



Thrift Savings Plan BULLETIN

for Agency TSP Representatives

Subject: Regulations on Domestic Relations Orders Affecting Thrift Savings Plan Accounts

Date: June 19, 1996

The Executive Director of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board has issued regulations in 5 C.F.R. Part 1653 regarding domestic relations orders affecting Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) accounts. This bulletin transmits a copy of these regulations, issued as the final rule and published in the *Federal Register* on April 29, 1996.

The Board must honor retirement benefits court orders. The regulations regarding retirement benefits court orders are contained in 5 C.F.R. Part 1653, Subpart A, and are attached to TSP Bulletin 95-12, dated April 19, 1995. In addition, the booklet *Information About Court Orders*, which was attached to TSP Bulletin 95-25, dated July 31, 1995, explains how the Board processes retirement benefits court orders.

The Board must also honor qualifying legal process for the enforcement of a participant's legal obligations to provide child support or make alimony payments. The regulations regarding qualifying legal process are contained in 5 C.F.R. Part 1653, Subpart B, and are attached to TSP Bulletin 96-9, dated March 14, 1996. (The booklet *Information About Court Orders* does not address the Board's procedures for responding to legal process for the enforcement of a participant's legal obligations to provide child support or make alimony payments.)

These regulations address the 30-day tax withholding notification period, to which both types of payments described above are subject. However, as explained in the supplementary information, these regulations now allow the tax notification period to be waived, and, consequently, may result in speedier payments.

ROGER W. MEHLE
Executive Director

Attachment *Federal Register*, April 29, 1996

Inquiries: Questions concerning this bulletin should be directed to the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board at **202-942-1460**.

Chapter: This bulletin may be filed in Chapter 11, Court Orders.