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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[SEC File No. 270-019, OMB Control No. 3235-0012]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension: Rule 15b1-1/Form BD

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From:
Securities and Exchange Commission
Office of FOIA Services
100 F Street, NE
Washington, DC 20549-2736

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (“PRA”) (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) is soliciting comments on the collection of information provided for in Rule 15b1-1 (17 CFR 240.15b1-1) and Form BD (17 CFR 249.501) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 U.S.C. 78a *et seq.*). The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget (“OMB”) for extension and approval.

Form BD is the application form used by firms to apply to the Commission for registration as a broker-dealer, as required by Rule 15b1-1. Form BD also is used by firms other than banks and registered broker-dealers to apply to the Commission for registration as a municipal securities dealer or a government securities broker-dealer. In addition, Form BD is used to change information contained in a previous Form BD filing that becomes inaccurate.

The total industry-wide annual time burden imposed by Form BD is approximately

3,703 hours, based on approximately 9,842 responses (175 initial filings + 9,667 amendments). Each application filed on Form BD requires approximately 2.75 hours to complete and each amended Form BD requires approximately 20 minutes to complete. ($175 \times 2.75 \text{ hours} = 481 \text{ hours}$; $9,667 \times 0.33333333 \text{ hours} = 3,222 \text{ hours}$; $481 \text{ hours} + 3,222 \text{ hours} = 3,703 \text{ hours}$.) The staff believes that a broker-dealer would have a Compliance Manager complete and file both applications and amendments on Form BD at a cost of approximately \$344/hour. Consequently, the staff estimates that the total internal cost of compliance associated with the annual time burden is approximately \$1,273,832 per year ($\$344 \times 3,703$).

The Commission uses the information disclosed by applicants in Form BD: (1) to determine whether the applicant meets the standards for registration set forth in the provisions of the Exchange Act; (2) to develop a central information resource where members of the public may obtain relevant, up-to-date information about broker-dealers, municipal securities dealers, and government securities broker-dealers, and where the Commission, other regulators, and SROs may obtain information for investigatory purposes in connection with securities litigation; and (3) to develop statistical information about broker-dealers, municipal securities dealers, and government securities broker-dealers. Without the information disclosed in Form BD, the Commission could not effectively implement policy objectives of the Exchange Act with respect to its investor protection function.

Completing and filing Form BD is mandatory in order to engage in broker-dealer activity. Compliance with Rule 15b1-1 does not involve the collection of confidential information.

Written comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's estimates of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (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. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted by **[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information under the PRA unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Please direct your written comments to: David Bottom, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o John Pezzullo, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, or send an e-mail to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov.

Dated: November 30, 2022.

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2022-26426 Filed: 12/5/2022 8:45 am; Publication Date: 12/6/2022]