PENSION AND FIDUCIARY Service

PMC VSR Intermediate Core Course Phase 5: Proficiency Development  
Part 5: Award Adjustments

Introduction to Overpayments and Waiver Withholdings

Appendix B

July 2024

Activity 1 -Withholding Benefits from a Retroactive Award

Based on the material covered during this course, as well as material discussed in prior courses, provide an answer and rationale for the following scenario:

**Scenario:**

Lonnie Veteran received pension based on income of $2,400.00 for the period December 1, 2020, through November 30, 2021.  (This income consisted of a monthly Social Security benefit of $200.00.). In May 2022, he reports that his Social Security income was actually $215.00 per month (or $2,580.00 per year) for the same period. VA adjusts the award to reflect the increased income, thereby creating an overpayment (debt) of $180.00. The Veteran requests a waiver of the debt. VA waives the entire amount of the debt. The Veteran later submits to VA a letter from the SSA showing his correct gross monthly rate of Social Security income was $200.00 from December 1, 2020, through November 30, 2021.

**Based on the information provided, explain the actions needed. Be prepared to compare your answers with other groups, and to discuss your reasons.**

Activity 2

**Scenario:**

An award adjustment that discontinued pension effective January 1, 2020, was processed in June 2020, and created a $2,500 overpayment. An award is subsequently processed in September 2020 that reinstates benefits effective January 1, 2020, but at a lower rate.  The new award entitles the payee to a $900 retroactive payment. A review of the claims folder indicates that only $300 of the retroactive payment represents benefits due the beneficiary during the period the overpayment was created (January 1, 2020, to June 2020). A waiver request is pending.

**Based on the information provided, explain the actions needed. Be prepared to compare your answers with other groups, and to discuss your reasons.**