



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[OMB Number 1123-0013]

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed eCollection eComments Requested;
United States Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Fund Application Form**

AGENCY: Criminal Division, Department of Justice.

ACTION: 30-Day notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Justice, Criminal Division, United States Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Fund, will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This proposed information collection was previously published in the Federal Register.

DATES: Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for an additional days until **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER.]**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Written comments and/or suggestions regarding the items contained in this notice, especially the estimated public burden and associated response time, should be directed to either the Special Master, United States Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Fund, or the Chief, Program Management and Training Unit, Money Laundering and Asset Recovery Section, Criminal Division, U.S. Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20530-0001, telephone (202) 353-2046.

Written comments and/or suggestions can also be sent to the Office of Management and Budget,

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention Department of Justice Desk Officer, Washington DC 20503, or sent to OIRA_submissions@omb.eop.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information are encouraged. Your comments should address one or more of the following four points:

1. Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. Evaluate whether and if so how the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected can be enhanced; and
4. Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

Overview of this information collection:

1. *Type of Information Collection:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

2. *The Title of the Form/Collection:* Application Form for the U.S. Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Fund.

3. *The agency form number:* N/A. The U.S. Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Fund, U.S. Department of Justice, Criminal Division.

4. *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:*

Primary: Individuals or households

Abstract: The U.S. Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Fund (the “USVSST Fund”) was established to provide compensation to certain individuals who were injured as a result of acts of international terrorism by a state sponsor of terrorism.

Under the Justice for United States Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Act (“Act”), 34 U.S.C. 20144(c), an eligible claimant is (1) a U.S. person, as defined in 34 U.S.C. 20144(j)(8), with a final judgment issued by a U.S. district court under state or federal law against a state sponsor of terrorism and arising from an act of international terrorism, for which the foreign state was found not immune under provisions of the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act, codified at 28 U.S.C. 1605A or 1605(a)(7) (as such section was in effect on January 27, 2008); (2) a U.S. person, as defined in 34 U.S.C. 20144(j)(8), who was taken and held hostage from the United States Embassy in Tehran, Iran, during the period beginning November 4, 1979, and ending January 20, 1981, or the spouse and child of that

U.S. person at that time, and who is also identified as a member of the proposed class in case number 1:00-CV-03110 (EGS) of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia; or (3) the personal representative of a deceased individual in either of those two categories.

The information collected from the USVSST Fund's Application Form will be used to determine whether applicants are eligible for compensation from the USVSST Fund, and if so, the amount of compensation to be awarded. The Application Form consists of parts related to eligibility and compensation. The eligibility parts seek the information required by the Act to determine whether a claimant is eligible for payment from the USVSST Fund, including information related to participation in federal lawsuits against a state sponsor of terrorism under the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act. The compensation parts seek the information required by the Justice for United States Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Act to determine the amount of compensation for which the claimant is eligible. Specifically, the compensation parts seek information regarding any payments from sources other than the USVSST Fund that the claimant received, is entitled to receive, or is scheduled to receive, as a result of the act of international terrorism by a state sponsor of terrorism and the amount of compensatory damages awarded to the claimant in a final judgment. The Application Form was revised with minor formatting changes. There are no substantive changes in the

revised Application Form, which contains the same information regarding eligibility and compensation.

The USVSST Fund may require an eligible claimant to supplement his or her application by submitting additional forms. These additional supplementary forms include information related to: (1) an acknowledgment and certification by applicants and their attorneys regarding the statutory provision on the amount of attorneys' fees; (2) an authorization for the USVSST Fund to communicate with individuals identified by an applicant regarding his or her claim; (3) a proposed distribution plan and corresponding consent to the proposed distribution plan in claims filed by a personal representative of a deceased individual; (4) a Notice of Filing Claim for use by those applicants filing claims on behalf of deceased individuals; (5) a claimant's decision to change an attorney or representative; (6) a hearing request upon receipt of a decision denying the claim in whole or in part; and (7) electronic payment information.

5. *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* It is estimated that 700 respondents may complete the Application Form. It is estimated that respondents will complete the paper form or the electronic form in an average of 1.5 hours.
6. *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:*
The estimated public burden associated with this collection is 1,050 hours.

If additional information is required contact: Melody Braswell, Department Clearance Officer,
United States Department of Justice, Justice Management Division, Policy and Planning Staff,
Two Constitution Square, 145 N Street NE, 3E.405A, Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: September 24, 2019

Melody Braswell,

Department Clearance Officer for PRA,

U.S. Department of Justice.

Billing Code: 4410-14-P

[FR Doc. 2019-21032 Filed: 9/27/2019 8:45 am; Publication Date: 9/30/2019]