

# 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Changes and Trends Affecting Special Needs Trusts

SSA Regional Trust Leads Presentation  
Regarding SSI Trusts

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## Objectives

- ▶ Explain the regional centralization of SSI trust review business process
- ▶ Identify the key players and their roles
- ▶ Explain the effect of updated trust policy on trust reviews
- ▶ Identify the types of trust cases that require second-level review

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## Objectives (continued)

- ▶ Provide update on special needs trust drafting errors
- ▶ Share statistics regarding trust review process
- ▶ Q&A Session (if time permits)

## Disclaimer

- ▶ This presentation discusses general SSI trust policy and procedures.
- ▶ Specific case scenarios involving an SSI claim or post-eligibility (PE) event require evaluation first by the servicing field office (FO) technician and subsequent evaluation by the regional trust reviewer team (RTRT).

## Regional Centralization of SSI Trust Review Process

- ▶ Social Security Administration implemented business process on April 28, 2014
- ▶ Process centralizes reviews by region(s)
- ▶ Goals: improve quality, accurate and consistent trust determinations, strengthen proficiency of FO employee, and capture management information
- ▶ FO technician makes initial trust determination; RTRT reviews determination prior to case effectuation
- ▶ Post-eligibility Events & subsequent reviews

## Key Players and Their Roles Field Office Technician

- ▶ First point of contact
- ▶ Makes initial and reconsideration trust resource determinations
- ▶ Submits determinations to the RTRT for review
- ▶ Effectuates trust resource determinations

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