

**Justification for Non-substantive/No material Change for Form SSA-L9790  
Annual Earnings Test Direct Mail Follow-up Program Notices  
Forms SSA-L9778, SSA-L9779, SSA-L9781, SSA-L9784,  
SSA-L9785 and SSA-L9790  
20 CFR 404.452-.455  
OMB No. 0960-0369**

**Background**

SSA developed the Annual Earnings Test Direct Mail Follow-up Program to improve beneficiary reporting on work and earnings during the year and earnings information at the end of the year.

SSA sends letters to beneficiaries who are in the year of full retirement age (FRA) requesting earnings information prior to the month of FRA.

Based on SSA's informational need, we send each beneficiary a specific letter tailored to him or her, which includes relevant earnings data from SSA records. We use the information obtained on these beneficiary completed paper forms to prevent earnings-related overpayments and to avoid erroneous withholding. Based on SSA's informational need, we tailor this annual letter to the beneficiary and include relevant earnings data from SSA records. While we do not require the respondents to supply the information, SSA may not make accurate and timely decisions on the payment amounts without it. Beneficiaries are able to complete the forms without needing to obtain information from someone else. SSA employees review each completed letter to determine whether to withhold or continue the beneficiary's benefits. The respondents are working Retirement Survivors Insurance beneficiaries with earnings over the exempt amount.

We use Form SSA-L9790 to report earnings information for a closed year.

**Minor Revisions to the SSA-L9790**

SSA uses the yearly amounts on the master earnings file (MEF) to adjust annual earnings tests withholding of benefits. To ensure we accurately adjust benefits when the monthly earnings test is applicable, we developed SSA-L9790 requesting updated monthly earnings information from the beneficiaries.

To clarify the response requested for question three when the beneficiary has stopped working in a year other than the tax year selected in the Enforcement Operation, we want to delete the year from this question on the SSA-L9790. We use the responses to question three to check the answers provided to the other questions on the form.

**Justification**

This action provides clarity to the form, and thus better serves the public.