

## Information Collection Request

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), through its Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), administers the Fiduciary Program. The Fiduciary Program provides oversight to VA beneficiaries who, because of injury, disease, the infirmities of advanced age, or minority are unable to manage their VA benefits. Congress authorized VA to require a prospective fiduciary to obtain a surety bond as a part of the certification process of a prospective fiduciary. VA is requiring fiduciaries to submit proof of adequate bonding with annual accounting to facilitate its oversight responsibility as mandated by Congress.

VA would not use a form to collect this information. The information request for AO53 is made by VA field fiduciary personnel. They make the request either verbally or by letter that informs the fiduciary to submit the original bond certificate or the contractual agreement between the fiduciary and the bonding company as proof of adequate bonding. The collection of information is required to fulfill VA requirements mandated by Congress, for oversight of fiduciaries.