

Retaliation against a USDOT employee or applicant for making a protected disclosure is prohibited (5 U.S.C. 2302(b)(8)). If you believe you are a victim of whistleblower retaliation, you may file a written complaint with the U.S. Office of Special Counsel using Form OSC-14. While the Federal Government is on maximum telework, OSC is accepting Form OSC-14 only electronically. When the Federal Government is no longer on maximum telework, you may choose to submit the form electronically or complete Form OSC-14 and mail it to the Complaints Examining Unit, U.S. Office of Special Counsel at 1730 M Street NW, Suite 218, Washington, DC 20036-4505. You may also contact the USDOT Office of Inspector General Hotline by phone at 1-800-424-8071, by email at hotline@oig.dot.gov, or online at <https://www.oig.dot.gov/hotline>. In addition, when the Federal Government is no longer on maximum telework, you may also contact the USDOT Office of Inspector General by mail at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Bldg 7th Floor, Washington, DC 20590.

Retaliation for Engaging in Protected Activity

A Federal agency cannot retaliate against an employee or applicant because that individual exercises his or her rights under any of the Federal antidiscrimination or whistleblower protection laws listed above. If you believe that you are the victim of retaliation for engaging in protected activity, you must follow, as appropriate, the procedures described in the Antidiscrimination Laws and Whistleblower Protection Laws sections or, if applicable, the administrative or negotiated grievance procedures in order to pursue any legal remedy.

Disciplinary Actions

Under existing laws, USDOT retains the right, where appropriate, to discipline a USDOT employee who engages in conduct that is inconsistent with Federal Antidiscrimination and Whistleblower Protection laws up to and including removal from Federal service. If USDOT takes an adverse action under 5 U.S.C. 7512 against an employee for a discriminatory act, it must include a notation of the adverse action and the reason for the action in the employee's personnel record. If OSC initiates an investigation under 5 U.S.C. 1214, USDOT must seek approval from the Special Counsel to discipline employees for, among other activities, engaging in prohibited retaliation (5 U.S.C. 1214). Nothing in the No FEAR Act alters existing laws or permits an

agency to take unfounded disciplinary action against a USDOT employee, or to violate the procedural rights of a USDOT employee accused of discrimination.

Additional Information

For more information regarding the No FEAR Act regulations, refer to 5 CFR part 724, as well as the appropriate office(s) within your agency (e.g., EEO/civil rights offices, human resources offices, or legal offices). You can find additional information regarding Federal antidiscrimination, whistleblower protection, and retaliation laws at the EEOC website at <http://www.eeoc.gov> and the OSC website at <http://www.osc.gov>.

Existing Rights Unchanged

Pursuant to section 205 of the No FEAR Act, neither the No FEAR Act nor this notice creates, expands, or reduces any rights otherwise available to any employee, former employee, or applicant under the laws of the United States, including the provisions of law specified in 5 U.S.C. 2302(d).

Issued in Washington, DC, on October 26, 2021.

Irene Marion,

*Director, Departmental Office of Civil Rights,
U.S. Department of Transportation.*

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0666]

Agency Information Collection Activity: Information Regarding Apportionment of Beneficiary's Award; Withdrawn

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice; withdrawal.

SUMMARY: On Wednesday, October 27, 2021, the Veterans Benefits Administration published a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection Information Regarding Apportionment of Beneficiary's Award (VA Form 21-0788). This notice was published in error; therefore, this document corrects that error by withdrawing this FR notice, document number 2021-23380.

DATES: As of October 27, 2021, the FR notice published at 86 FR 59449 on Wednesday, October 27, 2021, is withdrawn.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Maribel Aponte, Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics (008), 1717 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20006, (202) 266-4688 or email maribel.aponte@va.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: FR Doc. 2021-23380, published on October 27, 2021 (86 FR 59449), is withdrawn by this notice.

By direction of the Secretary.

Maribel Aponte,

VA PRA Clearance Officer, Office of Enterprise and Integration/Data Governance Analytics, Department of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2021-23797 Filed 11-1-21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0618]

Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: Application by Insured Terminally Ill Person for Accelerated Benefit

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, will submit the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden and it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function. Refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0618."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Maribel Aponte, Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics (008), 1717 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20006, (202) 266-4688 or email maribel.aponte@va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0618" in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: