

Would this concern be minimized if the requirement to offer capacity release is limited to larger section 311 and Hinshaw pipelines whose services are predominantly interstate?

7. If section 311 and Hinshaw pipelines are required to offer capacity release, should the regulations be the same as the capacity release regulations for interstate pipelines set forth in section 284.8 of the Commission's regulations? Would a subset of those regulations be sufficient for purposes of preventing undue discrimination and promoting transparency, while minimizing any burden on the pipelines offering capacity release?

19. Finally, as we recognized in the *APS/Sequent* order, the Commission has not previously addressed the issue of whether the buy/sell prohibition applies to interstate service provided by section 311 and Hinshaw pipelines. Thus, until the Commission issued that order, there was no clear policy prohibiting such transactions. Therefore, the Commission will not institute any enforcement actions with respect to prior buy/sell transactions involving section 311 and Hinshaw pipelines. In addition, the Commission grants a blanket waiver of the prohibition on buy/sell transactions to allow existing and new buy/sell transactions involving section 311 and Hinshaw pipelines to continue to take place until the Commission issues a further order in this proceeding. This will avoid disrupting any ongoing relationships established through currently existing buy/sell transactions and also avoid discouraging beneficial new arrangements, while the Commission considers the policy issues raised in this proceeding. As we recognized in the *APS/Sequent* order, capacity reassignments can promote more efficient use of firm pipeline capacity by enabling a holder of such capacity to permit its capacity to be used by another party for a higher valued use.

### III. Procedure for Comments

20. The Commission invites interested persons to submit comments and other information on the matters, issues, and specific questions identified in this notice. Comments are due 60 days from the date of publication in the **Federal Register**. Comments must refer to Docket No. RM11-1-000, and must include the commenter's name, the organization they represent, if applicable, and their address.

21. The Commission encourages comments to be filed electronically via the eFiling link on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov>. The Commission accepts most standard

word processing formats. Documents created electronically using word processing software should be filed in native applications or print-to-PDF format and not in a scanned format. Commenters filing electronically do not need to make a paper filing.

22. Commenters unable to file comments electronically must mail or hand deliver an original copy of their comments to: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Secretary of the Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. The current requirements are specified on the Commission's Web site, see, e.g., the "Quick Reference Guide for Paper Submissions," available at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>, or via phone from FERC Online Support at 202-502-6652 or toll-free at 1-866-208-3676.

23. All comments will be placed in the Commission's public files and may be viewed, printed, or downloaded remotely as described in the Document Availability section below. Commenters are not required to serve copies of their comments on other commenters.

### IV. Document Availability

24. In addition to publishing the full text of this document in the **Federal Register**, the Commission provides all interested persons an opportunity to view and print the contents of this document via the Internet through the Commission's Home Page (<http://www.ferc.gov>) and in the Commission's Public Reference Room during normal business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern time) at 888 First Street, NE., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426.

25. From the Commission's Home Page on the Internet, this information is available in the Commission's document management system, eLibrary. The full text of this document is available on eLibrary in PDF and Microsoft Word format for viewing, printing, and downloading. To access this document in eLibrary, type the docket number (excluding the last three digits) in the docket number field.

26. User assistance is available for eLibrary and the Commission's Web site during normal business hours. For assistance, please contact the Commission's Online Support at 1-866-208-3676 (toll free) or 202-502-6652 (e-mail at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov)) or the Public Reference Room at 202-502-8371, TTY 202-502-8659 (e-mail at [public.referenceroom@ferc.gov](mailto:public.referenceroom@ferc.gov)).

By direction of the Commission.

**Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.**,

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2010-27156 Filed 10-26-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### U.S. Customs and Border Protection

#### 19 CFR Part 111

[Docket No. USCBP-2010-0038]

RIN 1651-AA80

#### Permissible Sharing of Client Records by Customs Brokers

**AGENCIES:** Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking.

**SUMMARY:** This document proposes to amend Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regulations in title 19 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) pertaining to the obligations of customs brokers to keep clients' information confidential. The proposed amendment would allow brokers, upon the client's consent in a written authorization, to share client information with affiliated entities related to the broker so that these entities may offer non-customs business services to the broker's clients. The proposed amendment would also allow customs brokers to use a third-party to perform photocopying, scanning, and delivery of client records for the broker. These proposed changes are intended to update the regulation to reflect modern business practices, while protecting the confidentiality of client (importer) information. In addition, the proposed changes would align the regulations with CBP's previously published rulings concerning brokers' confidentiality of client information.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before December 27, 2010.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by *docket number*, by one of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments via docket number USCBP-2010-0038.

