

## Reporting a Veteran's Death

Step one to receiving **assistance and benefits** for a veteran's death is to report it to the appropriate government agencies. Failure to do so, may result in overpayments, which will be required to be paid back.

Most agencies will need a Social Security Number and/or a policy number, plus a certified copy of the death certificate. The mortuary can expedite the death certificate in most cases.

Social Security - Send the IRS a copy of the death certificate, to the Campus where the decedent would normally file their tax return.

Notify Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) by calling 1-800-538-9552

If the veteran is also a retiree, notify the Defense Finance and Accounting by:

- Calling the Retiree Casualty Section of the DFAS at 1-888-332-7411.
- Or use DFAS Form 9221 online using DFAS's Fast Form option at <https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/forms.html>

If the veteran is also a current or retired federal civilian employee, notify the Office of Personnel Management by calling 1-888-767-6738.

The VA should be notified depending on the benefits the veteran was receiving, or the programs the veteran was enrolled in:

- If the veteran was receiving disability compensation or a pension, call the Veterans Benefits Administration at 1-800-827-1000.
- If the veteran was enrolled in a VA-sponsored life insurance policy, call the VA at 1-800-669-8477.
- If the veteran was also a retiree enrolled in the Servicemember's Group Life Insurance plan, call the VA at 1-800-419-1473.

If the veteran belonged to the VFW, American Legion, or other veteran organization, inform them of the veteran's passing, so the veteran can be honored by their fellow veterans.

Request for military honors can be made through the mortuary, the local VFW or by contacting the **VFW District Honor Guard Captain**.

Last updated Monday, March 29, 2021