

further the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act⁸ in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

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

The Exchange has neither solicited nor received written comments on the proposed rule change.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(i) of the Act⁹ and Rule 19b-4(f)(1) thereunder because the proposed rule change constitutes a stated policy, practice, or interpretation with respect to the meaning, administration, or enforcement of an existing rule.¹⁰ At any time within 60 days of the filing of such 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 purpose of the Act.¹¹

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposal is

consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549-0609. 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 Room. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the NYSE. All submissions should refer to file number SR-NYSE-00-54 and should be submitted by January 16, 2001.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹²

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-32805 Filed 12-22-00; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Modifications to the Disability Determination Procedures; Disability Claims Process Redesign Prototype

AGENCY: Social Security Administration.

ACTION: Notice of revision to the disability prototype in the State of New York.

SUMMARY: The Social Security Administration is announcing a revision to the disability prototype in the State of New York. The test will be performed in those locations in the State of New York, listed below, that are not already processing cases under the disability prototype. In addition, the test will measure the operational impact of modifying the process by "grandfathering" pending initial claims in the additional locations into the prototype process.

DATES: Selection of cases to be included in this test will begin on January 2, 2001 in one location, and on April 2, 2001 in the other locations, according to the schedule outlined under

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION. Case selection is expected to end on or about December 31, 2001. If the Agency decides to continue the test beyond this

date, we will publish another notice in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Phil Landis, Director, Disability Process Redesign Staff, Office of Disability, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235, (410) 965-5388.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Current rules codified at 20 CFR 404.906 and 416.1406 authorize us to test modifications to the disability determination procedures individually or in any combination. Under this authority, several tests have been conducted, including a prototype that incorporates several modifications to the disability determination procedures employed by State disability determination services (DDS) which have been shown to be effective in earlier tests. (64 FR 47218.) The prototype incorporates a series of changes that improve the initial disability determination process by: Providing greater decisional authority to the disability examiner and making more effective use of the expertise of the medical consultant; ensuring appropriate development and explanation of key issues; increasing opportunities for claimant interaction with the decision maker before a determination is made; and simplifying the appeals process by eliminating the reconsideration step. When we started the prototype on October 1, 1999, we applied the modified process only to claims filed on or after October 1, 1999 in certain States, or parts of States. With respect to claims in the State of New York, we announced that only applicants whose initial disability claims were processed by certain branches of the DDS in New York would participate in the prototype. The **Federal Register** notice listed those branches of the DDS in New York where the prototype would be applied. (64 FR at 47219.)

We are now announcing that we will test the prototype process in the remaining branches of the DDS in New York, and in addition test the effect of "grandfathering" pending claims in those branches into the modified process in the remaining branches of the DDS in New York. "Grandfathering" means that, in addition to following the modified processes for claims filed on or after a certain date, we will follow the modified process for initial claims filed before that date if the disability determination forms that we use to have the State agency certify the determination of disability to us have not been signed by a disability examiner and, if applicable, by a medical or

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(i).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(1).

¹¹ In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange inadvertently included the statement that the proposed new notification procedures would be implemented with any delisting determination made after August 10, 2000. The Exchange notes that the proposal should instead become effective upon filing with the Commission. Telephone conversation between Elena Daly, Assistant General Counsel, NYSE, and Florence Harmon, Senior Special Counsel, Division of Market Regulation, Commission, on Dec. 5, 2000.

¹² 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

psychological consultant by that date. Thus, in this test, we will apply the modified processes to: (1) New initial claims filed on or after the controlling date (see below), and (2) initial claims that are filed before that date but for which the disability determination forms we use to have the State agency certify the disability determination have not been signed by a disability examiner and, if applicable, by a medical or psychological consultant as of that date. We will send a letter explaining the process modifications to individuals whose pending claims are grandfathered into the modified process.

