

Report Summary

Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General

May 2011



Objective

To determine the status of corrective actions the Social Security Administration (SSA) took to address findings and recommendations in our April 2005 report, *Social Security Number Cards Issued After Death* (A-06-03-13078).

Background

In April 2005, we reported that SSA issued multiple replacement Social Security Number (SSN) cards to applicants after a date of death was posted on SSA's records; paid survivor benefits to auxiliaries of apparently living individuals; and accepted questionable proof of identity documents when it processed applications for replacement cards.

We obtained and reviewed data identifying all instances from May 2007 through April 2010 where SSA issued replacement SSN cards although dates of death appeared on the numberholders' record.

To view the full report, visit <http://www.ssa.gov/oig/ADO/BEPDF/A-06-10-20136.pdf>

Follow-up: Social Security Number Cards Issued After Death ***(A-06-10-20136)***

Our Findings

The number of instances where SSA issued replacement cards to apparently deceased numberholders declined significantly since our prior audit. We identified a small number of questionable replacement card issuances and forwarded the cases to SSA's Office of Operations staff for action. We believe the discrepancies were isolated and not indicative of systemic problems.

As a result, our report contained no recommendations.