

domain name provided that it contains the registering NSN name followed by a suffix of “-NSN.gov” (case insensitive).

§ 102–173.70 Where do I register my dot-gov domain name?

Registration is an online process at the General Services Administration’s Web site at <http://www.nic.gov>. At the Network Information Site, you will find the instructions and online registration forms for registering your domain name. To register your domain name you will need to provide information such as your desired domain name, sponsoring organization, points of contact, and at least two name server addresses.

§ 102–173.75 How long does the process take?

The process can be completed within 48 hours if all information received is complete and accurate. Most requests take up to thirty (30) days because the registrar is waiting for Chief Information Officer (CIO) approval.

§ 102–173.80 How will I know if my request is approved?

A registration confirmation notice is sent within one business day after you register your domain name, informing you that your registration information was received. If all of your information is accurate and complete, a second notice will be sent to you within one business day, informing you that all of your information is in order. If you are ineligible, or if the information provided is incorrect or incomplete, your registration will be rejected and a notice will be sent to you stating the reason for rejection. Registration requests will be activated within two business days after receiving valid authorization from the appropriate Chief Information Officer (CIO). Once your domain name has been activated, a notice will be sent to you.

§ 102–173.85 How long will my application be held, pending approval by the Chief Information Officer (CIO)?

Registrations will be held in reserve status for sixty (60) days pending Chief Information Officer (CIO) authorization from your sponsoring organization.

§ 102–173.90 Are there any special restrictions on the use and registration of canonical, or category names like recreation.gov?

Yes, canonical names registration request must provide access coverage for the areas conveyed by the name. So the URL recreation.gov would not be approved for the state of Maryland, but the URL recreationMD.gov would be approved if it provides statewide coverage. The logic of the names adds value to the dot gov domain. GSA

reserves the right deny use of canonical names that do not provide appropriate coverage and to arbitrate these issues.

§ 102–173.95 Are there any restrictions on the use of the dot-gov domain name?

The General Services Administration approves domain names for a specific term of time, generally two years unless otherwise stated, and under conditions of use. General conditions of registration and are posted at the registration Web site at <http://www.nic.gov> and may be modified over time. Organizations that operate web sites that are not in compliance with the conditions of use may have their domain name terminated.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

45 CFR Part 32

RIN 0990–AAO5

Administrative Wage Garnishment

AGENCY: Department of Health and Human Services.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This final rule adds new regulations to implement the administrative wage garnishment provisions (AWG) of the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (DCIA). The rule will allow the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to garnish the disposable pay of non-Federal employees to collect delinquent non-tax debts owed to the United States without first obtaining a court order.

EFFECTIVE DATE: These regulations are effective on April 28, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Katherine M. Drews, Associate General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Business and Administrative Law Division at 202–619–0150.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

This regulation implements the administrative wage garnishment provisions in section 31001(o) of the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (DCIA), Public Law 104–134, 110 Stat. 1321–358, codified at 31 U.S.C. 3720D. Under the administrative wage garnishment provisions of the DCIA, Federal agencies may garnish administratively up to 15 percent of the wages of a debtor to satisfy a delinquent non-tax debt owed to the United States. Prior to the enactment of the DCIA,

Federal agencies were required to obtain a court judgment before garnishing the wages of non-Federal employees. Section 31001(o) of the DCIA preempts State laws that prohibit wage garnishment or otherwise govern wage garnishment procedures.

As authorized by the DCIA, a Federal agency collecting a delinquent non-tax debt may garnish a delinquent debtors wages in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Secretary of the Treasury. The Financial Management Service (FMS), a bureau of the Department of the Treasury (Treasury), is responsible for promulgating the regulations implementing this and other debt collection tools established by the DCIA. FMS published its final rule at 63 FR 25136, May 6, 1998, (Treasury Final Rule) and published a technical amendment at 64 FR 22901, April 28, 1999. The Treasury Final Rule, as amended, is published in § 285.11 of title 31 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Pursuant to 31 CFR 285.11(f), Federal agencies must either prescribe regulations for the conduct of AWG hearings consistent with the procedural requirements set forth in the Treasury Final Rule or adopt § 285.11 without change by reference.

Basic Provisions

In accordance with the requirements of the DCIA and the implementing regulations at 31 CFR 285.11, the rule establishes the rules and procedures for providing a debtor with written notice at least 30 days before the Department initiates garnishment proceedings, an opportunity to inspect and copy Department records relating to the debt, an opportunity to enter into a repayment agreement, and an opportunity to receive a hearing concerning the existence or amount of the debt and the terms of a repayment schedule. The rule also establishes the employer’s responsibilities for carrying out a wage garnishment order issued by the Department.

Rules and Procedures

Except for minor editorial changes to make the provisions agency-specific, the proposed rule is substantially identical to the Treasury Final Rule. In accordance with the substantive and procedural requirements of the DCIA and the Treasury Final Rule, this rule would establish for HHS the following rules and procedures:

1. Providing a debtor with written notice at least 30 days before the Department initiates garnishment proceedings informing the debtor of the nature and amount of the debt, the intention of the Department to collect