

1520 N. Arlington Heights Road • Arlington Heights, Illinois 60004-3906

In order to preserve certain benefits and protect against identity theft, it is important for loved ones or executors to gather information and make various notifications following a death. Some of the more time sensitive contacts can be done by telephone or electronically and followed up with written correspondence. When making contact you should have the decedent's social security number, a copy of the death certificate and any appointment or court documents.

While no list can be complete for each unique case, the Waypoints™ *Navigator* should cover most situations. Social Security is automatically notified in Illinois as part of the electronic death registration process. Contact your Funeral Director if you have any questions.

Resources

Government Agencies

- Social Security: (800) 772-1213, <u>www.ssa.gov</u>
- Illinois Secretary of State: Vehicle Records Processing Division, 501 S. 2nd. St., Room 424, Springfield, IL 62756-6666, (800) 252-8980, www.cyberdriveillinois.com
- Veteran's Administration: (800) 827-1000, www.va.gov
- Defense Finance and Accounting Service: (800) 269-5170 (Military retiree receiving benefits)
 www.dfas.mil
- Office of Personnel Management: (888) 767-6738 (Retired for former federal civil service employee) <u>www.opm.gov</u>
- Railroad Retirement Board: (312) 751-7139, www.rrb.gov

Do Not Call or Contact List

- FTC Do Not Call Registry: <u>www.donotcall.gov</u>
- DirectMail.com, removal from marketing lists: http://www.directmail.com/directory/mail_preference

<u>Credit Reporting Agencies</u>

There are three national credit-reporting agencies that you should notify and instruct them to list all the decedent's accounts as: "Closed. Account Holder Deceased." It is a good idea to request the decedent's credit report and check all credit activity. Send (we suggest certified mail) the items listed on the form along with a photocopy of the death certificate. It is a good idea to retain copies of the documents and follow-up by telephone in a couple of weeks.

- Experian, PO Box 4500, Allen TX 75013, (888) 397-3742, www.experian.com
- Equifax Information Services LLC, PO Box 740256, Atlanta, GA, 30348, (866) 349-5191, www.equifax.com
- TransUnion, PO Box 2000, Chester, PA, 19016, (800) 916-8800, www.transunion.com

Resources – National Funeral Directors Association, Consumer Reports, Internet Executor-Survivor Checklist, 2/15/2017