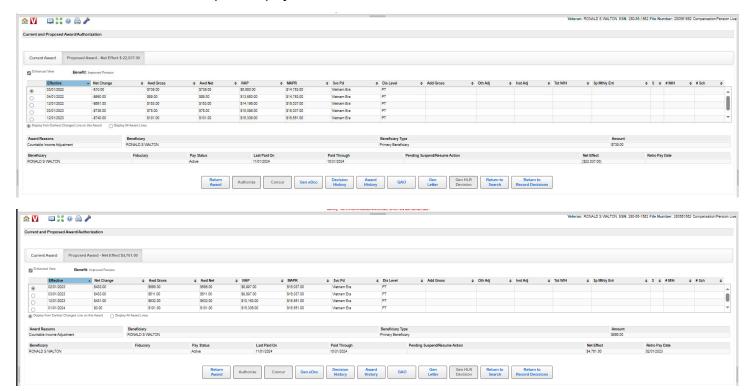
### Social Security Match Debt Erroneous Payment Procedures - Examples

### **Example 1:** Entitled to refund, no debt creation needed.

An EP 150 was established because of the June 24, 2022, SSA income match, showing a Veteran was in receipt of SSA income that VA was not counting. An EP 600 was established in August 2022 for due process, proposing to reduce the Veteran's award and later authorized in December 2022 to create a debt of \$22,037. On February 2023, an EP 150 is established for a medical expense adjustment based on 2022 medical expenses. The EP 150 adjustment resulted in a retroactive payment of \$4,761, reducing the Veteran's debt to \$17,276. In March 2024, DMC cancelled all remaining SSA match debt (\$17,276) and refunded the amount used to offset the debt (\$4,761).

**Result:** No duplicate payment. The Veteran is entitled to the amount of the retroactive payment (\$4,761) used to offset the debt. Therefore, the refund issued in March 2024, was correct and no action is required to recoup this amount. Follow the guidance in Step 5 of Table 1 of the Procedures where no duplicate payment exists.



### Example 2: Duplicate payment

In December 2023, an SSA income match claim (EP 600) and a medical expense claim (EP 150) were processed *concurrently*. The total initial SSA debt amount was \$18,997 which was concurrently offset by a \$5,194 medical expense adjustment, resulting in a debt of \$13,803. In March 2024, DMC refunded the claimant \$5,194 based on the amount offset by the medical expense adjustment and cancelled the remaining SSA match debt.

**Result:** A duplicate payment exists. The \$5,194 offset amount which was applied to the debt should not have been refunded back to the Veteran because the EPs were concurrently processed. A determination of the duplicate payment amount was made by performing a paid and due audit considering the initial SSA debt amount (\$18,997) and the medical expense retroactive payment (\$5,194) which was used to reduce/offset the debt. Follow the guidance in Step 5 of Table 1 of the Procedures where a duplicate payment exists.



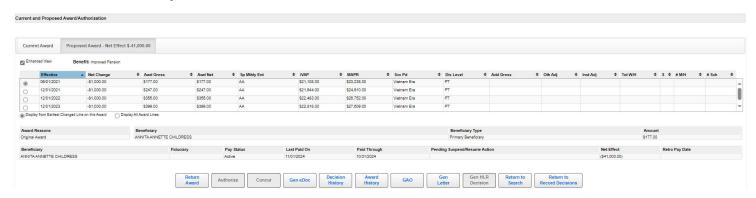
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### **Example 3:** Erroneous payment

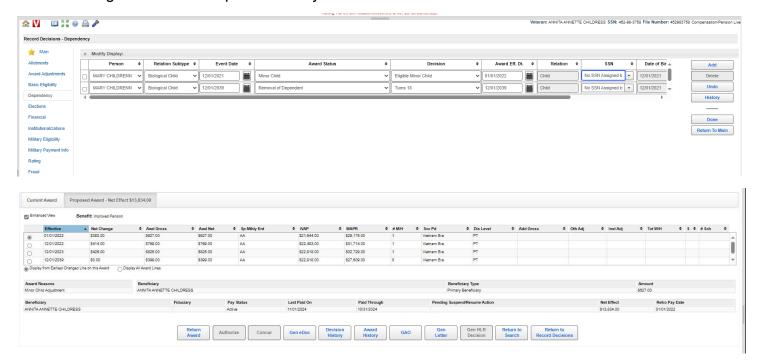
An EP 150 was established because of the June 24, 2022, SSA income match, showing a Veteran was in receipt of SSA income that VA was not counting. An EP 600 was established in September 2022 for due process, proposing to reduce the Veteran's award. In December 2022, the EP 600 was authorized and created a debt of \$41,000. On April 2023, an EP 150 was established for a medical expense adjustment based on 2022 medical expenses, and the Veteran also reported a child that was born on December 1, 2021 (previously unreported). On May 15, 2023, VA authorized the medical expense claim and added the child effective January 1, 2022. The action resulted in a retroactive increase of \$23,946 (\$18,946 based on increased medical expenses and \$5,000 based on the dependency adjustment) which was applied to the debt. The debt is now \$17,054. On August 15, 2023, the Veteran paid \$17,054 directly to DMC to resolve the debt. In March 2024, DMC refunded \$41,000, resulting in \$0.00 debt balance. On September 17, 2024, VA identified that the action to add the Veteran's child effective January 1, 2022, was incorrect because the claim was not received within one year of the birth. The child should have been added May1, 2023.

