade community with electronic filing capabilities that are approved to interface with Customs through Customs automated systems and that can meet the operational requirements specified below to transmit trial data to establish if their computer software applications will interface with Customs computers regarding recognition of the year 2000. These trials should raise the confidence level of the trade community in Customs Year 2000 renovated systems.

Trial Design/Plan

Initially, this exercise will occur in cycles, with one week "on" and one week "off", for a six week period of time. During each cycle, a specific date will be pre-identified as the "systems date". For example, on Monday the system clock would be set to 12/31/99; the following Tuesday the system clock would be set to 01/01/00, etc., until the prescribed dates have been utilized and processed. The plan will simultaneously execute similar applications with similar communication protocols and configurations together.

Participation Requirements

This notice requests volunteers. In order to participate in these Y2K trials, the electronic filer must be currently approved (deemed operational) to interface through Customs automated systems. The filer must also be able to perform the following types of actions:

(1) Advance his computer systems' internal clock to conform to the adjusted systems date in the Customs Y2K test environment;

(2) Utilize preestablished test data that will accommodate futuristic date validations in order to accurately process with Customs test system. The dates within this test data must be modified by the participant on each day of the exercise. In the case of the APIS however, participants will be required to utilize test data with preestablished dates; and

(3) Utilize special "dial-up" phone lines.

It is noted that participants connecting through other mediums such as dedicated lines, Value Added Networks (VANs), etc., will be carefully supported to coordinate connectivity issues. Other unique system requirements may be necessary to support this effort. These will be identified with participants and coordinated accordingly.

It should be noted that participation in these trials will not permit Customs to certify the trading partner's system for Y2K compliancy.

Interested members of the trade community wishing to participate in these Y2K trials or wishing to submit comments before the date of these trials should contact their Customs or Census client representative or APIS coordinator as indicated at the front of this document.

Dated: January 19, 1999.

S.W. Hall,

Assistant Commissioner, Office of Information and Technology.

[FR Doc. 99-1461 Filed 1-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4820-02-P

INFORMATION AGENCY

Culturally Significant Objects Imported for Exhibition Determinations: "Diego Rivera: Art and Revolution"

AGENCY: United States Information Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the following determinations: Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Act of October 19, 1965 (79 Stat. 985, 22 U.S.C. 2459), Executive Order 12047 of March 27, 1978 (43 FR 133359, March 29, 1978), and Delegation Order No. 85-5 of June 27 1985 (50 FR 27393, July 2, 1985). I hereby determine that the objects to be included in the exhibit, "Diego Rivera: Art and Revolution," imported from abroad for the temporary exhibition without profit within the

United States, are of cultural significance. These objects are imported pursuant to a loan agreement with the foreign lender. I also determine that the exhibition or display of the listed exhibit objects at the Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, Ohio, from on or about February 14, 1999, through on or about May 2, 1999, and the Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles, California, from on or about May 30, 1999, through on or about August 16, 1999, and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas, from on or about September 19, 1999, through on or about November 28, 1999, is in the national interest. Public Notice of these determinations is ordered to be published in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Carol Epstein, Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, 202/619-6981, and the address is Room 700, U.S. Information Agency, 301 4th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20547-0001.

Dated: January 15, 1999

Les Jin,

General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 99-1467 Filed 1-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8230-01-M

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program Washington Seminar; Request for Proposals

SUMMARY: The Office of Academic Programs of the United States Information Agency's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition to administer the Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program Washington Seminar. Washington-based public and private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in IRS regulation 26 CFR 1.501(c) may submit proposals to assist USIA with the planning and implementation of a seminar lasting up to five days for approximately 132 mid-career professionals from developing countries and selected Eastern European countries. The seminar will take place in the first half of November, 1999 (please see seminar date details below).

Program Information

Overview: The Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program provides a year of non-degree, graduate level study and related professional experiences to mid-level professionals from developing countries and selected Eastern European countries. Fellowships are granted