Federal Investigations Notice

Notice No. 17-07 Date: August 18, 2017

Subject: Revised Standard Form 86 Implementation

On July 30, 2017, the National Background Investigations Bureau (NBIB) enabled the 2016 SF 86 into the Electronic Questionnaires for Investigations Process (e-QIP) systems. The new form is available for use by investigative service providers (ISP). NBIB is working with customer agencies to achieve a full deployment in e-QIP on August 27, 2017.

The form revision was a collaborative effort with significant input from the public and stakeholders across the National Security and Suitability Community. Changes to the form are identified below.

This SF 86 revision includes:

- The Privacy Act section expanded based on changes to Office of Personnel Management Routine Uses.
- Section 7, “Your Contact Information” provides additional instructions for the use of an email address as a contact method and as a means to identify the Subject in records.
- Section 9, “Citizenship” includes the option of “I am a derived U.S. citizen” for Subject’s current citizenship status. Additional document types have been included for citizenship selections.
- Section 12, “Where you Went to School” includes a link to the Department of Education website to assist Subjects in obtaining their school address (es).
- Section 13a, “Employment Activities-Employment and Unemployment Record” includes instructions directing Subject to provide separate entries for employment activities with the same employer but at different physical addresses.
- Section 17, “Marital/Relationship Status” expanded to more accurately collect information regarding legally recognized relationships.
- Section 18, “Relatives” includes additional citizenship documentation types.
- Section 19, “Foreign Contacts” added legally recognized civil union/domestic partner.
• Section 20A "Foreign Activities" instructions include the requirement to report Exchange-Traded Funds (ETFs) held in specific geographical or economic sectors as an additional foreign financial interest.
• Section 20B "Foreign Business, Professional Activities, and Foreign Government Contacts" amended to exclude the need to report contact related to official U.S. Government travel (including official contact as a U.S. military service member on a U.S. Government duty assignment).
• Section 20C "Foreign Travel" amended to clarify that travel solely for U.S. Government business/military overseas assignment is travel on official Government orders.
• Section 21, "Psychological and Emotional Health" revised as a result of a comprehensive review to clarify support for mental health treatment and encourage pro-active management of mental health conditions, including wellness and recovery.
• Section 22, "Police Record" added legally recognized civil union/domestic partner.
• Section 23, "Illegal Use of Drugs and Drug Activity" clarifies that drug use or activity illegal under Federal laws must be reported, even if that use or activity is legal under state law.
• Section 25, "Investigation and Clearance Record" includes an additional field for bureaus within the Department of Treasury.
• Section 26, "Financial Record" includes collection of information involving Chapter 12 bankruptcy petition type.
• The "Certification statement" includes an acknowledgement that no classified information has been provided on the form.
• The "Authorization for Release of Information" section indicates that information obtained from "other sources of information" includes publicly available electronic information.
• The "Authorization for Release of Medical Information/HIPAA" updated to incorporate the changes to Section 21.
• The "Fair Credit Reporting Disclosure and Authorization" has updated verbiage pertaining to Federal Government requirements for credit reporting in background investigations, continuous evaluation, and expanded instructions for credit freezes.

Accessibility to the new version of the form will be granted to agencies based on advance coordination with liaison personnel from NBIB’s Customer Service, Communications, and Engagements office. Persons responsible for submitting requests in e-QIP will continue to use the 2010 version of the form until notification is provided to begin use of the new version. Once cleared for use, agencies will no longer have access to the previous version of the form. The option to select the 2010 version of the SF 86 will be removed from the agency’s investigation initiation page at this time. Investigations initiated by the agency personnel during the transition period may continue under the version of the form started by the applicant. To allow sufficient time to process requests started under the previous version of the form, NBIB will continue to accept the 2010 version of the form until December 31, 2017, unless an exception is requested.
and approved. After this time any pending submission requests not released to NBIB will be terminated and the applicant will have to be reinitiated in e-QIP.

**PDF Fillable form**

The updated PDF fillable version of the form is targeted for delivery in September 2017. Once available the form will be published on the Office of Personnel Management forms page. As a reminder, NBIB does not accept paper or hardcopy submission requests of the SF 86. All customer agencies for NBIB must use the e-QIP submission process.

If you need additional information about the revised SF 86 please contact your Agency Liaison at (724) 794-5612.

Charles S. Phalen, Jr.
Director
National Background Investigations Bureau

Inquiries: NBIB Customer Service, Communications & Engagements: 724-794-5612
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