

Privacy Act of 1974 System of Records Notice

U.S. RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Name

RRB-1: Social Security Benefit Vouchering System

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Federal Register

July 26, 2010

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Effective Date

September 24, 2010

System Location

U.S. Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago,

Illinois 60611-2092.

Security Classification

None.

Categories of Individuals Covered by the System Applicants after December 31, 1974, for benefits under Title II of the Social Security Act who have completed ten years or at least five years after 1995 of creditable service in the railroad industry, the spouse and/or divorced spouse or survivor of such an individual.

Categories of Records in the System

Name, address, social security number, RRB claim number, type and amount of benefit, suspension and termination information

Authority for Maintenance of the System

Section 7(b)(2) of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 (45 U.S.C.

Purpose(s)

231f(b)(2))

Routine Uses of Records Maintained in the System, Including Categories of Users and Purposes of Such Uses Records in the Social Security Vouchering System are maintained to administer Title II of the Social Security Act with respect to payment of benefits to individuals with 10 or more years or at least five years after 1995 of railroad service and their families.

- a. Benefit rate information may be disclosed to primary beneficiaries regarding secondary beneficiaries (or vice versa) when the addition of such beneficiary affects either the entitlement or benefit payment.
- b. In the event the Board has determined to designate a person to be the representative payee of an incompetent beneficiary, disclosure of information concerning the benefit amount and other similar information may be made to the representative payee from the record of the individual.
- c. Benefit rates, names and addresses may be released to the Department of Treasury to control for reclamation and return of outstanding benefit payments, to issue benefit payments, act on reports of non-receipt, to insure delivery of payments to the correct address of the beneficiary or representative payee or to proper financial organization, and to investigate alleged forgery, theft or unlawful negotiation of railroad retirement for social security benefit checks or improper diversion of payments directed to a financial organization.
- d. Beneficiary's name, address, check rate and date plus supporting evidence may be released to the U.S. Postal Service for

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investigation of alleged forgery or theft of railroad retirement or social security benefit checks.

- e. Beneficiary identifying information, effective date, benefit rates, and months paid may be furnished to the Veterans Administration for the purpose of assisting that agency in determining eligibility for benefits or verifying continued entitlement to and the correct amount of benefits payable under programs which it administers.
- f. Benefit rates and effective dates may be disclosed to the Social Security Administration, Bureau of Supplemental Security Income, to Federal, State and local welfare or public aid agencies to assist them in processing applications for benefits under their respective programs.
- g. Last addresses information may be disclosed to the Department of Health and Human Services in conjunction with the Parent Locator Service.
- h. Benefit rates, entitlement and other necessary information may be released to the Department of Labor in conjunction with payment of benefits under the Federal Coal Mine and Safety Act.
- i. Pursuant to a request from an employer covered by the Railroad Retirement Act or the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act or from an organization under contract to an employer or employers, information regarding the Board's payment of benefits, the methods by which such benefits are calculated, entitlement data and present address may be released to the requesting employer or the organization under contract to the employer or employers for the purposes of determining entitlement to and the rates of private supplemental pension benefits and to calculate estimated benefits due.
- j. If a request for information pertaining to an individual is made by an official of a labor organization of which the individual is a member and the request is made on behalf of the individual, information from the record of the individual concerning his benefit or anticipated benefit and concerning the method of calculating that benefit may be disclosed to the labor organization official.
- k. Records may be disclosed to the Government Accountability Office for auditing purposes and for collection of debts arising from overpayments under Title II of the Social Security Act, as amended.
- I. Records may be disclosed in a court proceeding relating to any claims for benefits by the beneficiary under the Railroad Retirement Act and may be disclosed during the course of an administrative appeal to individuals who need the records to prosecute or decide



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the appeal or to individuals who are requested to provide information relative to an issue involved in the appeal.

- m. For payments made after December 31, 1983, beneficiary identifying information, address, amounts of benefits paid and repaid, beneficiary withholding instructions, and amounts withheld by the RRB for tax purposes may be furnished to the Internal Revenue Service for tax administration.
- n. Beneficiary identifying information, entitlement data, and benefit rates may be released to the Department of State and embassy and consular officials, to the American Institute on Taiwan, and to the Veterans Administration Regional Office, Philippines, to aid in insuring the continued payment of beneficiaries living abroad.
- o. Entitlement data and benefit rates may be released to any court, state, agency, or interested party, or to the representative of such court, state agency, or interested party, in connection with contemplated or actual legal or administrative proceeding concerning domestic relations and support matters.

Disclosure to Consumer Reporting Agencies None.

Policies and Practices for Storing, Retrieving, Accessing, Retaining, and Disposing of Records in the System

Storage

Paper, microforms, magnetic tape and magnetic disk...

Retrievability

Social security account number, full name

Safeguards

Paper and Microforms: Maintained in areas not accessible to the public in locking filing cabinents. Offices are locked during non-business hours. Building has 24 hour on-site security officers, closed circuit television monitoring and intrusion detection systems.

Magnetic tape and magnetic disk: Computer and computer storage rooms are restricted to authorized personnel; on-line query safeguards include a lock/unlock password system, a terminal oriented transaction matrix, role based access controls and audit trail. For computerized records electronically transmitted between headquarters and field office locations, system securities are established in accordance with National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) guidelines, including network monitoring, defenses in-depth, incident response and forensics. In addition to the on-line query safeguards, they include encryption of all data transmitted and exclusive use of leased telephone lines.



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Retention and Disposal

Paper: Individual claim folders with records of all actions pertaining to the payment of claims are transferred to the Federal Records Center, Chicago, Illinois 5 years after the date of last payment or denial activity if all benefits have been paid, no future eligibility is apparent and no erroneous payments are outstanding.

The claim folder is destroyed 25 years after the date it is received in the center. Accounts receivable listings and checkwriting operations daily activity listings are transferred to the Federal Records Center 1 year after date of issue and are destroyed 6 years and 3 months after receipt at the center. Other paper listings are destroyed 1 year after the date of issue. Changes of address source documents are destroyed after 1 year.

Microforms: Originals are kept for 3 years, transferred to the Federal Records Center and destroyed when 8 years old. One duplicate copy is kept 2 years and destroyed by shredding. All other duplicate copies are kept 1 year and destroyed by shredding.

Magnetic tape: Tapes are updated at least monthly. For disaster recovery purposes, certain tapes are stored for 12-18 month periods.

Magnetic disk: Continually updated and permanently retained. When magnetic disk or other electronic media is no longer serviceable, it is sanitized in accordance with NIST guidelines.

System Manager(s) and Address

Office of Programs--Director of Policy and Systems, U.S. Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092.

Notification Procedure

Requests for information regarding an individual's records should be in writing, including full name, social security number and railroad retirement claim number (if any) of the individual. Before any information about any record will be released, the individual may be required to provide proof of identity, or authorization from the individual to permit release of information. Such requests should be sent to: Office of Programs--Director of Operations, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092.

Record Access Procedure

See Notification section above.

Contesting Record Procedure

See Notification section above.

Record Source Categories

Individual applicant or his or her authorized representative, the Social Security Administration, other record systems maintained by the Railroad Retirement Board.



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Exemptions Claimed for the System