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**PENCOM INTRODUCES 3-DAY RSA  
WITHDRAWAL POLICY**

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The National Pension Commission (PenCom) has recently issued a circular that is set to revolutionize the process of accessing Retirement Savings Account (RSA) funds in Nigeria. According to the new directive, contributors under the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) who wish to withdraw part or all of their RSA balances will now receive their payments within three working days. This policy is a significant improvement from the previous system, which often involved lengthy processing times. The move is aimed at enhancing efficiency, transparency, and customer satisfaction in the administration of pension funds. The policy, which takes effect from June 1, 2025, is expected to bring much-needed relief to retirees who often face long waiting periods before receiving their entitlements.

The circular, which aligns with the provisions of the Pension Reform Act (PRA) 2014, mandates all Pension Fund Administrators (PFAs) to comply with the new timeline. PenCom emphasized that the 3-day payment rule applies to all qualifying withdrawals, including voluntary contributions, terminal benefits, and other approved withdrawals. The Commission has also warned that failure by PFAs to adhere to this directive will attract sanctions as stipulated under Section 92 of the PRA 2014. This development is expected to boost confidence among RSA holders, as it ensures timely access to their hard-earned savings.

This policy underscores PenCom's commitment to improving the welfare of Nigerian workers and retirees. It also reflects the Commission's efforts to leverage technology and streamline processes in line with global best practices. Stakeholders in the pension industry have lauded the initiative, noting that it will significantly reduce the financial stress often faced by contributors during emergencies. With this new circular, PenCom has once again demonstrated its role as a forward-thinking regulatory body, ensuring that the Nigerian pension system remains robust and responsive to the needs of its stakeholders. As the June 1, 2025, implementation date approaches, pension contributors are encouraged to ensure their documentation is in order to benefit from this expedited processing timeline.

This reform is a win for Nigerian workers and a testament to PenCom's dedication to creating a more inclusive and efficient pension system.

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