**Result:** This is not a duplicate payment. The Veteran is entitled to the retroactive increase and the amount paid to DMC to resolve the debt; however, they were overpaid \$5,000 erroneously due to the dependency adjustment effective date administrative error. DMC's refund was \$5,000 too much due to the administrative error. Follow the guidance in Table 2 of the Procedures for erroneous payment corrective action.

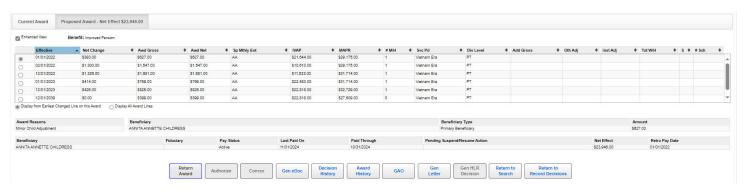
### 1. SSA Income Adj



2. Adding Minor Child Dependent Only



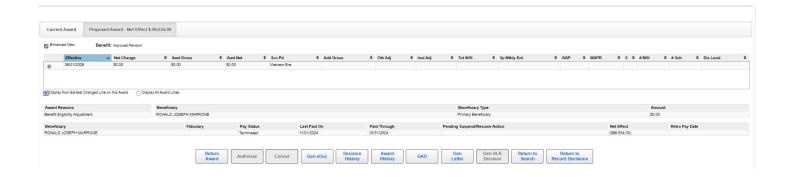
3. Concurrent Adjustment to Add Child & Medical Expense Adjustment



### **Example 4:** EP 930 completed to reverse debt

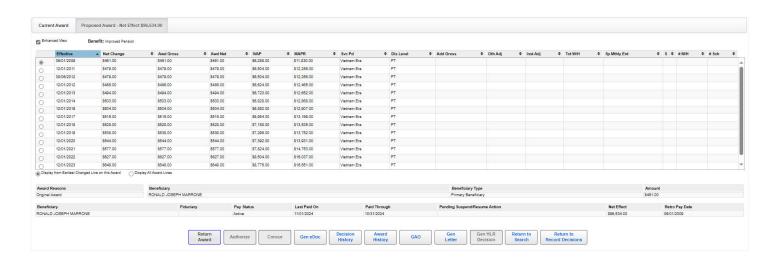
An EP 150 was established because of the June 24, 2022, SSA income match, showing a Veteran was in receipt of SSA income that VA was not counting. VA issued a notification letter, proposing to terminate the Veteran's pension award effective June 1, 2009. An award was authorized in January 2023, which terminated benefits effective June 1, 2009, establishing the SSA match debt of \$-96,534. The PMC established an EP 930 in February 2024 to reverse the decision and offset the debt. In March 2024, DMC refunded the amount used to offset the debt (\$96,534).

**Result:** Duplicate Refund. Because the EP 930 was properly applied to reverse the SSA match debt balance, the Veteran is not entitled to the refund issued in March 2024 and must be recouped. Follow the guidance in Step 5 of Table 1 of the Procedures where a duplicate payment exists.



