

# OIG PERSPECTIVE ON FECA

Past, Present and Future  
Work



# Selected OIG Work

◆ Agency Specific

◆ OWCP

◆ Executive/Legislative



# Agency Specific

- ◆ Inadequate Monitoring for Refunds and Credits for Overpayments and Third Party Reimbursements (USPS 2002)
- ◆ Ineffective Monitoring of Death Benefit Claims for Payments to Ineligible Survivors (USPS 2003, 2004)
- ◆ Untimely Submission of Injury Claims (USPS 2000, DOE 2005)

# Agency Specific

- ◆ Chargeback Reports not Adequately Reviewed (SSA 2001, DOE 2005)
- ◆ Medical Status Not Monitored to Substantiate Continuing Disability (SSA 2001)
- ◆ Inadequate Monitoring of Long-Term Cases (DOT 2002, DOE 2005, VA 2004)

# Agency Specific

◆ Continuation of Pay Not Monitored (USPS  
Multiple Reports, DOE 2005)

◆ Missed Opportunities for Return to Work (VA  
2004)

◆ No Review of Unreported Workers  
Compensation Dual Benefits (VA 2004, SSA 2003)

# OWCP

◆ Payments to Deceased Claimants (DOL 1998)

◆ Over/Under Payments Related to Scheduled Awards (USPS 2006)

◆ Medical Fee Schedule Used by OWCP Had Positive Impact on USPS' Medical Costs (USPS 2005)

# OWCP

- ◆ Claimants With No Earning Capacity Did Not Report Wages (DOL 2000)
- ◆ Need to Follow Procedures to Detect Unreported Wages (DOL 2000, 2003)
- ◆ Need to Take Action When Wages Were Detected (DOL 2000)

# OWCP

- ✦ Medical Bill Processing Errors by 3<sup>rd</sup> Party (Central Bill Processing) (DOL 2004)
- ✦ No System to Track and Record Medical Overpayments (DOL 2004)





# OWCP

- ◆ Recovery of Overpayments (DOL 1998)
- ◆ OWCP Response to Case Management Requests (VA 2004, DOE 2005, USPS)



# Executive/Legislative

- ✦ Crossmatch With SSA Records Would Assist OWCP in Identifying Unreported Wages (DOL 2000)
- ✦ Crossmatch Would Assist OWCP in Identifying Unreported Compensation From Other Programs (SSA 1999)



# Executive/Legislative

- ◆ Current FECA Benefit Structure is High and Discourages Claimant Return to Work (GAO 2001)
- ◆ Claimants Can Receive 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Reimbursements While Receiving Federal Salary During the 45 Day COP (GAO 2001)
- ◆ Savings Would be Realized if Permanent Disabled Moved to Retirement System (GAO 2001, USPS 2002)

# Current Work



# Current FECA Work

## ✦ Social Security Administration

### Wage Crossmatch

Determine whether Federal employees are receiving FECA payments when wages were reported on SSA Master Earnings File



# Current FECA Work

## ✦ Department of Labor

### Data Mining

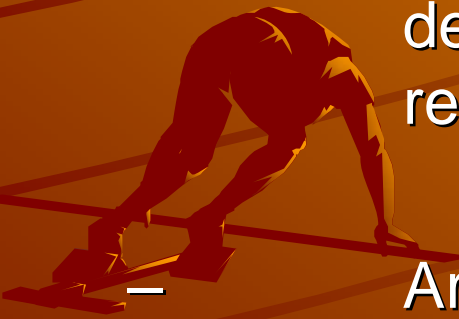


Assess whether data mining and other techniques can enhance the identification of claimants who should be removed from the Periodic Roll and/or returned to work

# Current FECA Work

## Department of Labor Ineligible Dependents

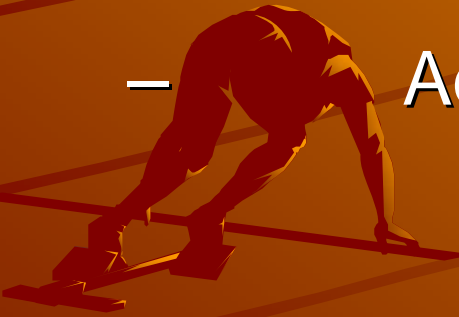
- Does OWCP reduce the number of dependents for claimants whose children have reached adulthood?
- Are FECA claimants still collecting benefits on spouses whom the claimants have divorced or who are deceased?



# Current FECA Work

## ✦ US Postal Service

- Fee Schedule
- Adjudication





# Current FECA Work

## ◆ Department of Commerce

Comprehensive Evaluation of the  
Commerce Workers' Compensation Program

