

## Railroad Retirement Board

## § 361.5

Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Judicial Panel on Multi-district Litigation;

(d) An agency of the legislative branch, including the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives; and

(e) Other independent establishments that are entities of the Federal government.

*Creditor agency* means the agency to which the debt is owed.

*Debt* means an amount owed to the United States from sources which include loans insured or guaranteed by the United States and all other amounts due the United States from fees, leases, rents, royalties, services, sales of real or personal property, overpayments, fines, penalties, damages, interest, forfeitures (except those arising under the Uniform Code of Military Justice), and all other similar sources.

*Delinquent debt* means a debt which has not been paid by the date specified in the creditor agency's initial written notification, unless satisfactory arrangements for payment have been made by that date, or where, at any time thereafter, the employee fails to satisfy his or her obligations under a payment agreement with the creditor agency.

*Disposable pay* means that part of current basic pay, special pay, incentive pay, retired pay, retainer pay, or in the case of an employee not entitled to basic pay, other authorized pay, remaining after the deduction of any amount required by law to be withheld. Agencies must exclude deductions described in 5 CFR 581.104 (b) through (f) to determine disposable pay subject to salary offset.

*Employee* means a current employee of a Federal agency, including a current member of the Armed Forces or a Reserve of the Armed Forces (Reserves).

*FCCS* means the Federal Claims Collection Standards jointly published by the Department of Justice and the U.S. General Accounting Office at 4 CFR 101.1, *et seq.*

*Paying agency* means the Federal agency or branch of the Armed Forces or Reserves employing the individual and disbursing his or her current pay account.

*Salary offset* means an administrative offset to collect a debt under 5 U.S.C. 5514 by deduction(s) at one or more officially established pay intervals from the current pay account of an employee without his or her consent.

*Waiver* means the cancellation, remission, forgiveness, or non-recovery of a debt allegedly owed by an employee to an agency as permitted or required by 5 U.S.C. 5584, 5 U.S.C. 8346(b), 10 U.S.C. 2774, 32 U.S.C. 716, or any other similar law.

### § 361.4 Determination of indebtedness.

In determining that an employee is indebted, the Board will review the debt to make sure it is valid and past due.

### § 361.5 Notice requirements before offset.

The Board shall provide an employee written Notice of Intent to Offset Salary (Notice of Intent). The employee will be provided the notice at least thirty calendar days before the intended deduction is to begin. In addition, the notice must provide the following:

(a) That the Board has reviewed the records relating to the claim and has determined that a debt is owed, and the origin, nature, and amount of that debt;

(b) The Board's intention to collect the debt by means of deduction from the employee's current disposable pay account;

(c) The amount, frequency, approximate beginning date, and duration of the intended deductions;

(d) An explanation of the Board's requirements concerning interest, penalties, and administrative costs, and notification that such assessment must be made unless such payments are excused in accordance with the FCCS;

(e) Advice as to the employee's or his or her representative's right to inspect and copy or to be provided copies of government records relating to the debt;

(f) If not previously provided, notification of the opportunity (under terms agreeable to the Board) to establish a schedule for the voluntary repayment of the debt or to enter into a written agreement to establish a schedule for