#### Historical Award

Eff Date	Reason	MAPR	Gross	Net	Net Change	AllotW/H	Dis Lvl	MI C		S	Р
06/01/2009	Benefit Eligibility Adjustment		461.00	461.00	-461.00	0.00	PT	П	7	7	Г
12/01/2011	Cost of Living Adjustment, Countable Income Adjustment	12256.0	479.00	479.00	-479.00	0.00	PT	П	7	$\exists$	
08/06/2012	Cost of Living Adjustment	12256.0	479.00	479.00	-479.00	0.00	PT	П	1	7	
12/01/2012	Cost of Living Adjustment, Countable Income Adjustment	12465.0	486.00	486.00	-486.00	0.00	PT	П	7	$\exists$	
12/01/2013	Cost of Living Adjustment, Countable Income Adjustment	12652.0	494.00	494.00	-494.00	0.00	PT	П	7	$\Box$	
12/01/2014	Cost of Living Adjustment, Countable Income Adjustment	12868.0	503.00	503.00	-503.00	0.00	PT		1		
12/01/2016	Cost of Living Adjustment, Countable Income Adjustment	12907.0	504.00	504.00	-504.00	0.00	PT		7		
12/01/2017	Cost of Living Adjustment, Countable Income Adjustment	13166.0	515.00	515.00	-515.00	0.00	PT		1		
12/01/2018	Cost of Living Adjustment, Countable Income Adjustment	13535.0	528.00	528.00	-528.00	0.00	PT		7		
12/01/2019	Cost of Living Adjustment, Countable Income Adjustment	13752.0	538.00	538.00	-538.00	0.00	PT	П	7	$\Box$	
12/01/2020	Cost of Living Adjustment, Countable Income Adjustment	13931.0	544.00	544.00	-544.00	0.00	PT		1		
12/01/2021	Cost of Living Adjustment, Countable Income Adjustment	14753.0	577.00	577.00	-577.00	0.00	PT		7	$\exists$	
12/01/2022	Cost of Living Adjustment	16037.0	627.00	627.00	-627.00	0.00	PT		7	$\exists$	
12/01/2023	Cost of Living Adjustment	16551.0	648.00	648.00	-648.00	0.00	PT	$\Box$	7	$\forall$	



Example 5: Subsequent Claims Received After SSA Debt Was Canceled/Refunded in March 2024

A Veteran was in receipt of VA benefits of the following amounts.

- \$171 effective April 1, 2020
- \$178 effective December 1, 2020
- \$205 effective December 1, 2021
- \$249 effective December 1, 2022
- \$266 effective December 1, 2023

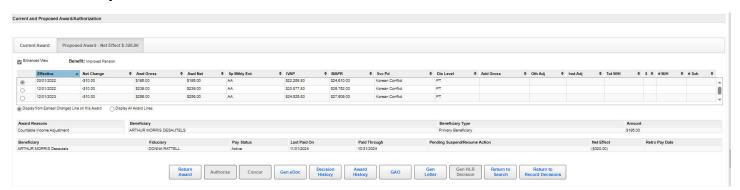
An EP 150 was established because of the June 24, 2022, SSA income match, showing a Veteran was in receipt of additional SSA income for 2022 and 2023. An EP 600 was established for due process and was completed in November 2023 to reduce the Veteran's VA benefits to the following amounts.

- \$195 Effective March 1, 2022
- \$239 effective December 1, 2022
- \$256 effective December 1, 2023 November 1, 2024

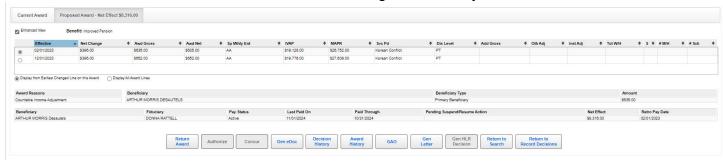
As a result, a debt was created from March 1, 2022 – November 1, 2024, in the amount of \$320. DMC cancelled the amount of debt due to the SSA income match totaling \$320. An EP 150 was received for 2023 medical expenses in November 2024, which overlaps the debt cancellation period in 2023. This award was authorized and increased the Veteran's benefit rates to \$635 per month, effective February 1, 2023, and \$652 per month effective December 1, 2023, resulting in a retroactive payment of \$8,316.

**Result:** A portion of this retroactive payment will need to be withheld based on the debt cancellation for the overlapping period in 2023 and 2024. Follow the guidance in Step 4 of Table 3 of the Procedures where a subsequent claim adjustment results in a retroactive increase for an overlapping period where a debt was previously cancelled.

1. Award Adjustment to Correct SSA



2. Award to Increase based on Meds without withholding screen entry



3. Withholding Screen Entry showing the \$10.00 per month that was part of the Cleared Debt NOTE the file numbers used are not live claims and are for training purposes only".



4. Award Action with Withholding to avoid duplicate payments during Debt Period

