

## LEGAL UPDATE



### **Social Security Administration Will Begin Assigning Social Security Numbers Randomly**

Social Security Numbers (SSN) have always been a nine digit number comprised of a three-digit area number (state of individual), a two-digit group number, and a four digit serial number. Starting in June 2011, the Social Security Administration (SSA) will implement "SSN Randomization," in which the SSNs will be randomly assigned and there will not be any logic or defined values for how the numbers are assigned.

#### **Who does this affect?**

Anyone who receives a newly issued SSN. The SSA will not be reassigning any existing SSNs for the purpose of randomization.

#### **When does this go into effect?**

June 25, 2011

#### **Why are they changing the way SSNs are issued?**

- To protect the integrity of the SSN and to reduce identity theft by making it more difficult to reconstruct the SSN based on the logic that has been in place and other public information.
- To extend the use of any number to any location to allow for those areas that may need more numbers than other areas. This will extend the longevity of the nine-digit SSN nationwide.

#### **How does this impact the National SSN Address Mover results?**

- If the SSN was issued prior to June 25, 2011, the Address Mover will continue to report assignment information as it relates to the SSN and there will not be any changes.
- If the SSN is issued after June 25, 2011 then you will not receive the date or state of issuance as seen below:

Subject's SSN: XXX-XX-1234

Requested On: 05/29/2011 01:26:45:020 PM PDT

Issuing State/Location:

Date of Issuance:

#### **How can I validate a Social Security Number?**

The National SSN Address Mover will report where an individual has resided, which includes addresses that are associated with the individual's SSN. The National SSN Address Mover does not verify the SSN through the SSA.

In order to verify the SSN with the SSA, Accurate Background has partnered with the SSA to offer the *Social Security Number Verification Service (SSNVS)*. Please contact your Account Manager or Sales Representative if you are interested in adding the SSNVS service to your account.

#### **Learn more about this topic**

To learn more about the SSN Randomization, please visit the SSA Website at [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov).

#### **Contact Accurate Background**

For more information regarding this legislation and the services we can offer in confirming your applicant's address information, please contact Accurate Background at 800.216.8024 or [customer\\_service@accuratebackground.com](mailto:customer_service@accuratebackground.com).