

OMB SUPPORTING STATEMENT

RI 20-63	- Survivor Annuity Election for a Spouse
RI 20-116	- Cover Letter for RI 20-63 Giving Information About the Cost to Elect Less Than the Maximum Survivor Annuity
RI 20-117	- Cover Letter for RI 20-63 Giving Information About the Cost to Elect the Maximum Survivor Annuity

A. Justification

1. Title 5, U. S. Code, Sections 8339(j)(5)(C)(i) and (k)(2) and Sections 8416(b) and (c) state that annuitants may elect to provide survivor annuity benefits for a spouse whom they marry after retirement.
2. RI 20-117 is used to provide information about the annuity payable after a survivor reduction to obtain the maximum survivor annuity. RI 20-63 is the form needed to elect the survivor benefit. By returning RI 20-117 the annuitant may decline to make the election or ask for information about electing less than the maximum survivor benefit. RI 20-117 is accompanied by RI 20-63A, *Information on Electing a Survivor Annuity for Your Spouse*, or RI 20-63B, *Information on Electing a Survivor Annuity for Your Spouse When You are Providing a Former Spouse Survivor Annuity*. Both booklets explain the election. RI 20-63A is for annuitants who do not have a former spouse who is entitled to a survivor annuity benefit; RI 20-63B is for those who do have a former spouse who is entitled to a benefit. If the annuitant uses RI 20-117 to request information about the cost of electing less than the maximum survivor annuity, we use RI 20-116 to supply the requested information. The annuitant may also decline to make the election by returning RI 20-116. OPM could not comply with title 5 if this information were not collected. The Public Burden Statement meets the requirement of 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3). RI 20-63 has been altered to clarify the effects of making the election and to bring the Public Burden Statement up-to-date.
3. New methods of information technology would do little to reduce the burden on the respondents. They must sign the election form. This form is not available on the OPM website. This system of forms is included with the Retirement Systems Modernization project.
4. Elections are filed individually. Similar information certified by the respondent is not available. Duplication is minimized.
5. Information is not collected from small businesses.
6. If this information were not collected, annuitants would be unable to elect survivor benefits provided by law.
7. This information collection is consistent with the guidelines in 5 CFR 1320.6.

8. A notice of proposed information collection was published in the *Federal Register* on November 15, 2006, giving persons outside the agency an opportunity to comment on the form. No comments were received.
9. No payment or gift is provided to these respondents.
10. This information collection is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974 and OPM regulations (5 CFR 831.106). The routine uses for disclosure appear in the *Federal Register* for OPM/Central-1 (64 FR 54930, *et seq.*, October 8, 1999, as amended at 65 FR 25775, May 3, 2000).
11. This information collection does not include questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private.
12. We estimate that 2,400 survivor elections will be processed per year. The form requires 45 minutes to complete for a burden of 1,800 hours. Approximately 200 respondents ask for information about providing less than the maximum survivor annuity or decide not to make any election. We estimate it takes 10 minutes using RI 20-116 or 20-117 to ask for more information or decline to make any election. This gives a burden of 34 hours. The total burden is 1,834 hours.
13. There is no cost to the respondent.
14. The annualized cost to the Federal government is \$126,300 and \$4,400 to provide information about electing less than the maximum survivor annuity. The total cost is \$130,700. This cost includes employee salary hours devoted to the program, forms cost, and overhead.
15. There is no change to the respondent burden.
16. The results of this information collection are not published.
17. It is not cost-effective to reprint the whole supply of forms to change the OMB clearance expiration date. Therefore, we seek approval not to display the date on the form.
18. There are no exceptions to the certification statement.