- *Mail:* Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, 799 9th Street, NW. (Mint Annex), Washington, DC 20229-1179.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number for this rulemaking. All

comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. For detailed instructions on submitting comments and additional information on the rulemaking process, see the "Public Participation" heading of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

*Docket:* For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Submitted comments may also be inspected on regular business days between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Regulations and Rulings, Office of International Trade, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, 799 9th Street, NW, (5th Floor), Washington, DC. Arrangements to inspect submitted comments should be made in advance by calling Mr. Joseph Clark at (202) 325-0118.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For legal aspects, Carrie Owens, Chief, Entry Process & Duty Refunds Branch, Regulations and Rulings, Office of International Trade, (202) 325-0266. For operational aspects, Anita Harris, Chief, Broker Compliance Branch, Trade Policy and Programs, Office of International Trade, (202) 863-6069.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Public Participation**

Interested persons are invited to participate in this rulemaking by submitting written data, views, or arguments on any aspect of the proposed rule. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) also invites comments that relate to the economic, environmental, or federalism effects that might result from this proposal. If appropriate to a specific comment, the commenter should reference the specific portion of the proposed rule, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include data, information, or authority that support such recommended change.

##### **Background**

The statutory provision governing customs brokers is found in section 641, Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1641). Specifically, section 641(f) authorizes CBP to promulgate "rules and regulations relating to the customs business of customs brokers as the Secretary \* \* \* considers necessary to protect importers and the revenue of the United States \* \* \* including rules and regulations governing \* \* \* the keeping of \* \* \* records by customs brokers

\* \* \* See 19 U.S.C. 1641(f). The implementing regulations issued under the authority of § 641 are set forth in part 111 of title 19 of the Code of Federal Regulations (19 CFR part 111).

In order to meet its obligations to protect the revenue and enforce the customs laws, it is essential that CBP receive full and complete information from importers with respect to their customs transactions. These transactions contain confidential business information, the unauthorized disclosure of which could cause competitive harm to the importer or other companies. Brokers occupy a unique role as conduits with respect to import transactions. As entities that are licensed and regulated by the U.S. government, brokers act as intermediaries between importers and CBP to assure that complete and accurate information is provided. Thus, a special relationship exists between the broker, its client (the importer), and CBP. The duties and responsibilities of customs brokers in transacting customs business on behalf of their clients, and, in particular, the confidential treatment that brokers must accord their records of such transactions, are governed by the regulations in 19 CFR part 111 issued under the authority of 19 U.S.C. 1641(f).

It is well settled that customs brokers have a fiduciary duty to protect client information. As such, brokers are subject to certain recordkeeping requirements set forth in part 111 of 19 CFR. In that regard, part 111 requires, among other things, that a broker maintain records of transactions (19 CFR 111.21), retain records (19 CFR 111.23), and make records available for official CBP inspection (19 CFR 111.25). Additionally, in carrying out its duties and responsibilities, a broker is required to exercise responsible supervision and control over the transaction of customs business (19 CFR 111.28(a)) (*see also* 19 U.S.C. 1641(b)(4)), and exercise due diligence in handling customs business matters (19 CFR 111.29(a)). Further, a broker is precluded from entering into an agreement with an unlicensed person to transact customs business if the fees generated from the transaction would inure to the benefit of the unlicensed person (19 CFR 111.36(b)).