This means that the modified processes, including the opportunity for a claimant conference with the decision maker and elimination of the reconsideration step of the administrative review process, will be used for pending initial claims, resulting in fewer reconsideration claims flowing to the test site after the modified process is implemented. We believe this change will provide us with information that will enable us to manage the transition to the modified process more effectively and result in better service for all disability applicants. In order to measure the effect of this change on our operations, we will begin to follow the modified process in the following locations beginning on the date indicated for each location:

State of New York

Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, Division of Disability Determinations, Region III, 22 Cortlandt Street, 6th Floor, New York, New York 10007-3107. Controlling date: January 2, 2001.

Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, Division of Disability Determinations, Region I, 22 Cortlandt Street, 4th Floor, New York, New York 10007-3107. Controlling date: April 2, 2001.

Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, Division of Disability Determinations, Region IV, 92-31 Union Hall Street, 6th Floor, Jamaica, New York, 11433-1127. Controlling date: April 2, 2001.

Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, Division of Disability Determinations, Region V, Building #16, 3rd Floor, Glendale Technology Park Endicott, New York 13760. Controlling date: April 2, 2001.

Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, Division of Disability Determinations, Region VII, Building #16, 2nd Floor, Glendale Technology Park Endicott, New York 13760. Controlling date: April 2, 2001.

Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, Office of Disability Determinations—Region IX, Ellicott Square Building, Room 650, 295 Main Street, Buffalo, New York 14203-2412. Controlling date: April 2, 2001.

Dated: December 18, 2000.

Glenna K. Donnelly,

Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Disability and Income Security Programs.

[FR Doc. 00-32833 Filed 12-22-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4191-50-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 3529]

Culturally Significant Objects Imported for Exhibition Determinations: "Gerome & Goupil: Art and Enterprise"

DEPARTMENT: Department of State.

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, U.S.C. 2459), the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 (112 Stat. 2681 et seq.), Delegation of Authority No. 234 of October 1, 1999 (64 FR 56014), and Delegation of Authority No. 236 of October 19, 1999 (64 FR 57920), as amended by Delegation of Authority No. 236-3 of August 28, 2000 (65 FR 53795), I hereby determine that the objects to be included in the exhibit, "Gerome & Goupil: Art and Enterprise," imported from abroad for the temporary exhibition without profit within the United States, are of cultural significance. These objects are imported pursuant to loan agreements with foreign lenders. I also determine that the temporary exhibition or display of the exhibit objects at the Dahesh Museum in New York, New York from on or about February 6, 2001, to on or about May 5, 2001, and at The Frick Art and Historical Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania from June 7, 2001, to on or about August 12, 2001, is in the national interest. Public Notice of these determinations is ordered to be published in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, including a list of exhibit objects, contact Paul W. Manning, Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Legal Adviser, 202/619-5997, and the address is SA-44, Room 700, United States Department of State, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20547-0001.

Dated: December 19, 2000.

William B. Bader,

Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 00-32871 Filed 12-22-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-08-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 3527]

Culturally Significant Objects Imported for Exhibition Determinations: "The Global Guggenheim: Selections From the Extended Collection"

DEPARTMENT: United States Department of State.

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), the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 (112 Stat. 2681 et seq.), Delegation of Authority No. 234 of October 1, 1999 (64 FR 56014), and Delegation of Authority No. 236 of October 19, 1999 (64 FR 57920), as amended, I hereby determine that the objects to be included in the exhibit, "The Global Guggenheim: Selections from the Extended Collection," 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 a foreign lender. I also determine that the temporary exhibition or display of the exhibit objects at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, New York, from on or about February 6 to on or about April 22, 2001, is in the national interest. Public Notice of these determinations is ordered to be published in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, including a list of exhibit objects, contact Julianne C. Simpson, Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Legal Adviser, 202/619-6529, and the address is SA-44, Room 700, United States Department of State, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20547-0001.

Dated: December 19, 2000.

William B. Bader,

Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs.

[FR Doc. 00-32869 Filed 12-22-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-08-P