freely in the notary's or official's presence.

- (d) The form described in paragraph (c) of this section may be executed before a notary public, an official authorized by the law of the jurisdiction where executed to administer oaths, or an OPM employee designated for that purpose by the Associate Director.
- (e) A request for waiver of the spousal consent requirement must be by letter and fully state the basis for the request.
- (f) The amount of the reduction in the retiree's annuity for a one-half reduced annuity to provide a current spouse annuity is 5 percent of the retiree's annuity.

[52 FR 2061, Jan. 16, 1987, as amended at 57 FR 54679, Nov. 20, 1992]

§842.607 Waiver of spousal consent requirement.

- (a) The spousal consent requirement will be waived upon a showing that the spouse's whereabouts cannot be determined. A request for waiver on this basis must be accompanied by—
- (1) A judicial determination that the spouse's whereabouts cannot be determined; or
- (2)(i) Affidavits by the employee or Member and two other persons, at least one of whom is not related to the employee or Member, attesting to the inability to locate the current spouse and stating the efforts made to locate the spouse; and
- (ii) Documentary corroboration such as tax returns filed separately or newspaper stories about the spouse's disappearance.
- (b) The spousal consent requirement will be waived based on exceptional circumstances if the employee or Member presents a judicial determination finding that—
- (1) The case before the court involves a Federal employee who is in the process of retiring from Federal employment and the spouse of that employee;
- (2) The nonemployee spouse has been given notice and an opportunity to be heard concerning this order;
- (3) The court has considered sections 8416(a) of title 5, United States Code, and this section as they relate to waiver of the spousal consent requirement for a married Federal employee to

elect an annuity without a reduction to provide a survivor benefit to a spouse at retirement; and

(4) The court finds that exceptional circumstances exist justifying waiver of the nonemployee spouse's consent.

 $[52\ {\rm FR}\ 2061,\ {\rm Jan.}\ 16,\ 1987,\ {\rm as}\ {\rm amended}\ {\rm at}\ 57\ {\rm FR}\ 54679,\ {\rm Nov.}\ 20,\ 1992]$

§842.608 Changes of election before final adjudication.

An employee or Member may name a new survivor or change his or her election of type of annuity if, not later than 30 days after the date of the first regular monthly payment, the named survivor dies or the employee or Member files with OPM a new written election. All required evidence of spousal consent or justification for waiver of spousal consent, if applicable, must accompany any new written election under this section.

[56 FR 65419, Dec. 17, 1991] §842.609 [Reserved]

§842.610 Changes of election after final adjudication.

- (a) Except as provided in §842.611, §842.612, or paragraph (b) of this section, an employee or Member may not revoke or change the election or name another survivor later than 30 days after the date of the first regular monthly payment.
- (b)(1) Except as provided in §842.605 and paragraphs (b)(2) and (b)(3) of this section, a retiree who was married at the time of retirement and has elected a self-only annuity, a one-half reduced annuity to provide a current spouse annuity, a fully reduced annuity or a one-half reduced annuity to provide a former spouse annuity, or an insurable interest rate may elect, no later than 18 months after the time of retirement, an annuity reduction or an increased annuity reduction to provide a current spouse annuity.
- (2) A current spouse annuity based on an election under paragraph (b)(1) of this section cannot be paid if it will, when combined with any former spouse annuity or annuities that are required by court order, exceed the maximum survivor annuity permitted under \$842.613.
- (3) To make an election under paragraph (b)(1) of this section, the retiree