Another significant requirement set forth in part 111 is that brokers maintain the confidentiality of client records. *See* 19 CFR 111.24. Section 111.24 of CBP regulations (19 CFR 111.24) covers a broad range of records as defined in § 163.1(a) (19 CFR 163.1(a)), and protects client records and the information contained in those records. Specifically, § 111.24 currently provides that with the exception of certain

accredited officers or agents of the United States and the surety involved in a particular transaction, brokers may not disclose client information to third persons except when ordered to by a court. The purpose of the regulation is to prevent a broker from disclosing information it receives from a client to a third-party without the consent of the broker's client. It is noted that when a broker is issued its license by CBP, it agrees to abide by the rules governing brokers, including rules pertaining to the confidentiality of client records. To overcome this confidentiality requirement, a broker need merely request, and receive, a written release from the client authorizing disclosure of that client's information. Absent such a release, a broker who engages in information sharing is subject to disciplinary action for violating the confidentiality requirements of 19 CFR 111.24.

The issue of whether brokers may share client information with third-party business entities has previously been considered by CBP in the form of published rulings. CBP's longstanding position on this matter is that absent written client consent, a broker may not share client information. Specifically, in Headquarters ruling letters (HQ) 116025 (September 29, 2003) and HQ 116190 (June 14, 2004), CBP was asked whether a broker within a family of companies (such as related affiliates, subsidiaries, and parent companies) may share certain client background or aggregate revenue information with related affiliates who were not licensed brokers, but who were separately-incorporated and owned by the same parent company. CBP has consistently held that separately-incorporated companies constitute separate legal entities under the law, notwithstanding common ownership (*see* HQ 223804 (June 29, 1992); HQ 114166 (February 2, 1998); HQ 115248 (August 28, 2001)). Therefore, CBP found that absent a written release from the client authorizing disclosure of client information, section 111.24 precludes a broker from sharing client information with separately-incorporated affiliates of the same parent company. In CBP's view, client background and aggregate revenue information is collected and compiled from, and connected with, records pertaining to the business of clients serviced by the broker. As such, that information falls within the protection of § 111.24. CBP's position is that brokers can secure waivers of confidentiality from their clients in order not to violate the confidentiality requirements of section 111.24.

Similarly, in HQ 114404 (March 16, 1999), CBP held that a licensed broker must ensure that it will not disclose its clients' records to a parent company, unless disclosure is authorized by the client.

In HQ 114758 (November 7, 2000), the question presented was whether a licensed broker may transfer its ancillary financial functions to a related or affiliated company that is not a licensed broker. In that instance, CBP reiterated its position that disclosure to an unauthorized party of any information emanating from a transaction with a client of the broker would constitute a violation, and would subject the violating broker to possible penalty or other disciplinary action. CBP found that outsourcing ancillary financial and administrative services would run afoul of the broker confidentiality provisions, since the records sought to be outsourced would contain financial data or information derived from clients' files pertaining to customs business.

In that ruling, however, CBP acknowledged that there may be situations in which a broker may legitimately transfer some of its business operations to another company. For instance, in HQ 114411 (November 22, 1999), CBP had allowed a broker to outsource its human resources department to an employee leasing company on the condition that the leasing company would have no access to, or involvement in, the actual customs business work of the broker, and that the records of the clients of the broker would be kept confidential from the leasing company. Relying on HQ 114411, CBP held in HQ 114758 that a broker may outsource ancillary financial and administrative functions provided that the same safeguards are in place. Specifically, the broker would be allowed to outsource financial or administrative functions, provided the new service provider had no access to, or involvement in, the actual customs business work of the broker client. This meant that the new service provider could not perform any functions that would be dependent on information or data derived from client files. The broker could only outsource the aforementioned functions provided that the records of the broker's clients, and the information contained in those records would not be disclosed to the new service provider.

Finally, in determining whether a broker is meeting the requirements to keep clients' records confidential, CBP considers how the broker is exercising responsible supervision and control over the customs business it conducts

pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 1641(b)(4). *See* HQ 225006 (February 15, 1994).

CBP continues to believe that protection of the client's business information remains a paramount concern. At the same time, however, CBP recognizes that the development of more modern and efficient business practices, brought about by the changing structure and environment of the business community, has rendered the blanket prohibition of the current regulation somewhat antiquated. In particular, CBP understands that in an effort to streamline business practices, a broker may need to use a third-party service provider to perform the tasks of photocopying, scanning, and delivering client documents to support the business functions of the brokerage services. CBP further acknowledges that a broker may have a legitimate financial interest in providing its clients additional non-customs business services which are offered by affiliated entities related to the broker.

