

**VOLUME 7B, CHAPTER 15: “PROOF OF EXISTENCE”****SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES**

All changes are denoted by **blue font**.

Substantive revisions are denoted by an \* symbol preceding the section, paragraph, table, or figure that includes the revision.

Unless otherwise noted, chapters referenced are contained in this volume.

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

The previous version dated March 2013 is archived.

<b>PARAGRAPH</b>	<b>EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>
150201	Added DFAS form and hyperlink to subparagraph.	Revision
150203.B	Spelled out acronym for Army/Air Force Post Office (APO)/Fleet Post Office (FPO).	Revision

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## CHAPTER 15

**PROOF OF EXISTENCE**

## 1501 GENERAL

For the protection of the [United States](#) Government, certain safeguards are required for retired military paychecks mailed through the international postal system or payable to legal representatives of mentally incompetent members. The Report of Existence (ROE) requirement protects against continued payments to deceased retirees. Payments of military retired pay, Combat-Related Special Compensation, and/or Concurrent Retired and Disability Pay may not be negotiated after the death of the retiree.

## 1502 COMPETENT RETIREE

\*150201. Semi-Annual Submission of [Report of Existence](#)

When retired military paychecks are delivered to the retired member through the international postal system to foreign countries, the retiree must furnish [an](#) ROE semiannually. The retiree does this by completing [the](#) form provided by the Defense Finance and Accounting Service - Cleveland Site (DFAS-CL). The retiree must sign the letter or complete the ROE by electronic input. [The DFAS-CL form 1800/100 can be obtained by accessing the website: <http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/forms.html>](#). The electronic input requires access by entering the login id and password or personal identification number (PIN) via myPay, formerly Employee/Member Self Service, at the following website: <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx>. If the retiree does not have a myPay account, then the retiree can find instructions at the website to create one. 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. Check Mailed to United States Financial Institution

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. Report of Existence Not Required

A. 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.

\* B. Retired military paychecks mailed to an [Army/Air Post Office](#) (APO), [Fleet Post Office](#) (FPO), or a finance or disbursing officer at an overseas address do not require submission of an ROE.

150204. Restriction

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. Checks to Mentally Incompetent Retirees

Forwarding checks directly to retirees who are found mentally incompetent to manage their affairs is prohibited. 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 for appointment or designation of legal representatives.

150302. Legal Representative Requirement

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 paycheck. 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. Veterans Affairs Hospital Authority

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.

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.

