

ROBERT J. WITTMAN
1ST DISTRICT, VIRGINIA



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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

September 13, 2022

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The Honorable Kiran Ahuja
Director
U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM)
1900 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20415-1000

Dear Director Ahuja:

On behalf of the many federal employees residing in Virginia's 1st Congressional District, I write to bring to your attention OPM's worsening processing backlog harming retiring federal employees. As my office works to assist constituents with OPM casework issues, a clear trend has emerged—more requests for assistance and longer processing times. I have heard from an increasing number of frustrated constituents who are experiencing significant delays and are reporting problems in OPM's processing system for retirement and benefit applications.

These constituents, many who have served in the United States government for their entire careers are now facing financial hardship or the additional stress of delayed survivor benefits following the death of a loved one. Long delay times unfairly penalize retirees who receive a partial benefit until the agency finishes processing the required paperwork. I urge you to work immediately to address this urgent problem that couldn't come at a worse time for retirees or surviving spouses living on a fixed income.

Again, these public servants deserve better treatment and timely resolution to delays plaguing OMB's retirement benefit process. I appreciate your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Wittman