To that end, CBP believes policy reasons favor amending § 111.24 to update the regulation to reflect modern business practices, while protecting the confidentiality of client (importer) information. Therefore, consistent with the holdings in CBP's previously published rulings, this document proposes to amend the CBP regulations to align them with its rulings.

#### **Explanation of Proposed Amendments**

##### *Permissible Sharing With Client Consent/Written Authorization*

With respect to a broker's interest in providing additional non-customs business services to its clients, CBP proposes to permit a broker to share client information with affiliated entities related to the broker so that the related affiliate may offer non-customs business services to the broker's client only on the condition that the client provides its express consent in a written authorization. The written authorization must specify the information the client authorizes the broker to share outside of the brokerage with affiliated entities related to the broker or with a party bound by contract to the broker. Requiring such consent would balance CBP's interest in the broker's maintaining confidentiality of importers' records with the business interest of the broker to offer additional non-customs business services to its clients.

##### *Other Third-Party Services*

*Photocopying and Scanning.* CBP proposes to amend 19 CFR 111.24 to permit a broker to use a third-party

service provider for the limited routine non-customs functions of photocopying and scanning for the broker without violating § 111.24, because these two functions are ancillary to the conduct of "customs business." It is noted, however, that even in providing the administrative tasks of photocopying and scanning, business information pertaining to the broker's client would be revealed in the process. Therefore, in order to achieve a balance between the broker's need for a streamlined business process, and the requirement to maintain the confidentiality of client information, safeguards must be in place to ensure that the requirements arising from 19 U.S.C. 1641 and 19 CFR 111.24 are not compromised.

In that regard, the proposed amendment requires that the broker, consistent with its obligations under § 111.29(a), exercise due diligence in the selection of the third-party service provider. The broker must ensure that the requirements in § 111.36(b) pertaining to a broker's relations with unlicensed persons are complied with. Moreover, in accordance with § 111.28(a), a broker is required to exercise responsible supervision and control over its brokerage business. Thus, the broker must ensure that the party to whom records will be provided for photocopying or scanning will safeguard the information it obtains in the course of providing the subject services. Accordingly, the proposed amendment requires that the broker enter into a non-disclosure agreement with the third-party service provider that requires the third-party to keep the contents and information contained in any records pertaining to the broker's client confidential.

The written consent and the non-disclosure agreement as contemplated in the proposed amendment will be subject to the recordkeeping requirements prescribed for brokers as set forth in §§ 111.21(a), 111.23, and 111.25.

The proposed amendment in this document is designed to codify CBP's previously published rulings and to update the regulation so that it is streamlined with modern and efficient business practices, while protecting the confidentiality of client (importer) information.

*Messenger Delivery Services.* Because messenger/delivery services are also ancillary to the conduct of "customs business," CBP proposes to further amend 19 CFR 111.24 to provide that a broker may use a third-party messenger service for transporting and/or delivering client documents on the broker's behalf, if the broker safeguards

the clients' records by sealing the documents so that the messenger cannot view, alter, or amend them.

### Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*) requires Federal agencies to examine the impact a rule would have on small entities. A small entity may be a small business (defined as any independently owned and operated business not dominant in its field that qualifies as a small business per the Small Business Act); a small not-for-profit organization; or a small governmental jurisdiction (locality with fewer than 50,000 people).

This rule proposes to allow a broker, upon the client's consent in a written authorization, to share client (importer) information with affiliated entities related to the broker in order to offer non-customs business services to its clients. If brokers choose to share client (importer) information with an affiliated entity related to the broker, the changes to the regulation would potentially benefit the broker's client (importer) through the availability and access to additional non-customs business services. This rule also proposes to allow a broker to outsource its photocopying and scanning tasks to a third-party service provider, and to use a third-party messenger service provider for transport and delivery of client records. To the extent that brokers would use third-parties for copying, scanning and messenger services, the changes to the regulation would confer a benefit to the broker by allowing it to streamline its business.

The entities affected by this proposed amendment are brokers, importers, and third-party service providers and would likely consist of a broad range of large, medium, and small businesses; thus, the number of entities subject to this proposed rule would be considered "substantial." The effects of this amendment, however, would not rise to the level of being considered a "significant" economic impact.

