# Improper Payments

September 6, 2019

#### Payments After Death

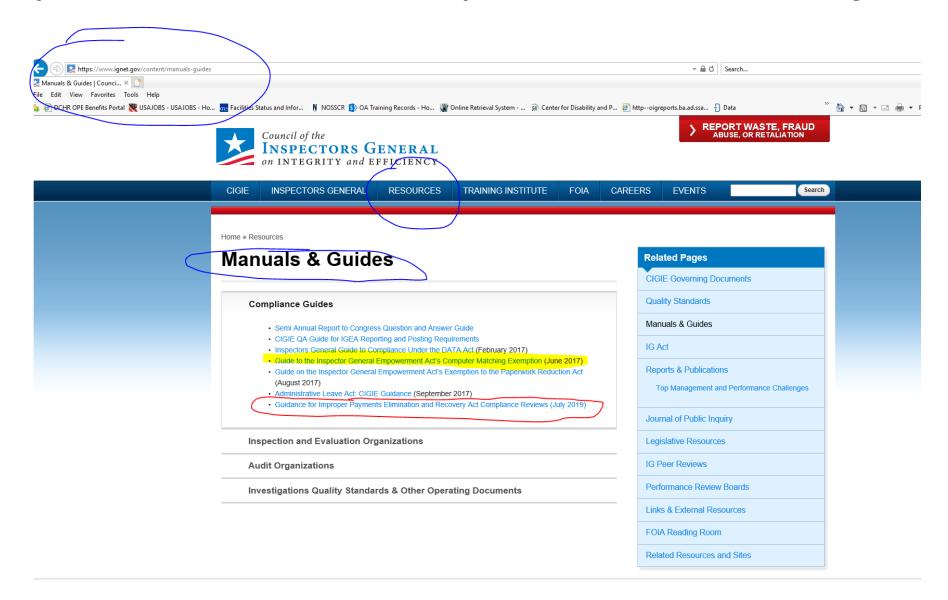
Section 5(g)(1) of the *Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Improvement Act of 2012* 

- (g) PLAN TO CURB FEDERAL IMPROPER PAYMENTS TO DECEASED INDIVIDUALS BY IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND USE BY FEDERAL AGENCIES OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION DEATH MASTER FILE.—
- (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—In conjunction with the Commissioner of Social Security and in consultation with relevant stakeholders that have an interest in or responsibility for providing the data, and the States, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall establish a plan for improving the quality, accuracy, and timeliness of death data maintained by the Social Security Administration, including death information reported to the Commissioner under section 205(r) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 405(r))

#### SSA OIG Death Audits

Audit	Number of Deceased Beneficiaries	Payments After Death (Millions)
Match of Puerto Rico Death Information Against SSA Records (August 2019)	149	\$11.5
Match of Florida Death Information Against SSA Records (August 2019)	474	\$35.9
Match of Texas Death Information Against SSA Records (March 2019)	336	\$24.0
Match of Maryland and Michigan Death Information Against SSA Records (March 2019)	145	\$16.9
Match of Arkansas Death Information Against SSA Records (February 2019)	112	\$3.8
Match of Treasury Death Information Against SSA Records (August 2018)	137	\$2.3
Match of Washington Death Information Against SSA Records (May 2018)	18	\$1.0
Match of Connecticut Death Information Against SSA Records (December 2017)	21	\$1.9
Match of Massachusetts Death Information Against SSA Records (September 2017)	41	\$3.6
Payments to Individuals Listed as Deceased in Department of Veterans Affairs' Records (August 2017)	746	\$37.7
Match of California Death Information Against SSA Records (April 2017)	33	\$5.8
Office of Personnel Management Deaths Not in the SSA's Systems (August 2016)	35	\$1.7
Payments to Individuals with Deaths Reported in California from 1980 to 1987 (August 2014)	18	\$3.7
TOTAL	2,265	\$149.8

## Inspector General Empowerment Act of 2016



### Recap: Tools and Tips

- Follow-up Audits
- External Data
  - ➤ IG Empowerment Act of 2016
- Internal Data
- https://www.ignet.gov/
  - Resources > Guides