

TECHNICAL SERVICES (PTY) LIMITED, Namibia; Registration ID 2001/044 (Namibia) [DPRK3] (Linked To: MANSUDAE OVERSEAS PROJECT GROUP OF COMPANIES).

Designated pursuant to sections 2(a)(vii) and 2(a)(viii) of E.O. 13722, for having materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of; and for being owned or controlled by or having acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, MANSUDAE OVERSEAS PROJECT GROUP OF COMPANIES, a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to E.O. 13722.

7. QINGDAO CONSTRUCTION (NAMIBIA) CC, ERF 338, Platinum Street, Prosperita, Windhoek, Namibia; P.O. Box 26774, Windhoek, Namibia; Registration ID 2008/0598 (Namibia) [DPRK3] (Linked To: MANSUDAE OVERSEAS PROJECTS ARCHITECTURAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES (PTY) LIMITED; Linked To: MANSUDAE OVERSEAS PROJECT GROUP OF COMPANIES).

Designated pursuant to section 2(a)(vii) of E.O. 13722 for having materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, MANSUDAE OVERSEAS PROJECT GROUP OF COMPANIES and MANSUDAE OVERSEAS PROJECT GROUP ARCHITECTURAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED, persons whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to E.O. 13722.

8. GEFEST-M LLC, Office 401, Structure 1, Building 1, Chermianskaya Street, Moscow 127081, Russia; Office Space 5, Room 18, Building 5/7 Rozhdestvenka Street, Moscow 107031, Russia [NPWMD] (Linked To: KOREA TANGUN TRADING CORPORATION).

Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(iii) of E.O. 13382, for having provided, or attempted to provide, financial, material, technological or other support for, or goods or services in support of, KOREA TANGUN TRADING CORPORATION, a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to E.O. 13382.

9. MINGZHENG INTERNATIONAL TRADING LIMITED, Flat/RM A30 9/F, Silvercorp International Tower, 707-713 Nathan Road, Kowloon, Mong Kok, Hong Kong; 224-4 Shifa Da Lu, RM 1305, Heping District, Shenyang City, Liaoning Province, China [NPWMD] (Linked To: FOREIGN TRADE BANK

OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA; Linked To: SUN, Wei).

Designated pursuant to sections 1(a)(iii) and 1(a)(iv) of E.O. 13382, for having provided, or attempted to provide, financial, material, technological, or other support for, or goods or services in support of; and for acting or purporting to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, FOREIGN TRADE BANK, a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to E.O. 13382; and for being owned or controlled by SUN WEI, a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to E.O. 13382.

10. DANDONG RICH EARTH TRADING CO., LTD., Jiadi Square, Number 64, Binjiang Middle Road, Room 1001, Building B, Dandong City, Liaoning, China [NPWMD] (Linked To: KOREA KUMSAN TRADING CORPORATION).

Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(iii) of E.O. 13382, for having provided, or attempted to provide, financial, material, technological, or other support for, or goods or services in support of, KOREA KUMSAN TRADING CORPORATION, a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to E.O. 13382.

**Andrea M. Gacki,**

*Acting Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control.*

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**BILLING CODE 4810-AL-P**

## **U.S.-CHINA ECONOMIC AND SECURITY REVIEW COMMISSION**

### **Notice of Open Public Meetings**

**AGENCY:** U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of open public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of meetings of the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission to review and edit drafts of the 2017 Annual Report to Congress. The Commission is mandated by Congress to investigate, assess, and report to Congress annually on the "the national security implications of the economic relationship between the United States and the People's Republic of China." Pursuant to this mandate, the Commission will hold public meetings to review and edit drafts of the 2017 Annual Report to Congress.

**DATES:** The meetings are scheduled for Thursday, September 7, 2017, from 9:00

a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Friday, September 8, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Thursday, October 4, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and Friday, October 5, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** 444 North Capitol Street NW., Room 231, Washington, DC 20001. Public seating is limited and will be available on a "first-come, first-served" basis. *Reservations are not required to attend the meetings.*

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Any member of the public seeking further information concerning these meetings should contact Alexis Brigmon, 444 North Capitol Street NW., Suite 602, Washington, DC 20001; telephone: 202-624-1454, or via email at [abrigmon@uscc.gov](mailto:abrigmon@uscc.gov). *Reservations are not required to attend the meetings.*

### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Purpose of Meeting:* Pursuant to the Commission's mandate, members of the Commission will meet to review and edit drafts of the 2017 Annual Report to Congress.

The Commission is subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) with the enactment of the Science, State, Justice, Commerce and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 that was signed into law on November 22, 2005 (Pub. L. 109-108). In accordance with FACA, the Commission's meetings to make decisions concerning the substance and recommendations of its 2017 Annual Report to Congress are open to the public.

*Topics to Be Discussed:* The Commission will consider draft report sections addressing the following topics:

- U.S.-China Economic and Trade Relations, including: Year in Review: Economics Trade; Chinese Investment in the United States; and U.S. Access to China's Consumer Market.
- U.S.-China Security Relations, including: Year in Review: Security and Foreign Affairs; and Hotspots along China's Maritime Periphery.
- China and the World, including: China and Continental Southeast Asia; China and Northeast Asia; China and Taiwan; China and Hong Kong; and China's Domestic Information Controls, Global Media Influence, and Cyber Diplomacy.
- China's High Tech Development, including China's Global Pursuit of Global Dominance in Computing, Robotics, and Biotechnology; and China's Pursuit of Advanced Weapons.

*Required Accessibility Statement:* These meetings will be open to the public. The Commission may recess the meetings to address administrative issues in closed session.

