

United States  
Office of Personnel Management  
1900 E Street NW  
Washington, DC 20415

OMB Approval 3206-0174

Date
CSA No.

**Important: Please Read This Entire Notice - As It Will Affect Your Annuity/Survivor Benefits.**

You may elect a survivor annuity for a spouse you married after retirement. ***You must make your specific written survivor election within 2 years of your marriage.*** Your election cannot be effective sooner than 9 months after your marriage. ***Since you were not married at retirement,*** the election and reduction must be effective on the first day of the month after the 9-month period beginning on the date of the marriage.

If you make this election, your annuity will be reduced to reflect the benefit payable to your spouse upon your death. There will be two reductions in your annuity.

The first reduction is the regular cost of providing a survivor benefit and may be eliminated should your marriage end.

The second reduction is ***permanent*** even if the marriage ends. This reduction is based on your age and on the amount that your annuity would have been reduced to provide survivor benefits during any period(s) when it was not reduced for an equal or greater survivor election, plus 6 percent interest compounded annually. Under the provisions of Public Law 103-66, the ***only*** way to pay this amount is through an "*actuarial*" reduction in your annuity. This is called an "*actuarial*" reduction because it is designed to spread the repayment out over the average life expectancy of a person your age. There is no unpaid balance due after your death.

You were married on \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yyyy); therefore, your election for a survivor benefit and the reduction to provide this benefit is effective \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yyyy). The current maximum survivor benefit is \$\_\_\_\_\_.

As of the effective date, your gross monthly annuity is \$\_\_\_\_\_. The first reduction is \$\_\_\_\_\_. The cost for any period(s) when your annuity was not reduced is \$\_\_\_\_\_, and the actuarial reduction to pay it back is \$\_\_\_\_\_. Taken together the two reductions reduce your gross monthly annuity to \$\_\_\_\_\_.

If your annuity is not reduced by \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yyyy), the excess annuity paid will result in an overpayment. Therefore, it is to your advantage to return your specific written election to provide a survivor annuity as soon as possible.

We computed the above costs assuming you want to elect the maximum possible benefit. You do have the option of electing a smaller survivor annuity benefit, which would proportionately reduce the cost figures provided in this letter. If you want to know the exact cost of a smaller benefit, enter the amount you would want your spouse to receive each month on the enclosed **request form**. Return the request form to the following address: *Office of Personnel Management, Retirement Operations Center, Attn: PRM - STOP, PO Box 45, Boyers, PA 16017*.

If you are requesting information on the cost for a smaller benefit, be sure to use the enclosed **request form**. An election **cannot** be revoked or changed once we receive a valid survivor annuity election.

If you decide not to provide a survivor benefit for your spouse, you **must complete** the bottom portion of the enclosed RI 20-63 and return it to our office before the second anniversary of your marriage.

***If we have not received your specific written survivor election by the second anniversary of your marriage, your request for survivor benefits will be dismissed.***

If your marriage terminates and you want to provide a survivor benefit for a former spouse, you must file a specific written election with OPM within 2 years after the date of termination of your marriage.

If we can be of further assistance, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Legal Administrative Specialist  
(202) 936 - \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosure: RI 20-63 - Survivor Annuity Election for a Spouse

### Privacy Act Statement

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552a(e)(3), this Privacy Act Statement serves to inform you of why OPM is requesting the information on this form. **Authority:** OPM is authorized to collect the information requested on this form pursuant to 5 U.S.C. §§ 83390(5)(C)(i) and (k)(2) and 8416(b) and (c), which state annuitants may elect to provide survivor annuity benefits for a spouse whom they marry after retirement. OPM is authorized to collect your Social Security number by Executive Order 9397 (November 22, 1943), as amended by Executive Order 13478 (November 18, 2008). **Purpose:** OPM is requesting this information to file a specific written election to provide a survivor annuity. **Routine Uses:** The information requested on this form may be shared as a "routine use" to other Federal agencies and third-parties when it is necessary to process your application. For example, OPM may share your information with other Federal, state, or local agencies and organizations in order to determine benefits under their programs, to obtain information necessary for a determination of your disability retirement benefits, or to report income for tax purposes. OPM may also share your information with law enforcement agencies if it becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of civil or criminal law. A complete list of the routine uses can be found in the OPM/CENTRAL 1 Civil Service Retirement and Insurance Records system of records notice, available at [www.opm.gov/privacy](http://www.opm.gov/privacy). **Consequences of Failure to Provide Information:** Providing this information is voluntary. However, failure to provide this information may delay or prevent an annuitant from electing survivor benefits. Individuals who do not provide this information can also request changes via telephone or letter, as well as using RI 20-117. The information collected can only be obtained from the respondents.

### Public Burden Statement

The public reporting burden to complete this information collection is estimated at 10 minutes per response, including for reviewing instructions, searching data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and the completing and reviewing the collected information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to the Office of Personnel Management, RS Publications Team at [RSPublicationsTeam@OPM.gov](mailto:RSPublicationsTeam@OPM.gov). Current information regarding this collection of information -- including all background materials -- can be found at <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain> by using the search function to enter either the title of the collection or OMB Control Number 3206-0174.

## Request Form

*(Use this form to request cost information on electing less than the maximum survivor benefit.)*

CSA No.

I am requesting cost information for a gross monthly survivor benefit of \$\_\_\_\_\_.  
*(Please specify a whole dollar amount [i.e. \$25, \$50, \$75, \$100] and sign and date below.)*

Print your full name

Signature

Date