

People who were denied full social security payments due to the offset program now have an opportunity to apply for reconsideration. The process is quite easy, only three things are needed: The SSA-561-U2 form, a letter stating that it was a condition of employment to belong to a uniformed service, and a cover letter similar to the one below.

**1. Letter for reconsideration:**

*Social Security Administration  
Mid-America Program Service Center  
Reconsideration Section  
PO Box 15487  
Kansas City, MO 64106*

*This letter is a request for an adjustment of Social Security Payments.*

*When I applied for Social Security in (month/year) I was told that the payments would be adjusted because of the Offset Penalty. At that time I was unaware of Section 215(a)(7)(A) of the Social Security Act as amended in 1994. This information was not discussed during our pre-retirement seminars.*

*This Act provides that the windfall elimination provision does not apply to individuals who received periodic payment "wholly for service as a member of a uniformed service". The Nebraska Army/Air (pick applicable branch) National Guard is a "uniformed service" as defined in Section 210(m) of the act. It was mandatory that I be a member of the Nebraska Army/Air (pick applicable branch) National Guard to hold my civil service position. I was required to wear the military uniform daily and was subject to military supervision and discipline, as well as potential active duty service in the United States Army/Air Force (pick applicable branch). Although my pension is paid under the Civil Service Retirement Act it was earned as a member of a uniformed service.*

*It has come to my attention that members who did not appeal within the 60-day period allowed have filed successful claims for adjustments through the courts. I am asking that my social security entitlement be reviewed and adjusted.*

*Signature*

**2. Download from Internet SSA-561-U2 form - <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/online/ssa-561.pdf>**

Fill in Name, SSN, etc.

In *Claim For* block: Retirement

In *I do not agree...* block: See Attached Letters

Sign the form and fill in address, phone number, etc.

**3. E-mail Deb Tankesley requesting a letter stating that you had to be a member of the Guard to keep your Civil Service job. [Deborah.tankesley@us.army.mil](mailto:Deborah.tankesley@us.army.mil) or call at 402-309-7118**