

April 14, 2020

The Honorable Steven Mnuchin  
Secretary of the Treasury  
U.S. Department of Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Mr. Secretary,

On behalf of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE), which represents the interest of five million federal employees, retirees and their spouses and survivors, I write to request that you direct the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and Treasury Department to ensure federal retirees and their survivors receive the economic impact payments authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act as expeditiously as possible.

Specifically, I urge the Treasury Department and IRS to: (i) work with the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Retirement Services division to automatically send economic impact payments to individuals receiving federal retirement annuities who do not receive Social Security benefits and do not file tax returns; and (ii) to send payments via direct deposit to the bank accounts that federal annuitants use to receive their federal retirement annuities, if the federal annuitant does not have direct deposit information on file with the IRS.

The IRS will send economic impact payments to eligible taxpayers who filed a 2018 or 2019 tax return. It will also automatically send payments to Social Security beneficiaries and Railroad Retirement Board beneficiaries who did not file a tax return. We simply ask that you work with OPM extend the same policy to individuals receiving federal retirement annuities who do not receive Social Security benefits and do not file tax returns. These individuals may not be aware they are eligible for the payments and/or how to provide the IRS with the necessary info to receive them. Some may not have the internet access needed to find out or to easily apply.

We also urge you to use bank account information on file with OPM to send payments via direct deposit to federal retirement annuitants if the IRS does not have bank account information for the taxpayer. This will avoid mailing checks to an outdated address, and guard against fraud, improper payments or missed payments. It could also ensure that individuals receive the money sooner, allowing their likely increase in spending to contribute to economic recovery earlier.

Thank you for the consideration of our views. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact NARFE's Staff Vice President for Policy and Programs Jessica Klement at [jklement@narfe.org](mailto:jklement@narfe.org).

Sincerely,



Ken Thomas  
National President