

The Social Security Administration's Reporting of High-dollar Overpayments in Fiscal Year 2020 Under Executive Order 13520

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Office of Audit Report Summary

Objective

To determine whether the Social Security Administration (SSA) complied with all requirements of Executive Order 13520, *Reducing Improper Payments*.

Background

As part of Executive Order 13520, each agency head is required to submit a quarterly report on high-dollar overpayments identified by the agency. The report should describe any actions the agency has taken, or plans to take, to recover high-dollar overpayments as well as any actions the agency intends to take to prevent overpayments in the future.

To determine the payment accuracy and entitlement/eligibility of benefit payments made during a sample period, SSA conducts stewardship reviews, which examine factors in SSA's programs. Since 2010, SSA has used these reviews, with Office of Management and Budget approval, to determine whether there are reportable quarterly high-dollar overpayments.

We reviewed the Agency Head Quarterly High-dollar Overpayment Reports to the Office of the Inspector General, as required by Executive Order 13520, for Fiscal Year 2020.

Conclusions

SSA complied with all requirements of Executive Order 13520. Using the methodology approved by the Office of Management and Budget, SSA did not detect any overpayments that met the Executive Order's criteria.

In Fiscal Year 2020, the number of completed stewardship reviews decreased because of delays due to COVID-19. SSA will evaluate the statistical significance of this reduction once the Fiscal Year 2020 stewardship cases are closed after January 31, 2021.

Recommendations and Agency Comments

We are not making any recommendations since SSA complied with all requirements and, based on its stewardship review, did not detect any overpayments that met the Executive Order's criteria. SSA reviewed the draft report and had no comments.