

Federal Investigations Notice

Notice No. 08-03 revised

Date: August 8, 2008

SUBJECT: Revised Standard Form 86

Later this year, the July 2008 revision of the Standard Form (SF) 86 will be implemented, to include complementary updates to the Electronic Questionnaire for Investigations Processing (e-QIP). The e-QIP system is the e-Government solution for investigation requests. For requesters in unusual logistical circumstances where e-QIP is not available or accessible, the newly revised SF 86 will also be available as a fillable PDF file on OPM's website at: <http://www.opm.gov/forms/html/sf.asp>. In addition, paper copies of the revised form may be obtained from the General Services Administration (GSA).

This SF 86 revision includes:

- Updates to the questionnaire to align with the national security adjudicative guidelines (implementation of Executive Order 12968);
- Clear and concise language throughout the form to further encourage proper reporting of information;
- Expanded coverage of foreign activities, to include financial interests, business and professional activities, foreign government contacts, personal contacts, and foreign travel;
- Revised Mental and Emotional Health questions to address Department of Defense concerns regarding servicemen and women who should seek counseling to help them adjust from the combat environment into civilian life, but may be deterred by the perception of negative impact on their ability to obtain or maintain a security clearance;
- Updated list of Investigating Agencies on the questionnaire and on the Authorization for Release of Information;
- Expanded collection of information concerning Financial Record, to include debt to the Federal Government;
- New questions concerning Use of Information Technology Systems;
- Expanded collection of information concerning Associations Record; and,
- Revised Mental and Emotional Health Authorization for Release of Medical Information pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

OPM also updated the INV 15 *Requesting OPM Personnel Investigations* (formerly the IS-15). The INV 15 includes instructions for completing the Agency Use portion of the SF 86 and lists the forms and documents that must be submitted when requesting an investigation. One of the updates concerns the location of the Official Personnel Folder (Block K). You will now be able to select "e-OPF" and show the Web address. When "e-OPF" is selected in Block K, the agency is giving OPM-FISD online access to review the contents of the e-OPF if required during the background investigation. The e-OPF system will maintain a disclosure if OPM-FISD reviews the file.

The revised INV 15 is available on the OPM Portal and is coming soon to OPM's Federal Investigative Services' website at: www.opm.gov/extra/investigate.

Upon implementation, all previous versions of the SF 86 will be destroyed. Agencies using the e-QIP system will automatically be converted to the new version. For e-QIP and paper requests in process at the time of implementation, there will be a limited transition period when both versions will be accepted. OPM will not accept the previous version of the SF 86 or e-QIP form after January 1, 2009.

If you need additional information or assistance, please contact your Investigations Program Specialist at (724) 794-5612.



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Code: 736, Personnel Investigations

Distribution: SOIs/SONs

Notice Expires: When superseded by subsequent issuances