

Subpart A—Claims Against the Government Under the Federal Tort Claims Act

§ 429.101 What is this subpart about?

(a) This subpart applies only to claims filed under the Federal Tort Claims Act, as amended, 28 U.S.C. 2671–2680 (FTCA), for money damages against the United States for damage to or loss of property or personal injury or death that is caused by the negligent or wrongful act or omission of an employee of the Social Security Administration (SSA). The loss, damage, injury or death must be caused by the employee in the performance of his or her official duties, under circumstances in which the United States, if a private person, would be liable in accordance with the law of the place where the act or omission occurred. This subpart does not apply to any tort claims excluded from the FTCA under 28 U.S.C. 2680.

(b) This subpart is subject to and consistent with the regulations on administrative claims under the FTCA issued by the Attorney General at 28 CFR part 14.

§ 429.102 How do I file a claim under this subpart?

(a) *Filing an initial claim.* You must either file your claim on a properly executed Standard Form 95 or you must submit a written notification of the incident accompanied by a claim for the money damages in a sum certain for damage to or loss of property you believe occurred because of the incident. For purposes of this subpart, we consider your claim to be filed on the date we receive it at the address specified in paragraph (c) of this section. If you mistakenly send your claim to another Federal agency, we will not consider it to be filed until the date that we receive it. If you mistakenly file a claim meant for another Federal agency with SSA, we will transfer it to the appropriate Federal agency, if possible. If we are unable to determine the appropriate agency, we will return the claim to you.

(b) *Filing an amendment to your claim.* You may file an amendment to your properly filed claim at any time before the SSA Claims Officer (as defined in

§ 429.201(d)(3)) makes a final decision on your claim or before you bring suit under 28 U.S.C. 2675(a). You must submit an amendment in writing and sign it. If you file a timely amendment, SSA has 6 months in which to finally dispose of the amended claim. Your option to file suit does not begin until 6 months after you file the amendment.

(c) *Where to obtain claims forms and file claims.* You may obtain claims forms and must file your claim with the Social Security Administration, Office of the General Counsel, Office of General Law, Administrative Claims Unit, Suite No. 56, P.O. Box 26430, Baltimore, Maryland 21207.

§ 429.103 Who may file my claim?

(a) *Claims for damage to or loss of property.* If you are the owner of the property interest that is the subject of the claim, you, your duly authorized agent, or your legal representative may file the claim.

(b) *Claims for personal injury.* If you suffered the injury, you, your duly authorized agent, or your legal representative may file the claim.

(c) *Claims based on death.* The executor or administrator of your estate or any other person legally entitled to do so may file the claim.

(d) *Claims for loss wholly compensated by an insurer with the rights of a subrogee.* The insurer may file the claim. When an insurer presents a claim asserting the rights of a subrogee, the insurer must present with the claim appropriate evidence that it has the rights of a subrogee.

(e) *Claims for loss partially compensated by an insurer with the rights of a subrogee.* You and the insurer may file, jointly or separately. When an insurer presents a claim asserting the rights of a subrogee, the insurer must present with the claim appropriate evidence that it has the rights of a subrogee.

(f) *Claims by authorized agents or other legal representatives.* Your duly authorized agent or other legal representative may submit your claim, provided satisfactory evidence is submitted establishing that person has express authority to act on your behalf. A claim presented by an agent or legal representative must be presented in your name. If