

### § 353.23

interest of that spouse in the bond. Reissue will be permitted only to the extent of that spouse's interest. The evidence required under § 353.23 must be submitted in every case. When the divorce decree does not set out the terms of the property settlement agreement, a certified copy of the agreement must be submitted. Payment, rather than reissue, will be made if requested.

(b) *Gift causa mortis*. A savings bond belonging solely to one individual will be paid or reissued at the request of the person found by a court to be entitled by reason of a gift causa mortis from the sole owner.

(c) *Date for determining rights*. When payment or reissue under this section is to be made, the rights of the parties will be those existing under the regulations current at the time of the entry of the final judgment, decree, or court order.

### § 353.23 Evidence.

(a) *General*. To establish the validity of judicial proceedings, certified copies of the final judgment, decree, or court order, and of any necessary supplementary proceedings, must be submitted. If the judgment, decree, or court order was rendered more than six months prior to the presentation of the bond, there must also be submitted a certification from the clerk of the court, under court seal, dated within six months of the presentation of the bond, showing that the judgment, decree, or court order is in full force.

(b) *Trustee in bankruptcy or receiver of an insolvent's estate*. A request for payment by a trustee in bankruptcy or a receiver of an insolvent's estate must be supported by appropriate evidence of appointment and qualification. The evidence must be certified by the clerk of the court, under court seal, as being in full force on a date that is not more than six months prior to the presentation of the bond.

(c) *Receiver in equity or similar court officer*. A request for payment by a receiver in equity or a similar court officer, other than a receiver of an insolvent's estate, must be supported by a copy of an order that authorizes the presentation of the bond for redemption, certified by the clerk of the court, under court seal, as being in full

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force on a date that is not more than six months prior to the presentation of the bond.

### § 353.24 Payment pursuant to judicial or administrative forfeiture.

(a) *Definitions*. As used in this part:

(1) *Contact point* means the individual designated to receive referrals from the Bureau of the Public Debt, as provided for in this section, by the Federal investigative agency, United States Attorney's Office, or forfeiting agency specified in Public Debt Form 1522.

(2) *Forfeiting agency* means the federal law enforcement agency responsible for the forfeiture.

(3) *Forfeiture*—(i) *Administrative forfeiture* means the process by which property may be forfeited by a Federal agency rather than through judicial proceedings.

(ii) *Judicial forfeiture* means either a civil or a criminal proceeding in a United States District Court that may result in a final judgment and order of forfeiture.

(4) *Public Debt Form 1522* means the written notification of the forfeiture provided by the forfeiting agency to the Bureau of the Public Debt on a Public Debt Form 1522 Special Form of Request for Payment of United States Savings and Retirement Securities Where Use of a Detached Request Is Authorized. Public Debt Form 1522 must specify: the contact point; the issue date of each bond; the serial number for each bond; the date of forfeiture; the forfeiture fund to which payment is to be made; and be signed by an individual authorized by the forfeiting agency. The forfeited bonds and the completed Public Debt Form 1522 are to be mailed to the Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Public Debt, Parkersburg, WV 26106-1328.

(b) *Forfeiture of bond*. (1) Upon receipt and review of the Public Debt Form 1522, as described in (a)(4) above, the Bureau of the Public Debt will make payment to the forfeiture fund specified on the form.

(2) The Bureau of the Public Debt will record the forfeiture, the forfeiture fund into which the proceeds were paid, the contact point, and any related information.

(3) The Bureau of the Public Debt will rely exclusively upon the information provided by the Federal agency in the Public Debt Form 1522 and will not make any independent evaluation of the validity of the forfeiture order, the request for payment, or the authority of the individual signing the request for payment.

(4) The amount paid is limited to the redemption value of the savings bonds as of the date of forfeiture specified in the Public Debt Form 1522.

(c) *Inquiry from previous owner.* (1) Upon payment made pursuant to (b), all inquiries from the previous owner, including requests for payment, re-issue, or applications for relief, related to forfeited savings bonds will be referred by the Bureau of the Public Debt to the contact point named in the Public Debt Form 1522.

(2) The Bureau of the Public Debt will notify the submitter of the inquiry of the referral to the contact point.

(3) The Bureau of the Public Debt will not investigate the inquiry and will defer to the forfeiting agency's determination of the appropriate course of action, including settlement where appropriate. Any settlement will be paid from the forfeiture fund into which the proceeds were deposited.

[61 FR 53822, Oct. 15, 1996]

### Subpart F—Relief for Loss, Theft, Destruction, Mutilation, Defacement, or Nonreceipt of Bonds

#### § 353.25 General.

Relief, by the issue of a substitute bond or by payment, is authorized for the loss, theft, destruction, mutilation, or defacement of a bond after receipt by the owner or his or her representative. As a condition for granting relief, the Commissioner of the Public Debt, as designee of the Secretary of the Treasury, may require a bond of indemnity, in the form, and with the surety, or security, he considers necessary to protect the interests of the United States. In all cases the savings bond must be identified by serial number and the applicant must submit satisfactory evidence of the loss, theft, or destruction, or a satisfactory expla-

nation of the mutilation or defacement.

#### § 353.26 Application for relief—After receipt of bond.

(a) If the serial numbers of the lost, stolen, or destroyed bonds are known, the claimant should execute an application for relief on the appropriate form and submit it to the Bureau of the Public Debt, Parkersburg, WV 26101.

(b) If the bond serial number is not known, the claimant must provide sufficient information to enable the Bureau of the Public Debt to identify the bond by serial number. See § 353.29(c). The Bureau will furnish the proper application form and instructions.

(c) If applicable, a defaced bond and all available fragments of a mutilated bond should be submitted to the Bureau.

(d) The application must be made by the person or persons (including both coowners, if living) authorized under these regulations to request payment of the bond. In addition:

(1) If the bond is in beneficiary form and the owner and beneficiary are both living, both will ordinarily be required to join in the application.

(2) If a minor named on a bond as owner, coowner, or beneficiary is not of sufficient competency and understanding to request payment, both parents will ordinarily be required to join in the application.

(e) If the application is approved, relief will be granted either by the issuance of a bond bearing the same issue date as the bond for which the claim was filed or by the issuance of a check in payment.

#### § 353.27 Application for relief—Non-receipt of bond.

If a bond issued on any transaction is not received, the issuing agent must be notified as promptly as possible and given all information about the non-receipt. An appropriate form and instructions will be provided. If the application is approved, relief will be granted by the issuance of a bond bearing the same issue date as the bond that was not received. Also, relief is authorized for the issuance of bonds for which the Secretary has not received payment, in