



DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE

1140 EAST WASHINGTON STREET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20315

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Mrs. [REDACTED]

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) regrets to inform you about a significant error requiring a change to your Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) annuity payment. Administrative documents initially used to establish your annuity payment did not clearly reflect that your husband, [REDACTED] died while in Inactive Duty Training (IDT or "drill") status and not while on Active Duty. Consequently, your annuity was incorrectly computed based on the presumption of an Active Duty death. This means that you have been overpaid since you began receiving your annuity in March, 2003.

Federal law requires DFAS to correct the amount of your annuity payment *immediately*. Therefore, beginning with your next scheduled payment on February 1, 2012, your payment will stop. Since you received these overpayments in good faith, DFAS has issued approval to waive any and all responsibility you might otherwise have to repay the excess payments you have already received. This means you are NOT liable for any of the overpayment of \$86,271.00.

The Casualty Assistance Officer (CAO) or Survivor Outreach Services (SOS) Coordinator delivering this letter to you are available to answer your initial questions during their visit. In addition, SOS resources will remain available to you for as long as you desire, to address any follow-up questions or concerns going forward. DFAS has also established a dedicated phone line you may call with any questions, at 216-522-6022, from 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. EST, Monday through Friday.

On behalf of DFAS and the United States Air Force I sincerely apologize for this error and for the need to immediately stop your annuity payment. We acknowledge the potential impact and challenges this situation may present to you and your family. Please know that we remain dedicated to serving you, in honor of your loved one's service to our country.

Sincerely,

Thomas McKenna
Director, DFAS Retired and Annuity Pay