Accordingly, CBP believes that the proposed amendment, if adopted, would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act. However, we welcome comments on that assumption. The most helpful comments are those that can give us specific information or examples of a direct impact on small entities. If we do not receive comments that demonstrate that the rule causes small entities to incur significant direct costs, CBP may, during the process of drafting the final rule, certify that this action does not have a significant

economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

### Executive Order 12866

The proposed amendment in this document does not meet the criteria for a "significant regulatory action" as specified in Executive Order 12866 because it will not result in expenditures totaling \$100 million or more in any one year. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has not reviewed this regulation under that order. To the extent that licensed customs brokers are able to use lower cost third-party service providers to perform limited administrative tasks, this rule, if finalized, should confer benefits to brokers. Please see the Regulatory Flexibility Act section of this preamble for additional information regarding the potential economic impact of this proposed rule.

### The Paperwork Reduction Act

The information collected under the provisions of this proposed rule has been submitted for approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under OMB control number 1651-0034. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid control number assigned by OMB. The burden estimates for recordkeeping for the non-disclosure agreement as well as the client consent/written authorization are presented below:

#### Non-Disclosure Agreement

*Estimated Number of Recordkeepers:* 11,986.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Recordkeeper:* 1.

*Estimated Number of Total Annual Responses:* 11,986.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 1 hour.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 11,986.

#### Client Consent/Written Authorization

*Estimated Number of Recordkeepers:* 711,000.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Recordkeeper:* 1.

*Estimated Number of Total Annual Responses:* 711,000.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 1 hour.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 711,000.

Comments concerning the accuracy of this burden estimate and suggestions for reducing this burden should be directed to the Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of Homeland Security, Office of Information and Regulatory

Affairs, Washington, DC 20503. A copy should also be sent to the Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Regulations and Rulings, Office of International Trade, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, 799 9th Street, NW. (5th Floor), Washington, DC 20229-1179.

#### Comments are invited on:

(a) Whether the recordkeeping is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(b) The accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the recordkeeping;

(c) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the recordkeeping;

(d) Ways to minimize the burden of the recordkeeping on respondents, including through the use of automated recordkeeping techniques or other forms of information technology; and

(e) Estimates of capital or startup costs and costs of operations, maintenance, and purchases of services to provide recordkeeping.

### Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995

This notice of proposed rulemaking will not impose an unfunded mandate under the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995. It will not result in costs of \$100 million or more, in the aggregate, to any of the following: State, local, or Native American Tribal governments, or the private sector.

### Executive Order 13132

In accordance with the principles and criteria contained in Executive Order 13132 (Federalism), this notice of proposed rulemaking will have no substantial effect on the States, the current Federal-State relationship, or on the current distribution of power and responsibilities among local officials.

### Signing Authority

This document is being issued in accordance with 19 CFR 0.2(a), which provides that the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury with respect to CBP regulations that are not related to customs revenue functions was transferred to the Secretary of Homeland Security pursuant to section 403(1) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 and that such regulations are signed by the Secretary of Homeland Security (or her delegate).

### List of Subjects in 19 CFR Part 111

Customs brokers, Duties and responsibilities, Records confidential.

## Proposed Amendments to the CBP Regulations

For the reasons stated above, it is proposed to amend part 111 of title 19 of the CFR (19 CFR part 111) as set forth below.

### PART 111—CUSTOMS BROKERS

1. The general authority citation for part 111 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 19 U.S.C. 66, 1202 (General Note 3(i), Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS)), 1624, 1641.

\* \* \* \* \*

2. Section 111.24 is revised to read as follows:

#### § 111.24 Records confidential.

(a) *Client Records.* The records referred to in this part and pertaining to the business of the clients serviced by the broker are considered confidential. Except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, the broker must not disclose the contents or any information connected with client records to any persons other than those clients, their surety on a particular entry, and the Field Director, Office of International Trade, Regulatory Audit, the CBP port director, the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent, or other duly accredited officers or agents of the United States, except on subpoena by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(b) *Disclosure to Affiliated Entity Related to Broker.* Upon the client's consent in a written authorization to share client information outside the brokerage, a broker may disclose only to an affiliated entity related to the broker, information specified in the written authorization pertaining to the customs business of that client so that the affiliated entity may offer non-customs business services to the broker's client.

