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Departmental Reports, Management Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Privacy Act of 1974; Computer Matching Program

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice of Computer Matching Program.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) intends to conduct a recurring computer program matching records from the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) of the Department of Justice with VA compensation pension and dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC) records.

The purpose of the match is to verify continuing eligibility for Federal benefit programs of those who are confined for a period exceeding 60 days due to a conviction for a felony or misdemeanor. VA has the obligation to reduce or suspend compensation, pension, and dependency and indemnity compensation benefit payments to veterans and VA beneficiaries on the 61st day following conviction and incarceration in the Federal institution for a felony or misdemeanor. VA also has the obligation to reduce educational assistance to any recipient who is incarcerated for a felony conviction.

VA plans to match records of VA beneficiaries with those reported by BOP as being incarcerated and to adjust their VA benefits accordingly. VA will use the BOP records provided in the match to update the master records of VA beneficiaries and to adjust their VA benefits, accordingly, if needed.

Records To Be Matched

The VA records involved in the match are the VA system of records, Compensation, Pension, Education and Rehabilitation Records—VA (58 VA 21/22) first published at 41 FR 9294, March 3, 1976 and last amended at 65 FR 37605 (June 15, 2000). The data elements provided to VA will be taken from BOP's Inmate Central Records System, Justice/BOP-005, published on June 7, 1884. In accordance with Title 5 U.S.C. subsection 552a(o)(2) and (r), copies of the agreement are being sent to both Houses of Congress and to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

This notice is provided in accordance with the provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974 as amended by Public Law 100-503.

DATES: The match will start no sooner than 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register** and end not more than 18 months after the agreement is properly implemented by the parties. The involved agencies' Data Integrity Boards (DIB) may extend this match for 12 months provided the agencies certify to their DIBs within three months of the ending date of the original match that the matching program will be conducted without change and that the matching program has been conducted in compliance with the original matching program.

ADDRESSES: Interested individuals may submit written comments to the Director, Office of Regulations Management (02D), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Room 1154, Washington, DC 20420. Comments will be available for public inspection at the above address in the Office of Regulations Management, Room 1158, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, except holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Trowbridge (212), (202) 273-7318.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This information is required by Title 5 U.S.C. subsection 552a(e)(12), the Privacy Act of 1974. A copy of this notice has been provided to both House of Congress and OMB.

Approved: September 29, 2000.

Hershel W. Gober,

Acting Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

ACTION: Notice of Amendment to System of Records—Veterans, Dependents of Veterans, and VA Beneficiary Survey Records—VA (43VA008) (formerly 43VA71).

SUMMARY: The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552(e)(4)) requires that all agencies publish in the **Federal Register** a notice of the existence and character of their system of records. Notice is hereby given that VA is amending a system of records entitled "Veterans, Dependents of Veterans, and VA

Beneficiary Survey Records (43VA71)" as set forth in the **Federal Register** 40 FR 38095 (August 26, 1975) and amended at 48 FR 52798 (November 22, 1983) and 54 FR 20667 (May 12, 1989). VA is amending the system number and the paragraphs on System Location; Categories of Records in the System; Authority for Maintenance of the System; Policies and Practices for Storing, Retrieving, Accessing, Retaining, and Disposing of Records in the System; including Safeguards; System Manager(s) and Address; and Record Source Categories. VA is adding paragraphs on Purpose(s) and Routine Uses of Records Maintained in the System, including Categories of Users and the Purpose of Such Uses.

DATES: Comments on the establishment of this amended system of records must be received no later than November 13, 2000. If no public comment is received during the period allowed for comment or unless otherwise published in the **Federal Register** by VA, the system will become effective November 13, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted to Director, Office of Regulations Management (02D), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. Comments will be available for public inspection at the above address in the Office of Regulations Management, Room 1154, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan Krumhaus, Department of Veterans Affairs, Program Analysis Service (008A1), 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-5108.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The number of the system is changed to 43VA008 to reflect the new designation for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Analysis.

The system location is changed to reflect the new name of VA Data Processing Center in Austin, Texas, which is now known as the Austin Automation Center (AAC).

The paragraph concerning the categories of records in the system has been amended to more accurately reflect the records maintained in the system. Additionally, VA is amending the categories of records to reflect the fact that VA may also include information obtained from other VA systems of records, the Department of Defense (DoD), and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Information in this system of records is obtained from survey questionnaire