



## PENSION AND FIDUCIARY SERVICE

PMC VSR Advanced Core Course  
Phase 5: Stages of a Claim  
Part 5: Award Adjustments

# Phase 5, Part 5b Knowledge Check Preparation

## Appendix B

June 7, 2017

Version 1.0

**Phase 5, Part 5b Knowledge Check Preparation**  
**Appendix B**

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**Phase 5, Part 5b Worksheet**

1. Has the dependency change information been submitted by the claimant, fiduciary, or third party? Provide rationale for your decision.
  
2. Is the dependent being added or removed from the award? Provide rationale.
  
3. Is all the information present to add or remove the dependent? Provide rationale.
  
4. What is the effective date of proposed change in dependency?
  
5. Based on your review of the claim, does the claim require due process or contemporaneous notice? Provide rationale.
  
6. What needs to be included in the due process letter/contemporaneous notice?

## Phase 5, Part 5b Knowledge Check Preparation

### Appendix B

#### Introduction to Overpayments and Waiver Withholdings Scenario

A review of the Veteran Jim Keller's record shows he was receiving max rate pension benefits since 2006. A review of a prior award print and payment history shows he received \$1,054/mo in 2014 (based on 12-01-13 COLA), \$1,072/mo in 2015 (based on 12-01-14 COLA). The original award was granted based on the Mr. Keller having no form of income. Mr. Keller submitted a statement on February 1, 2016, stating that he started part-time employment and earns \$400/mo. He reports that he received his first paycheck in September 2014. The award was processed on April 28, 2016 to reduce his pension benefits to \$654/mo effective October 1, 2014, \$672/mo effective December 1, 2014, and \$672/mo effective December 1st, 2015. Mr. Keller submitted a waiver of this debt on May 15, 2016, and the waiver was granted in full.

You reviewed an EP 157 received July 18, 2016, in which Mr. Keller stated that he stopped working in March. He received his last paycheck March 1, 2016. He has no plans to get future employment, and has had no income since this date. You processed the award action on August 6, 2016.

The financial lines and VA pension entitlement were as follows:

Effective Date	Wages (annual)	Proposed VA Pension Entitlement (monthly)	Withholding Needed
12-01-13	0	1,038	0
10-01-14	4,800	654	0
12-01-14	4,800	672	0
12-01-15	4,800	672	0
04-01-16	0	1,072	400 (1072-672)
05-01-16	0	1,072	0

As a result of the award action, Mr. Keller received a retroactive benefit of \$900.00, which is the increase of benefits from 05-01-16 until the date you processed the claim on August 6, 2016.

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1. Did the information submitted by Mr. Keller result in an overpayment?  
Provide rationale.
  
2. What is the debt creation period? Provide rationale.
  
3. When did Mr. Keller submit a waiver of debt?
  
4. Based on the information provided, would you withhold the retroactive benefit? Provide rationale.