The Commission will also recess the meetings around noon for a lunch break. At the beginning of the lunch break, the Chairman will announce what time the meetings will reconvene.

**Authority:** Congress created the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission in 2000 in the National Defense Authorization Act (Public Law 106-398), as amended by Division P of the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003 (Pub. L. 108-7), as amended by Pub. L. 109-108 (November 22, 2005), as amended by Public Law 113-291 (December 19, 2014).

Dated: August 21, 2017.

**Michael Danis,**

*Executive Director, U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission.*

[FR Doc. 2017-18018 Filed 8-24-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 1137-00-P**

## UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION

### Sentencing Guidelines for United States Courts

**AGENCY:** United States Sentencing Commission.

**ACTION:** Request for public comment.

**SUMMARY:** In August 2017, the Commission indicated that one of its policy priorities would be the “[c]ontinuation of its multiyear study of offenses involving synthetic cathinones (such as methylone, MDPV, and mephedrone) and synthetic cannabinoids (such as JWH-018 and AM-2201), as well as tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), fentanyl, and fentanyl analogues, and consideration of appropriate guideline amendments, including simplifying the determination of the most closely related substance under Application Note 6 of the Commentary to § 2D1.1.” See 82 FR 39949 (Aug. 22, 2017). As part of its continuing work on this priority, the Commission is publishing this request for public comment on issues related to synthetic cathinones, tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), and synthetic cannabinoids. The issues for comment are set forth in the Supplementary Information portion of this notice.

**DATES:** Public comment regarding the issues for comment set forth in this notice should be received by the Commission not later than October 27, 2017.

**ADDRESSES:** All written comment should be sent to the Commission by electronic mail or regular mail. The email address for public comment is *PublicComment@ussc.gov*. The regular mail address for public comment is United

States Sentencing Commission, One Columbus Circle NE., Suite 2-500, Washington, DC 20002-8002, Attention: Public Affairs.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Christine Leonard, Director, Office of Legislative and Public Affairs, (202) 502-4500, *pubaffairs@ussc.gov*.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The United States Sentencing Commission is an independent agency in the judicial branch of the United States Government. The Commission promulgates sentencing guidelines and policy statements for federal courts pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 994(a). The Commission also periodically reviews and revises previously promulgated guidelines pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 994(o) and submits guideline amendments to the Congress not later than the first day of May each year pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 994(p).

In August 2016, the Commission indicated that one of its priorities would be the “[s]tudy of offenses involving MDMA/Ecstasy, synthetic cannabinoids (such as JWH-018 and AM-2201), and synthetic cathinones (such as Methylone, MDPV, and Mephedrone), and consideration of any amendments to the *Guidelines Manual* that may be appropriate in light of the information obtained from such study.” See U.S. Sentencing Comm’n, “Notice of Final Priorities,” 81 FR 58004 (Aug. 24, 2016). On August 17, 2017, the Commission revised the priority to study offenses involving synthetic cathinones (such as methylone, MDPV, and mephedrone) and synthetic cannabinoids (such as JWH-018 and AM-2201), as well as tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), fentanyl, and fentanyl analogues. See U.S. Sentencing Comm’n, “Notice of Final Priorities,” 82 FR 39949 (Aug. 22, 2017). The Commission also stated that, as part of the study, the Commission will consider possible approaches to simplify the determination of the most closely related substance under Application Note 6 of the Commentary to § 2D1.1 (Unlawful Manufacturing, Importing, Exporting, or Trafficking (Including Possession with Intent to Commit These Offenses); Attempt or Conspiracy). The Commission expects to solicit comment several times during the study period from experts and other members of the public.

On December 19, 2016, the Commission published a notice inviting general comment on synthetic cathinones (MDPV, methylone, and mephedrone) and synthetic cannabinoids (JWH-018 and AM-2201), as well as about the application of the factors the Commission traditionally

considers when determining the marijuana equivalencies for specific controlled substances to the substances under study. See U.S. Sentencing Comm’n, “Request for Public Comment,” 81 FR 92021 (Dec. 19, 2016).

On April 18, 2017, the Commission held a public hearing relating to this priority. The Commission received testimony from experts on the synthetic drugs related to the study, including testimony about their chemical structure, pharmacological effects, trafficking patterns, and community impact.

On June 21, 2017, the Commission published a second notice requesting public comment on issues specifically related to MDMA/ecstasy and methylone, one of the synthetic cathinones included in the Commission’s study. See U.S. Sentencing Comm’n, “Request for Public Comment,” 82 FR 28382 (June 21, 2017).

As part of its continuing work on this priority, the Commission is publishing this third request for public comment. The request for public comment contains two parts (Part A and Part B). Part A focuses on issues related to synthetic cathinones. Part B focuses on issues related to tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and synthetic cannabinoids.

In addition to the substance-specific topics discussed below, the Commission anticipates that its work will continue to be guided by the factors the Commission traditionally considers when determining the marijuana equivalencies for specific controlled substances, including their chemical structure, pharmacological effects, legislative and scheduling history, potential for addiction and abuse, the patterns of abuse and harms associated with their abuse, and the patterns of trafficking and harms associated with their trafficking.

The Commission will also consider possible approaches to simplify the determination of the most closely related substance under Application Note 6 of the Commentary to § 2D1.1. The Commission has received comment from the public suggesting that questions regarding “the most closely related controlled substance” arise frequently in cases involving the substances included in the study, and that the Application Note 6 process requires courts to hold extensive hearings to receive expert testimony on behalf of the government and the defendant.

The synthetic cathinones and synthetic cannabinoids included in the study are not specifically listed in either the Drug Quantity Table or the Drug