

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES TO
DoD 7000.14-R, VOLUME 7B, CHAPTER 15
“PROOF OF EXISTENCE”**

Changes are denoted by blue font

Substantive revisions are denoted by a * preceding the section, paragraph, table,
or figure that includes the revision

Hyperlinks are denoted by *underlined, bold, italic, blue font*

PARAGRAPH	EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	PURPOSE
All	Updated hyperlinks and format to comply with current regulatory guidance.	Update
150201	Added information and mailing address for the Report of Existence (ROE).	Add

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CHAPTER 15

PROOF OF EXISTENCE1501 GENERAL

For the protection of the Government, certain safeguards are required for retired military paychecks mailed through the international postal system or payable to legal representatives of mentally incompetent members.

1502 COMPETENT RETIREE

* 150201. When retired military paychecks are delivered to the retired member through the international postal system to foreign countries, the retiree must furnish a report of existence (ROE) semiannually. The retiree does this by completing a form provided by the [Defense Finance and Accounting Service - Cleveland Site](#), or by letter signed by the retiree. The retiree may also download, print, fill out and sign the ROE Memorandum located at [website: http://www.dfas.mil/rapay/forms/AnnuitantROEForm_LegalRep .pdf](http://www.dfas.mil/rapay/forms/AnnuitantROEForm_LegalRep.pdf). The signed and dated ROE should be mailed to the following address:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service
U. S. Military Annuitant Pay
P. O. Box 7131
London, KY 40742-7131

150202. The ROE is not required when the retiree's military paycheck is mailed to a financial institution in the United States. The endorsement by the financial institution constitutes a certificate of the existence of the retiree.

150203. A competent retiree residing in the United States whose retired military paycheck is mailed to an address other than a financial institution is not required to submit an ROE.

150204. Retired military paychecks mailed to an APO, FPO, or a finance officer or disbursing officer at an overseas address, do not require submission of an ROE. Retired military paychecks are not addressed to a United States Consulate, Embassy, or Military Attaché unless the retiree is employed by that particular agency.

*1503 MENTALLY INCOMPETENT RETIREE

150301. Comptroller General decision (34 Comp. Gen. 407) prohibits forwarding checks directly to retirees who are found mentally incompetent to manage their own affairs. In the case of a mentally incompetent retiree, checks may be drawn payable to a legal guardian, trustee, or other legal representative after receipt of proper documentation verifying the authority of the guardian, trustee, or other legal representative to receive such payments. See [Chapter 16](#) of this volume for appointment or designation of legal representatives.

150302. The legal representative must sign **and return** the semiannual report of his or her ward's continued existence **to the address listed in paragraph 150201 to continue to receive the member's retired military pay check**. The retired military paycheck may be mailed to the legal representative or to a financial institution established by the legal representative for the retiree (ward).

150303. In the absence of the appointment of a guardian, trustee, or other legal representative for an incompetent retiree, payment may be made to the Administrator of the Veterans Affairs hospital to provide the retiree with health and comfort items. See **Chapter 16** of this volume.

1504 MAILING OF RETIRED MILITARY PAYCHECKS

Retired military paychecks are mailed at the end of each month, provided a signed ROE, when required, has been received that certifies the retiree's continued existence. Failure to return the required ROE will result in suspension of retired pay.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

CHAPTER 15 – PROOF OF EXISTENCE

1502 – COMPETENT RETIREE

Comp Gen B-206129, June 28, 1982
Comp Gen B-141025, August 3, 1973
Department of State Letter, June 17, 1969

1503 – MENTALLY INCOMPETENT RETIREE

[34 Comp Gen 407](#)
31 CFR 240.14
37 U.S.C. 602
44 Comp Gen 208

1504 – MAILING OF RETIRED MILITARY PAYCHECKS

44 Comp Gen 208
Comp Gen B-206129, June 28, 1982
37 U.S.C. 602
Comp Gen A-3551, April 6, 1931,
June 23, 1931,
October 24, 1946,
March 9, 1951
February 3, 1964