



# Thrift Savings Plan BULLETIN

for Agency TSP Representatives

**Subject:** Final Regulations on Retirement Benefits Court Orders

**Date:** April 19, 1995

The Executive Director of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board has issued final regulations in 5 CFR Parts 1650 and 1653 concerning retirement benefits court orders. The regulations are effective April 12, 1995. This bulletin transmits a copy of these regulations, as published in the *Federal Register* on March 13, 1995.

These regulations supersede 5 CFR 1650.27 to 1650.43 and establish Part 1653. The regulations contain a number of procedural changes which result from the Board's experience with processing retirement benefits court orders and from changes in Federal tax law. For example:

- court orders requiring payment at a future date will no longer be considered qualifying orders unless the two requirements specified in Section 1653.2 (c)(2)(i) are met;
- the 30-day appeal period for the parties to request an administrative review of the decision by the Executive Director is eliminated in Section 1653.3(i); and
- the procedures for payment specified in Section 1653.5 include the tax notification requirement and the opportunity for the spouse or former spouse of the participant to request that all or a portion of a court-ordered payment be transferred to an Individual Retirement Arrangement or other eligible retirement plan.

The supplementary information to the regulations contains an explanation of these and other changes, as well as a detailed explanation of the regulatory requirements.

Attachment

ROGER W. MEHLE  
Executive Director

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**Inquiries:** Questions concerning this bulletin should be directed to the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board at **202-942-1460**.

**Supersedes:** This bulletin supersedes TSP Bulletin 91-7, Revised Interim Regulations on Spousal Rights and Retirement Benefits Court Orders, dated February 13, 1991.