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Transfer of Responsibility to Process Garnishment Orders

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

8 April 1996

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

CECC-K (27-40)

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Transfer of Responsibility to Process Garnishment Orders

1. In April 1996, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) will take over the Corps of Engineers payroll system. Along with the transfer of payroll, DFAS now assumes the responsibility for processing all garnishment orders issued against Corps employees. This will include the legal review of those orders, which had formerly been done by the Omaha District.
2. A notice in the Federal Register directing that garnishments now be served on DFAS has not yet been published. Therefore, DFAS has sent us the enclosed letter and suggested forms for use in handling those garnishment orders which will still be directed to the Corps because the garnishing entity does not know to whom the orders should be sent.
3. Please ensure that any child support orders which your office receives in the future be promptly forwarded to DFAS so that timely processing may occur. Further, please ensure that commercial orders are returned to the appropriate party, with the attached form.
4. POC for this action is Karlissa Krombein, who may be reached at (202) 761-0027.

FOR THE COMMANDER

/s/

Martin R. Cohen
Assistant Chief Counsel
for Litigation

Encl

Enclosure:

DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE
1931 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, VA 22240-5291

Mar 19 1996

Mr. Lester Edelman
Chief Counsel
HQ US Army Corps of Engineers

Attn: CECC-ZA
8220 Pulaski Bldg.
20 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20314-1000

SUBJECT: Transfer of Responsibility to Process Garnishment Orders

Dear Mr. Edelman:

As you are probably aware, on April 1, 1996, the payroll function of the Army Corps of Engineers is scheduled to transfer to the Defense Civilian Pay System. With that transfer, the function of performing the legal review of all child support and civilian commercial garnishment actions will transfer to our consolidated garnishment operations in DFAS-Cleveland (DFAS-CL/L).

My staff at DFAS-CL/L have met with your garnishment staff in Omaha and we wish to thank you for their cooperation. We anticipate a smooth transfer of cases. However, we do anticipate some problems with different geographical locations that may continue to receive orders. It has been our experience that these local payroll and personnel offices will continue to be served with court orders. It is important that those child support orders be forwarded to DFAS-CL/L in a timely manner and that the civilian commercial garnishment be returned using the attached form letters.

I would greatly appreciate your assistance in relaying this word to all of your offices. If you have any questions please contact me or Ms. Kay Drews at (703) 607-0368. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

/s/

John S. Mester
General Counsel

Attachments (2)

Attachment 1

You recently served us with garnishment papers concerning _____. Those documents are being forwarded to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service - Cleveland Center (DFAS-CL/L). DFAS-CL/L is the designated agent for legal process for garnishment for child support and alimony from the pay of civilian employees of the Department of Defense who are paid by DFAS payroll offices in Charleston, Columbus, Denver, Omaha, and Pensacola.

The time standards expressed in Title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), part 581, will begin to run only after the garnishment is received by DFAS-CL/L. After it is received, DFAS-CL/L will process the garnishment in accordance with the provisions of 5 CFR, part 581.

For your information, we are providing the address and telephone number for DFAS-CL/L:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service
Cleveland Center, Code L
P.O. Box 998002
Cleveland, OH 44199-8002
(216) 522-5301

Attachment 1

You recently served this office with garnishment papers concerning _____. Those documents are being returned to you. Pursuant to Federal Regulation, 5 C.F.R. 582 et. seq., you are required to serve all garnishments for commercial debt on the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, Cleveland Center (DFAS-CL/L). DFAS-CL/L is the designated agent for service of process.

The address for DFAS-CL/L is:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service
Cleveland Center, Code L
P.O. Box 998002
Cleveland, OH 44199-8002
(216) 522-5301

Under Federal Regulations, service is not effective until there is compliance with the provisions of 5 C.F.R. 582.

Sincerely,

Send comments to: Webmaster
Revised: 28 February 1997