

§ 153.4

44 CFR Ch. I (10–1–06 Edition)

§ 153.4 Personal representative.

(a) *In general.* A personal representative will be recognized by FEMA as follows:

(1) An individual appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction as the personal representative of the decedent or as the executor or administrator of the decedent's will or estate.

(2) In the event that no personal representative or executor or administrator has been appointed by any court of competent jurisdiction, and such issue is not the subject of pending litigation or other dispute, then the personal representative selected by the Special Master will be recognized as the personal representative for the purposes of compensation under the Heroes Stamp Act.

(3) In the event that no personal representative or executor or administrator has been appointed by any court of competent jurisdiction, such issues are not the subject of pending litigation or other dispute and the Special Master did not select a personal representative, FEMA, may, in its discretion, determine whether to recognize any individual or entity as a personal representative and the identity of the personal representative.

(b) *Disputes regarding personal representative.* FEMA shall not be required to arbitrate, litigate, or otherwise resolve any dispute as to the identity of the personal representative. In the event of a dispute over the appropriate personal representative, FEMA may suspend adjudication of the claim or if sufficient information is provided, authorize payment, but place any payment in escrow until the dispute is resolved either by agreement of the disputing parties or by a court of competent jurisdiction.

§ 153.5 Application process.

(a) Only an eligible claimant may file an application for assistance under this part. An application must be submitted on the 9/11 Heroes Stamp Act of 2001 Eligibility and Application for Benefits form (FEMA Form 75-14, OMB No. 1660-0091). Only one application may be submitted for each eligible claimant. FEMA will review the applications to determine whether applicants are eligible claimants. After FEMA has evalu-

ated the application and supporting materials, FEMA will issue and provide each applicant with a copy of FEMA's eligibility determination of that applicant.

(b) Application forms are available from FEMA upon request. They may be obtained through the mail, or by telephone request. The application form may also be downloaded from the Internet at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov>.

(c) Applications must be sent to Heroes Stamp, USFA, NETC, 16825 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, MD 21727. Applications submitted by facsimile or e-mail will not be accepted.

(d) An application is deemed filed on the date it is received by FEMA.

§ 153.6 Deadline for filing an application.

The deadline for filing an application will be announced through publication of a notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

§ 153.7 Distribution of funds.

(a) FEMA will not distribute funds until FEMA has made eligibility determinations on all applications under § 153.5.

(b) The amount of assistance granted under the Act is within FEMA's discretion. FEMA will distribute funds equally, to the extent feasible, among eligible claimants until the fund has been liquidated. FEMA will not differentiate in making the amount of the award, between those eligible claimants who were killed or those eligible claimants who were permanently physically disabled while serving in the line of duty in connection with the terrorist attacks against the United States on September 11, 2001.

(c) FEMA will notify each individual it determines to be eligible for assistance under the Heroes Stamp Act of its intent to make a distribution, and of an estimated amount of the initial distribution. This notification will be made through the United States mail.

(d) FEMA may make multiple distributions. Once all appeals have been settled, FEMA will further distribute to eligible claimants any monies that were set-aside for applicants who are determined not to be eligible claimants.