

§ 353.21

established by valid judicial proceedings, but only as specifically provided in this subpart. Section 353.23 specifies the evidence required to establish the validity of the judicial proceedings.

(c) The Department of the Treasury and the agencies that issue, reissue, or redeem savings bonds will not accept a notice of an adverse claim or notice of pending judicial proceedings, nor undertake to protect the interests of a litigant not in possession of a savings bond.

§ 353.21 Payment to judgment creditors.

(a) *Purchaser or officer under levy.* The Department of the Treasury will pay (but not reissue) a savings bond to the purchaser at a sale under a levy or to the officer authorized under appropriate process to levy upon property of the registered owner or coowner to satisfy a money judgment. Payment will be made only to the extent necessary to satisfy the money judgment. The amount paid is limited to the redemption value 60 days after the termination of the judicial proceedings. Except in a case of a levy by the Internal Revenue Service, payment of a bond registered in coownership form pursuant to a judgment or a levy against only one coowner is limited to the extent of that coowner's interest in the bond. That interest must be established by an agreement between the coowners by judgment, decree, or order of a court in a proceeding to which both coowners are parties. Payment of a bond registered in coownership form pursuant to levy by the Internal Revenue Service will be made if the levy is against either coowner on the bond.

(b) *Trustee in bankruptcy, receiver, or similar court officer.* The Department of the Treasury will pay, at current redemption value, a savings bond to a trustee in bankruptcy, a receiver of an insolvent's estate, a receiver in equity, or a similar court officer under the provisions of paragraph (a) of this section.

[44 FR 76441, Dec. 26, 1979, as amended at 63 FR 64551, Nov. 20, 1998]

31 CFR Ch. II (7-1-08 Edition)

§ 353.22 Payment or reissue pursuant to judgment.

(a) *Divorce.* The Department of the Treasury will recognize a divorce decree that ratifies or confirms a property settlement agreement disposing of bonds or that otherwise settles the interests of the parties in a bond. Reissue of a savings bond may be made to eliminate the name of one spouse as owner, coowner, or beneficiary or to substitute the name of one spouse for that of the other spouse as owner, coowner, or beneficiary pursuant to the decree. However, if the bond is registered in the name of one spouse with another person as coowner, there must be submitted either:

(1) A request for reissue by the other person or (2) a certified copy of a judgment, decree, or court order entered in proceedings to which the other person and the spouse named on the bond are parties, determining the extent of the 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 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, reissue, 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]