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Resolving Medicare Conditional Payment Federal Debts with the U.S. Treasury

- The webinar will begin at 2:00 p.m. ET
- All attendees are in listen-only mode
- Audio is only available through your computer audio. No dial-in number is available
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- CE credits are only available for those who qualify during the LIVE version of this webinar held from 2:00-3:00 p.m. ET on 04/15/2020

#### **On24 System Requirements:**

- Windows 7+ (Microsoft Edge, Latest Internet Explorer, Firefox, or Chrome)
- Apple Mac OS 10.10+ (\*Latest Firefox, Safari, or Chrome)
- Android 6.x (Chrome Browser Only)
- Apple iOs (\*Latest version, Safari Browser Only)
- \* Official support for the "latest" version of a newly released browser, among those noted above, will be added within 8 weeks of public release. Until then, the previous version will continue to be supported instead.

If you are using an unsupported version of a Windows, Mac, or Linux operating system, you may experience difficulty in viewing and/or listening to the event.





## Resolving Medicare Conditional Payment Federal Debts with the U.S. Treasury

April 15, 2020

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Adjuster credits for KY are currently pending.

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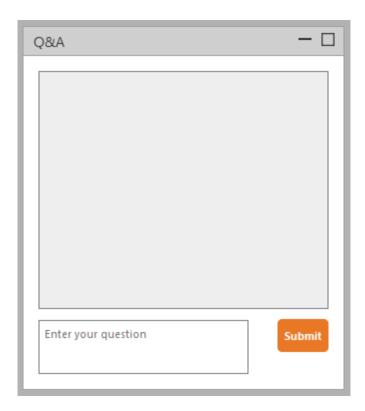
- 1. Remain logged on for the entire webinar.
- 2. Answer **all three** poll questions.

  To submit your answers, us the Submit button on your screen or put your answer in the Q&A panel.
- 3. You will receive an email from the CEU Institute on our behalf approximately 24 hours after the webinar. This email will contain a link that you will use to submit for your CE credits. You will need to complete this task within 72 hours.

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#### Presenter



Lavonya Chapman, Esq, RN, CMSP Associate General Counsel

Lavonya Chapman is Optum Settlement Solutions' Medicare Secondary Payer (MSP) Compliance Counsel and a member of the management team responsible for strategic planning and product development with legal, regulatory, and compliance oversight of all services provided to include MSP settlement language, Mandatory Insurer Reporting, ICD injury code reporting, Conditional Payment Resolution, Medicare Set-Aside Allocations (MSA), CMS approval, and professional administration of MSAs.

Lavonya joined Optum Settlement Solutions in 2014 as a member of the MSP clinical mitigation team with more than 25 years experience as an attorney, claim director, and registered nurse. Her casualty insurance experience began as a medical case manager at USF&G insurance. Prior to joining Optum, Lavonya served as director of MSP compliance for Arthur J. Gallagher & Company where she started and developed their MSP compliance program from the beginning. She was also the claim director for a new liability captive in which nearly all the claimants/plaintiffs were Medicare beneficiaries or dual eligible.

Additionally, Lavonya has experience in private law practice, litigating medical malpractice, premises, and auto liability claims, as well as workers' compensation cases. As a registered nurse and pharmacology instructor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Lavonya is an expert in utilization review and emergency medical services.

Lavonya received a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from the Samford University and a Doctorate of Jurisprudence from Birmingham School of Law.

