

Subpart L—Deceased Owner, Coowner or Beneficiary

§ 353.70 General rules governing entitlement.

The following rules govern ownership or entitlement where one or both of the persons named on a bond have died without the bond having been surrendered for payment or reissue:

(a) *Single owner bond.* If the owner of a bond registered in single ownership form has died, the bond becomes the property of that decedent's estate, and payment or reissue will be made as provided in this subpart.

(b) *Coowner bond*—(1) *One coowner deceased.* If one of the coowners named on a bond has died, the surviving coowner will be recognized as the sole and absolute owner, and payment or reissue will be made as though the bond were registered in the name of the survivor alone. Any request for reissue by the surviving coowner must be supported by proof of death of the other coowner.

(2) *Both coowners deceased.* If both coowners named on a bond have died, the bond becomes the property of the estate of the coowner who died last, and payment or reissue will be made as if the bond were registered in the name of the last deceased coowner alone. Proof of death of both coowners will be required to establish the order of death.

(3) *Simultaneously death of both coowners.* If both coowners die under conditions where it cannot be established, either by presumption of law or otherwise, which coowner died first, the bond becomes the property of both equally, and payment or reissue will be made accordingly.

(c) *Beneficiary bond*—(1) *Owner deceased.* If the owner of a bond registered in beneficiary form has died and is survived by the beneficiary, upon proof of death of the owner, the beneficiary will be recognized as the sole and absolute owner of the bond. Payment or reissue will be made as though the bond were registered in the survivor's name alone. A request for payment or reissue by the beneficiary must be supported by proof of death of the owner.

(2) *Beneficiary deceased.* If the beneficiary's death occurs before, or simultaneously with, that of the registered

owner, payment or reissue will be made as though the bond were registered in the owner's name alone. Proof of death of the owner and beneficiary is required to establish the order of death.

(d) *Nonresident aliens.* If the person who becomes entitled to a bond because of the death of an owner is an alien who is a resident of an area with respect to which the Department of the Treasury restricts or regulates the delivery of checks drawn against funds of the United States or its agencies or instrumentalities, delivery of the redemption check will not be made so long as the restriction applies. See Department of the Treasury Circular No. 655, current revision (31 CFR part 211).

§ 353.71 Estate administered.

(a) *During administration.* The legal representative of an estate may request payment of bonds, including interest or redemption checks, belonging to the estate or may have the bonds reissued in the names of the persons entitled to share in the estate under the following conditions:

(1) When there is more than one legal representative, all must join in the request for payment or reissue, unless § 353.75(a)(1) or (b) applies.

(2) The request for payment or reissue must be signed in the form: "John A. Jones, administrator of the estate (or executor of the will) of Henry M. Jones, deceased". The request must be supported by evidence of the legal representative's authority in the form of a court certificate or a certified copy of the legal representative's letters of appointment which must be dated within six months of the date of presentation of the bond, unless the evidence shows that the appointment was made within one year prior to the presentation of the bond.

(3) For reissue, the legal representative must certify that each person in whose name reissue is requested is entitled to the extent specified and must certify that each person has consented to the reissue. If a person in whose name reissue is requested desires to name a coowner or beneficiary, the person must execute an additional request for reissue on the appropriate form.

(b) *After administration.* If the estate of the decedent has been settled