

Surviving Spouse Briefing



What You Need to Know and Do

Briefing Publication Date and Disclaimer

This briefing is current as of 20 September 2020. The most current version may be found at the 86th Airlift Wing (AW) Retirees Activities Office (RAO) webpage
direct link -or- QR Code:

<https://www.ramstein.af.mil/Contact/Retiree-Activities-Program/>



The purpose of this briefing is to provide helpful information on the subjects discussed. This briefing is not a legal guide nor a replacement for the German and United States official organizations one must work with directly in order to retire in Germany legally.

This briefing may not reflect the most current information about retiring in Germany due to present and upcoming governmental policy and procedural changes. For the most up-to-date information, contact the official government agencies directly.

**The
Purpose
of this
Briefing**

Prepare Now for Your
Financial Future

Briefing Points

- Financial Scenarios
- Mandatory Costs
- Trusted Agent
- Organize Documents
 - Checklists
 - Notifications

Scenario One: Monthly Military Retirement

With Provider

E-7: \$2000*¹

SS \$1000

TSB: Based on investment

Without Provider

\$1100*² or \$ 0*³

\$500

Based on investment

With Provider

O-5: \$4000*¹

SS \$2000

TSB: Based on investment

Without Provider

\$2200.00*² or \$0*³

\$1000

Based on investment

*¹ This amount is an example after taxes (accurate amount on Retiree Account Statement (RAS))

*²SBP-- depends on amount mbr selected. Annuity is always 55% of selected amount. For this example we used full amount selection i.e. the whole retirement pay. (Monthly Cost 6.5% of amount elected)

*³ If SBP was declined

Scenario Two: Monthly GS Retirement

<u>With Provider</u>		<u>Without Provider</u>
FERS	\$2000	\$1000
TSP	\$1000	\$1000
SS (66)	\$1500	\$1500
SS(spouse)	\$ 750	\$ 0
SS (70)	\$1980	\$1980
Interest	\$ 20	\$ 20
TOTAL (66)	\$5270	\$3520
TOTAL (70)	\$5750	\$4000

Mandatory Costs

Rent / Mortgage

Health Insurance / Medications

Food

Utilities

Insurance (House, Car, Accidental, etc.)

Taxes (is SBP taxable income i.e. in DE)

Trusted Agent

A Trusted Agent is a person who has made a commitment to assist another person or persons with her, his, or their personal affairs, finances, and valuables. A Trusted Agent is often a close family member or in the absence of a close family member, is a person selected based on a history of mutual friendship and trust.

Organize Documents

- Birth Certificate
 - Marriage Certificate
 - Divorce Decree(s) (if applicable)
 - Passport
 - Social Security Card
 - Citizenship
 - Living Trust and/or Will
 - DD 214 Form (Military)
- **NOTE:** Documents must be accompanied with translations from **English to German** and **German to English**

Organize Documents

- TSP, ROTH, IRA, SEP, Annuities, Mutual Funds, Stocks, Bonds, Cash, Equity Accounts, and Bank Accounts
 - Financial Institution Name, Account Number and Balance
 - Beneficiary
 - Location of Designation Forms
 - Location of Certificates
 - Maturity Dates
 - Online Access and Contact Information

Organize Documents

- Real Estate:
 - Financial Institution Name, Lender and Loan Number
 - Property Type
 - Value and Mortgage Balance
 - Monthly Amount or Location of Lien if Paid-In-Full
 - Online Access and Contact Information
- Insurance: Tricare, Dental, Vision, Medicare (Part A & B), FEHBP/FEGLI, SBP, VA, Service Members Group Life, Long Term Care, Life, Survivors, Disability, Homeowners, and Auto
 - Account number
 - Online Access and Contact Information

Organize Documents

- Personal Property/List of Bequest (Heirlooms, Art, Etc.) and Name of Persons Who Should Receive These Items
- Automobile Loan:
 - Lender Name and Loan Number
 - Monthly Amount or Location of Title (Pink Slip) if Paid-In-Full
 - Online Access and Contact Information
- Credit Card(s):
 - Issuer's Name and Account Number
 - Online Access and Contact Information

Checklists

- Your full name and address in a document
- Military Information: Branch of Service, Service Number, Period of Service, Monthly Retirement Amount, VA Benefits, and VA Claim Number accompanied with DD 214 Form
- Federal Information: CSA or CSF ID Number, retirement date, agency from which retired, monthly benefit amount, financial institution name, account number, routing number and contact information
- Social Security Information: Number and Monthly Benefit Amount
- Financial Institutions
- Power of Attorney
- Health Care Power of Attorney
- Attorney and/or Legal Counsel
- Accountant and/or Financial Advisor

Checklists

- Safety Deposit Box Location, Keys and Who has Access
- Online Accounts, Username, Password, Security Questions/Answers
- Personal, business and important Email Addresses
- Post Office Box and Combination
- Drivers Licenses (United States and Germany)
- Keys to Residence and Automobiles
- Storage Unit Location and Access
- Membership(s), Subscription(s)
- File Deceased US and German Tax Returns
- Obituary, Disposition Instructions for The Body, Military Burial? Flag?
- Widow/Widower Needs New ID Card (DEERS)

Notifications

Note: You must have German Death Certificate accompanied with the German doctor's "Cause of Death" letter due to German Death Certificates not listing "Cause of Death" --this is required by USA. The German doctor's letter will suffice for "Cause of Death" requirement.

- American Consulate (U.S. Death Certificate Request)
- Casualty Assistance Officer
- DFAS
- Social Security Administration
- OPM
- Financial Institutions
- Life Insurance
- Family and Friends



86th Airlift Wing (AW) Retirees Activities Office (RAO)

For more information, please visit the 86th AW
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