(c) *Other Third-Party Service Providers—(1) Photocopying and Scanning Services.* A broker may provide its clients' records to a third-party service provider for photocopying and/or scanning without violating the prohibitions set forth in the provisions of this part pertaining to confidentiality, provided that:

(i) The broker exercises due diligence in accordance with § 111.29(a) of this part in the selection of the third-party service provider for photocopying and/or scanning by ensuring that its association with the third-party does not violate the provisions in § 111.36(b) of this part; and

(ii) The broker enters into a non-disclosure agreement with the third-party service provider for photocopying and/or scanning that requires the third-

party to keep the information contained in any records pertaining to the broker's client confidential.

(2) *Messenger Services.* A broker may provide its clients' records to a third-party messenger service provider for transport and delivery without violating the prohibitions set forth in the provisions of this part pertaining to confidentiality, provided that the clients' records are sealed in such a manner so that the third-party messenger service provider may not view, alter, or amend the documents to be delivered.

Dated: October 21, 2010.

**David V. Aguilar,**

*Acting Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection.*

[FR Doc. 2010-27106 Filed 10-26-10; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 9111-14-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### 28 CFR Parts 35 and 36

**RIN 1190-AA61; 1190-AA62; 1190-AA63; 1190-AA64**

#### **Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in State and Local Government Services, Public Accommodations and in Commercial Facilities; Hearings**

**AGENCY:** Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed hearings.

**SUMMARY:** On July 26, 2010, the Department of Justice (Department) published four Advanced Notices of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRMs) in the **Federal Register** to amend regulations issued under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). These four ANPRMs include: Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability; Accessibility of Web Information and Services of State and Local Government Entities and Public Accommodations; Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in State and Local Government Services; Accessibility of Next Generation 9-1-1; Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability; Movie Captioning and Video Description; and Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability by State and Local Governments and Places of Public Accommodation; Equipment and Furniture. To provide an opportunity for interested persons to express their views directly to Department officials, the Department will hold three public hearings on the ANPRMs.

**DATES:** The hearing dates are:

1. November 18, 2010, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., CST, Chicago, IL.

2. December 16, 2010, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., EST, Washington, DC.

3. January 2011 in San Francisco, CA, on a date to be announced in the near future on the ADA Home Page at <http://www.ada.gov>.

**ADDRESSES:** The hearing locations are:

1. Access Living, 115 West Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60654.

2. United States Access Board, 1331 F Street, NW., Washington, DC 20004.

3. San Francisco, CA, at a location to be announced in the near future on the ADA Home Page at <http://www.ada.gov>.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Linda Garrett, Civil Rights Program Specialist, Disability Rights Section, Civil Rights Division at (202) 353-0423 (TTY). This is not a toll-free number. Information also may be obtained from the Department's toll-free ADA Information Line at (800) 514-0301 (Voice) or (800) 514-0383 (TTY), 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, and 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On July 26, 2010, the Department published four ANPRMs seeking public comment on whether to revise the ADA regulations to address Web site accessibility, movie captioning and video description, accessible features for Next Generation 9-1-1, and accessible equipment and furniture. The Department has scheduled three public hearings on the ANPRMs to provide an opportunity to interested persons to express their views about the questions and issues raised in the ANPRMs. Entities, organizations, and individuals who wish to present comments at a particular hearing are encouraged to register in advance by calling the ADA Information Line at (800) 514-0301 (Voice) or (800) 514-0383 (TTY) at least five business days in advance of the hearing date.

Organizations should designate no more than one individual to speak on behalf of the organization. Commenters who are not able to testify in person will have the option to present their comments using a speaker telephone, telephone relay service, or video relay service. The Department will attempt to provide an approximate time for the receipt of comments from those who register in advance; however, persons who register in advance should report to the registration desk at the hearing at least one-half hour prior to their scheduled time in order to confirm the time and order of their presentations. Those who register to comment via speaker telephone, telephone relay service, or video relay service should be