



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**Office of the Chief Information Officer**  
Washington, D.C. 20230

March 12, 2014

Mr. Alex Hunt  
Chief, Information Policy Branch  
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs  
Office of Management and Budget  
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Mr. Hunt:

The Department of Commerce, National Technical Information Service (NTIS), requests an expedited review of an information collection entitled, "Limited Access Death Master File Subscriber Certification Form, derived from the Social Security Administration's Death Master File."

The Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013, (Pub. L. 113-67) (Act) was signed into law on December 26, 2013. Section 203 of the Act prohibits disclosure of Death Master File (DMF) information during the three-calendar-year period following death, unless the person requesting the information has been certified under a program established by the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary). The Act directs the Secretary to establish a certification program for such access to the DMF. Section 203, "Restriction on Access to the Death Master File," requires a fee-based certification program for allowable uses of DMF data for any deceased individual within three calendar years of the individual's death. Authority to carry out Section 203 has been delegated by the Secretary to the Director of NTIS.

The Act requires implementation of the certification program ninety (90) days after enactment. NTIS requests emergency clearance of this collection of information in order to implement the certification program on March 26, 2014. The regular Paperwork Reduction Act process would delay the collection beyond this timeframe. To meet this timeframe, OMB approval is required by March 24, 2014.

Your prompt attention to this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Jessup  
Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer