

JUDGMENT FUND BRANCH BASICS

Judgment Fund Seminar
September 23-24, 2008

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Survey of Federal Agencies – Seminar Topics

- Description of the Judgment Fund Internet Claims System (JFICS)
- Description of basic processes
 - Claims analysis & review
 - Payments, especially returns & reissues
- Organizational structure & contact information
- Reimbursement processes



Who Administers the Judgment Fund?

The Judgment Fund Branch (JFB) of the Financial Management Service (FMS) administers the Judgment Fund.

The JFB is responsible for:

- Ensuring that the agency has provided sufficient documentation to satisfy the criteria of 31 USC 1304
- Seeking reimbursements for payments in Notification and Federal Employees Antidiscrimination and Retaliation (No FEAR) Act and Contract Disputes Act (CDA) cases





JFB Staffing

- Manager
- Supervisors
- Claims Analysts/Reviewers
- Payment staff
- Customer Liaisons
- Administrative support
- JFICS development support



Judgment Fund Payments FY04 – FY07

	Payments	Amounts
FY 2004	8,161	\$800,450,029
FY 2005	7,794	\$1,074,131,007
FY 2006	8,736	\$697,968,132
FY 2007	7,636	\$1,187,284,453





Judgment Fund Branch Focus

- We are a service organization
- Our customers/stakeholders include:
 - Federal agencies
 - Claimants (e.g., individuals, attorneys, insurance companies)
 - Congress
 - Taxpayers
- Our goal is to provide excellent service to our customers





Recent Key Events

- Discontinued processing IRS small claims (May 2007)
- First public presentation (Aug 2007)
- Secure (Esker) fax implemented (Sept 2007)
- Transitioned to FMS AC Management area (Oct 2007)
- Transition from JFS to JFICS (Mar-Apr 2008)
- JF Seminar (Sept 2008)





Judgment Fund Internet Claims System (JFICS)

- Follows the same process template for internal claims review
- Accepts paper submissions as well as online submissions
- Performs accuracy checks on input data
- Speeds up both initial payment and reissue processing
- Reduces paper handling and mailing
- Provides real time status information for claims submitted online



Survey of Federal Agencies - How can the JF improve its services?

Top 5 responses:

1. Enhanced JF websites to provide -
 - Prompt updates (upon receipt of claims by JFB)
 - Ease of access to information
 - Accurate information (remove inaccurate data)
2. Faster claims processing
3. Prompt email notification
 - As soon as payment is sent by JF
4. Automated, on-line claim filing
5. Improved responsiveness to telephone inquiries





JFB Responses

1. Website information	✓ JFICS
2. Faster claims processing	✓ JFICS
3. Prompt payment notification	✓ JFICS
4. On-line claim filing	✓ JFICS
5. Telephone calls	Organizational development





Priorities for the Future

- Faster claims processing
 - Ongoing JFICS development
 - Encourage online claim filing
- Greater transparency
 - Better access to claim status, payment information
 - More complete information on JF websites
- More frequent interactions with user community
 - Telephones, email boxes
 - Outreach events
 - Annual seminar





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