



**Retirement and Insurance Service
Payroll Office Letter**

Number: P-00-09

Date: April 14, 2000

Subject: FEDMER DISABILITY PILOT

We want to inform you that the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM), the Social Security Administration (SSA) and several Federal agencies are working together on a test project to provide better customer service for Federal employees applying for both Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) and Social Security disability benefits. This test project is called "FEDMER" – Federal Medical Evidence of Record. The test region includes employees who live in the States of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia.

For more background see Benefits Administration Letter 99-109, which announced the pilot and it is available through the OPM Web site (<http://www.opm.gov/asd>). For an update, please refer to the attached Benefits Administration Letter 00-103.

We have asked human resources offices to identify FEDMER disability applications by putting a special cover or flag on the application package. The special flag will allow the retirement operations staff to easily identify these cases for proper handling. A sample copy of a FEDMER flag (RI 20-114) is attached. This flag card is generally printed on pink paper, but they may also be on plain white paper. You should handle FEDMER cases like any other disability retirement case. Your personnel office will attach a FEDMER flag on the front of every FEDMER case. We ask that you leave the FEDMER flag attached to the front of the case when you ship it to OPM's Retirement Operations Center in Boyers, Pennsylvania.

Please be aware that FEDMER cases include additional documents such as original Social Security forms. There is also a photocopy of all Social Security forms, FERS disability forms and the medical evidence. This means that there are two copies of the Social Security and FERS disability applications and the medical evidence. Do not remove any of these documents from the case.

*Civil Service
Retirement
System*

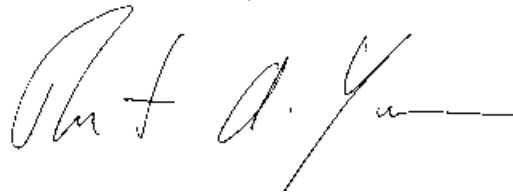
*Federal Employees
Group Life
Insurance*

*Federal Employees
Health Benefits
Program*

*Federal Employees
Retirement
System*

We thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please email us at:
FEDMER@opm.gov.

And if you should have any questions about this or any other payroll office letter, please call us at 202-606-0606, or send email finance@opm.gov.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert A. Yuran", with a horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

**Robert A. Yuran, Chief
Financial Policy Staff
Retirement and Insurance Service**

Attachments