

§ 179.308 Accelerated procedures.

OPM may make an administrative offset against a payment to be made to the debtor prior to the completion of the procedures required by §§179.304 and 179.305 if failure to take the offset would substantially jeopardize OPM's ability to collect the debt, and the time before the payment is to be made does not reasonably permit the completion of those procedures. Such prior offset shall be promptly followed by the completion of those procedures. Amounts recovered by offset but later found not to be owed to OPM shall be promptly refunded.

§ 179.309 Additional administrative procedures.

Nothing contained in this chapter is intended to preclude the use of any other administrative remedy which may be available.

PART 180—EMPLOYEES' PERSONAL PROPERTY CLAIMS

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AUTHORITY: Sec. 3, 78 Stat. 767, as amended; 31 U.S.C. 241.

SOURCE: 43 FR 47163, Oct. 13, 1978, unless otherwise noted.

§ 180.101 Scope and purpose.

(a) The Military Personnel and Civilian Employees' Claims Act of 1964, 31 U.S.C. 240 to 243, authorizes the Director, Office of Personnel Management to settle and pay (including replacement in kind) claims of officers and employees of OPM, amounting to not more than \$15,000, for damage to or loss of personal property incident to their service. Claims are payable only for such types, quantities, or amounts of tangible personal property (including money) as the approving authority shall determine to be reasonable, useful, or proper under the circumstances existing at the time and place of the

loss. In determining what is reasonable, useful, or proper, the approving authority will consider the type and quantity of property involved, circumstances attending acquisition and use of the property, and whether possession or use by the claimant at the time of damage or loss was incident to service.

(b) The Government does not underwrite all personal property losses that a claimant may sustain and it does not underwrite individual tastes. While the Government does not attempt to limit possession of property by an individual, payment for damage or loss is made only to the extent that the possession of the property is determined to be reasonable, useful, or proper. If individuals possess excessive quantities of items, or expensive items, they should have such property privately insured.

§ 180.102 Claimants.

(a) The following are proper claimants:

- (1) Officers and employees of OPM;
- (2) Former officers and employees of OPM whose claims arose out of incidents which occurred before their separation;
- (3) The authorized agent or legal representative of persons in §§ 180.102(a)(1) and 180.102(a)(2);
- (4) Survivors of persons in §§ 180.102(a)(1) and 180.102(a)(2) in the following order of precedence:
 - (i) Spouse,
 - (ii) Children,
 - (iii) Father or mother, or both,
 - (iv) Brothers or sisters, or both.

(b) A claim may not be presented by or for the benefit of a subrogee, assignee, conditional vendor, or other third party.

§ 180.103 Time limitations.

A claim must be presented in writing within 2 years after it accrues, except during war or armed conflict. If war or armed conflict occurs within the 2-year period following accrual, when claimant shows good cause, the claim may be presented within 2 years after the cause ceases to exist but not more than 2 years after termination of the war or armed conflict. A claim accrues when loss or damage is or should have been discovered by claimant even though