#### **Objectives**



Provide basic introduction to the U.S.Treasury conditional payment resolution process



Discuss U.S. Treasury authorization to recoup Medicare conditional payments



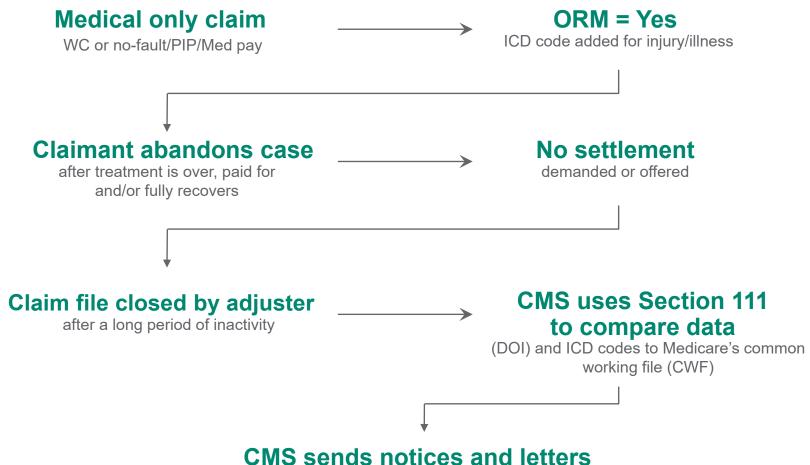
Walk through how a debt goes from the CRC to Treasury and how an offset takes place



Demonstrate how a debtor can dispute Treasury's offset and obtain reimbursement



#### A typical scenario





to old or to adjuster or TPA who no longer handles the claim





## HOW DID WE GET HERE?



Responsible Reporting Entity (RRE) reported Ongoing Responsibility for Medical (ORM) through mandatory reporting process



Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has therefore identified the RRE/primary payer as the debtor





As of October 2015, Commercial Repayment Center (CRC) specifically dedicated to recovery of conditional payments in situations where the RRE has reported ORM





# WHAT HAPPENED IN MY CASE?





CRC sent a Conditional Payment Notice (CPN) identifying payments made, providing 30 days to dispute responsibility



CRC sent a Notice of Intent to Refer to Treasury (NIRT) providing 30 days to pay or 60 days to appeal



CRC sent a demand providing 60 days to pay debt or appeal within 120 days



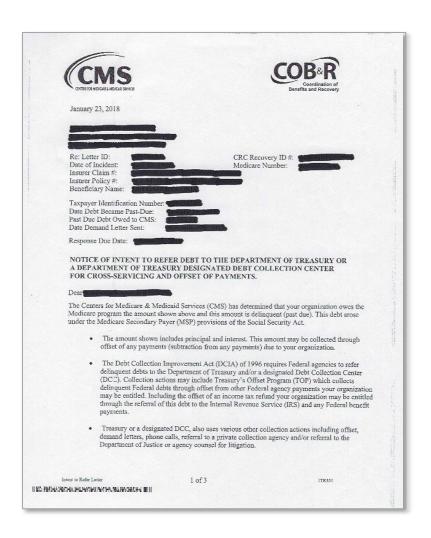
Treasury sent a Notice of Debt providing 30 days to pay or matter to collections/offset



#### Notice on Intent to Refer

#### Created by the CRC

- Provides 30 days to pay in full to CRC
- Allows 60 days to challenge the debt
- If neither, referred to Treasury for collection or for cross-servicing to offset

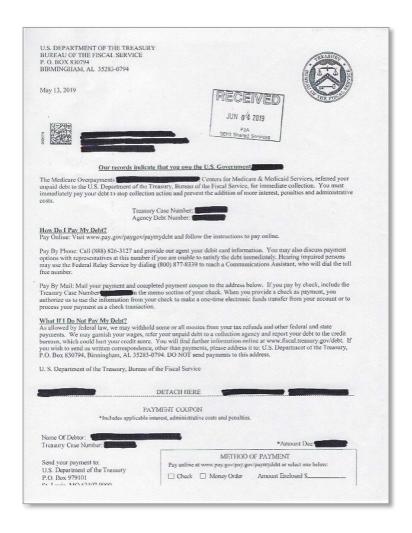




#### **Notice of Treasury Debt**

### Debt referred to Treasury by CRC on behalf of CMS

- Oftentimes, no claimant name, SS#, DOB
- If no payment, may withhold money from tax refunds, from fed/state payments, garnish wages/benefits, or refer case to collector

