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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

[Docket No. MARAD-2016-0131]

Agency Request for Renewal of a Previously Approved Information Collection:

Requirements for Establishing U.S. Citizenship – 46 CFR 355

AGENCY: Maritime Administration

ACTION: Notice and request for comments

SUMMARY: The Department of Transportation (DOT) invites public comments about our intention to request the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval to renew an information collection. We are required to publish this notice in the Federal Register by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13.

DATES: Written comments should be submitted by *[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]*.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by Docket No. MARAD-2016-0131 through one of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- *Mail or Hand Delivery:* Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, West Building, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays.
- *Fax:* 1-202-493-2251

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Pucci, 202-366-5167, Office of Maritime Program, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590, Email: Michael.Pucci@dot.gov. Copies of this collection also can be obtained from that office.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

OMB Control Number: 2133-0012

Title: Requirements for Establishing U.S. Citizenship – 46 CFR 355

Form Numbers:

Type of Review: Renewal of an information collection

Background: Maritime Administration implementing regulations at 46 CFR Parts 355 and 356 set forth requirements for establishing U.S. citizenship in accordance with MARAD statutory authority. Those receiving benefits under 46 U.S.C. Chapters 531, 535, and 537 (formerly the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended), or applicants seeking a fishery endorsement eligibility approval pursuant to the American Fisheries Act must be citizens of the United States within the meaning of 46 U.S.C. 50501, (formerly Section 2 of the Shipping Act, 1916, as amended). In either case, whether seeking program benefits or fishery endorsement eligibility, Section 50501 sets forth the statutory requirements for determining whether an applicant, be it a corporation, partnership, or association is a U.S. citizen. 46 CFR Part 356 is distinguished from 46 CFR Part 355 in that Part 356 establishes requirements for U.S. citizenship exclusively in accordance with the AFA while Part 355 is applied for purposes of establishing citizenship across multiple MARAD programs arising under other statutory authority. Most program participants are required to submit to MARAD on an annual basis the form of affidavit prescribed by Part 355 or Part 356.

Number of Respondents: 500

Frequency: Once annually

Estimated Average Burden per Response: 5 hours

Total Annual Burden: 2500

PUBLIC COMMENTS INVITED: You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the Department's performance; (b) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (c) ways for the Department to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (d) ways that the burden could be minimized without reducing the quality of the collected information. The agency will summarize and/or include your comments in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

PRIVACY ACT: In accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. DOT posts these comments, without edit, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice, DOT/ALL-14 FDMS, accessible through www.dot.gov/privacy. In order to facilitate comment tracking and response, we encourage commenters to provide their name, or the name of their organization; however, submission of names is completely optional. Whether or not commenters identify themselves, all timely comments will be fully considered. If you wish to provide comments containing proprietary or confidential information, please contact the agency for alternate submission instructions.

(AUTHORITY: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended; and 49 CFR 1.93.)

December 22, 2016

By order of the Maritime Administrator

T. Mitchell Hudson, Jr.
Secretary
Maritime Administration

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