SUBJECT: Death Gratuity

The Barring Act, 31 U.S.C. § 3702, is applicable to the payment in all death gratuity and unpaid pay and allowance cases. A claim for death gratuity accrues on the date of death. See 42 Comp. Gen. 622 (1963). A claim for unpaid pay and allowances also accrues on the date of death. See Comp. Gen. B-228749, October 1, 1987. The claimant has six years from the date of death to submit the claim or payment is barred. The barring act is not tolled (stopped from running) by an unusual delay in learning of the death.

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