DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 322-5387

February 26, 1981

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I- 18-81

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: POTENTIAL BENEFITS TO SURVIVORS OF DECEASED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

REFERENCE:

Attached for your information is a copy of a notice published by the United States Office of Personnel Management (OPM) describing the rights of certain recognized natural children of deceased federal employees to monthly survivors benefits. OPM was required as part of a court decision to request posting of this notice in various benefit offices. Please be aware that in the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program such benefits are a resource with income producing potential under EAS Section 44-103.

AFDC applicants and recipients who may be eligible for these federal benefits should be referred to the local office of the Federal Office of Personnel Management in Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco or Sacramento. If one of those offices is not convenient for applicants and recipients, they then should be referred to their local Social Security Office.

While recipients of food stamps do not have a similar requirement to apply for these benefits, receipt of such benefits would affect their eligibility and/or benefit level. For food stamp purposes, receipt of any lump-sum retroactive survivors' benefits would be treated as a resource in accordance with Section 63-501.11; receipt of ongoing survivors' benefits would be treated as income in accordance with Section 63-502.122.

If you have any questions, please contact your AFDC Program Management Consultant at (916) 445-4458, or your Food Stamp Program Operations Consultant at (916) 322-5475.

Sincerely,

KYLE S. McKINSEY
Deputy Director

Attachment

cc: CWDA

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OWES SOME PEOPLE SOME MONEY. ARE YOU ONE OF THEM?

If you are, or know of, an "illegitimate" child of a Federal Government worker who has died, you or that child may be eligible for government benefits each month.

Who is eligible for benefits?

Children of Federal Government workers are eligible for benefits after the government worker dies. The children do not have to have lived with the Federal Government worker to receive benefits.

In the past, the government refused to give benefits to "illegitimate" children who did not "live with" their Civil Service parent. A recent court decision says that the government cannot do this anymore. If you, or any child you know of, was denied benefits because of this reason, you or the child should apply for benefits again. If you or the child never applied for benefits before, you or the child can still apply now if the civil service parent died on or after February 24, 1972.

What does a child need to show to get benefits?

All the child must show is that he or she was really the child of the Federal Government worker. He or she can show this with a birth certificate or with some other kind of proof, such as a court order of support.

How can the child apply for benefits?

The child should go to the local office of the Office of Personnel Management, 650 Capitol Mall, Sacramento, California or call the office at 440-2451. If he or she applies in person, he or she should bring the birth certificate or court support order or other proof.

How much money will the child get?

If the child is eligible, he or she will get monthly benefits payments which may be at least $135 per month. Usually, the child will get benefits until he or she becomes 18 years old.

Where can you go for additional information?

You can call or visit the local office of the Office of Personnel Management. A hand-out with this information is available in this office for you to take home with you.

NOTICE:

Under the Civil Service law, in addition to the matters described above, people who are related to Civil Service employees who have died may receive survivor benefits. These people include husbands, wives, children and others. Such people may file applications for benefits for a number of years after the Civil Service employee's death.

If you or anyone you know may be eligible for these benefits, call or write the local office of the Office of Personnel Management listed above.