



DELTA DISABLED PILOTS AND SURVIVORS ASSOCIATION

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DELTA INTENDS TO REVERSE THE JAN 31ST CORRECTION TO LTD BENEFITS

The saga of the improper application of a social security offset to LTD benefits continues to remain unresolved. DDPSA has learned that Delta has discovered errors in the correction that was applied to the Jan 31st payment of Long Term Disability (LTD) benefits. Consequently, Delta intends to reverse that correction in the February 28th payment.

Disabled pilots can expect to receive a letter of explanation from Delta. Apparently, Delta will require pilots to submit their PBGC final benefit determination letter in order to receive the correction of the social security offset that improperly was applied to their LTD benefits.

The problem appears to be that Delta has not been able to obtain adequate information from the PBGC. Although Delta has information about the amount of social security offset that would have been applied to retirement benefits under the Delta Pilots Retirement Plan (DPRP), that amount may not accurately reflect the amount that the PBGC is applying as a social security offset. In cases where the PBGC benefit is less than the amount previously paid by the DPRP, the social security offset has been reduced. It is this reduced amount of the social security offset that needs to be applied as an increase to the LTD benefit.

Pilots can determine the amount of the social security offset that is being applied by the PBGC by reviewing their final benefit determination letter. That letter generally will reflect an amount of a benefit both before and after their 65th birthday. The difference between these two figures is the amount of the social security offset that is being applied by the PBGC.

The eventual correction that you should receive to your LTD benefit should be as follows:

- 1. Your monthly LTD benefit going forward should be increased by the amount of the social security offset that the PBGC is applying to your PBGC benefit.**
- 2. The retro payment should equal the monthly increase times the number of months that a social security offset was applied to your retirement or PBGC benefit. Generally that period is the number of months that have elapsed since your 65th birthday.**

DDPSA will continue to monitor the situation with the intent of ensuring that our members receive appropriate corrections to their LTD benefits.

