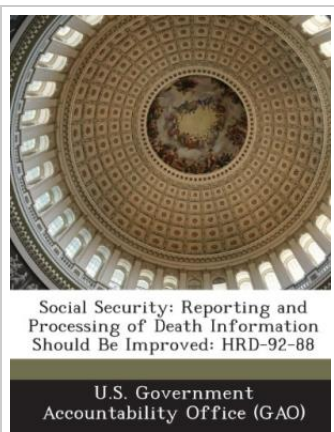




Social Security: Reporting and Processing of Death Information Should Be Improved: Hrd-92-88

By -

BiblioGov. Paperback. Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. 26 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 7.4in. x 0.1in. Pursuant to a congressional request, GAO provided information on the Social Security Administrations (SSA) process for obtaining information on deceased beneficiaries and terminating benefits payments, focusing on: (1) how long family members, states, and others take to report deaths to SSA; (2) the amount of time SSA takes to terminate payments once a death is reported; (3) whether delays in reporting and processing inhibit SSA from recovering erroneous payments made to deceased beneficiaries; and (4) opportunities to improve the timeliness of death information reported to SSA. GAO found that: (1) 90 percent of the reported deaths come from family members, friends, and funeral homes; (2) most beneficiary deaths are reported within 14 days and SSA terminates benefits within 2 days; (3) telephoned, rather than mailed, reporting of death speeds benefit termination; (4) 32 percent of erroneous payments result from state and Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) reporting delays; (5) a lack of uniform state reporting requirements causes delays and erroneous payments; (6) HCFA reported 80 percent of its death reports to SSA within 2 months; (7) SSA requires an additional 2 to 3...



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