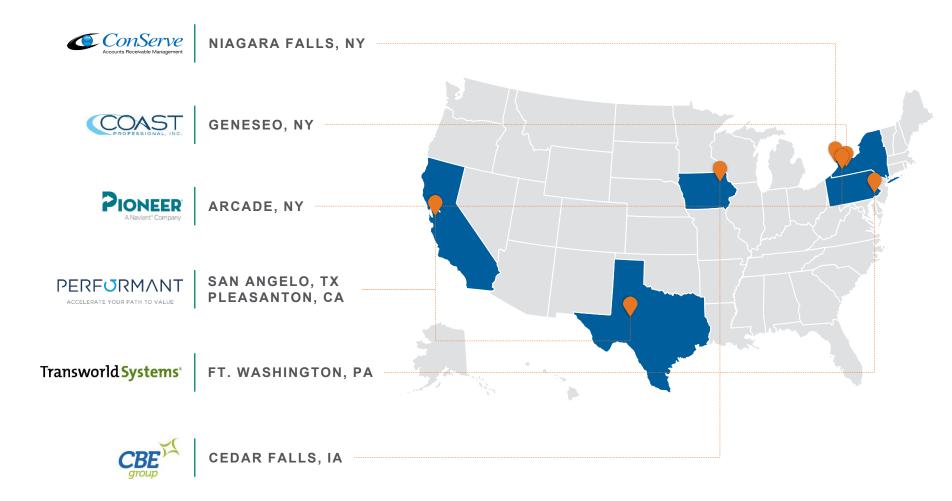




### **COLLECTION AGENCIES**



#### Treasury uses six collection agencies





#### Notice from collector: The CBE Group, Inc.





PO Box 2040 Waterloo, IA 50704



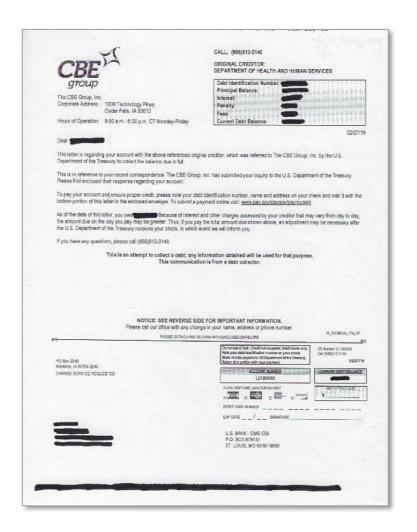
1-866-910-3140



www.pay.gov/paygov/paymydebt.com



PO Box 979110 St. Louis, MO 63197





#### Notice from collector: Continental Service Group, Inc. (ConServe)





PO Box 1528 Fairport, NY 14450



1-866-562-3255

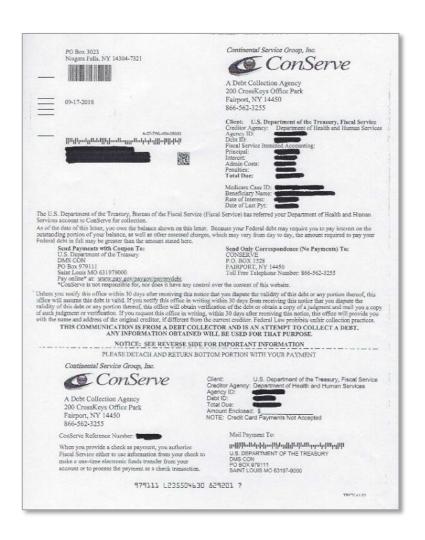


www.pay.gov/paygov/paymydebt.com



PO Box 979110 St. Louis, MO 63197

- 30 days to dispute validity
- Will provide verification of debt





#### Notice from collector: Pioneer Credit Recovery, Inc.





PO Box 189 Arcade, NY 14009



1-888-261-7783

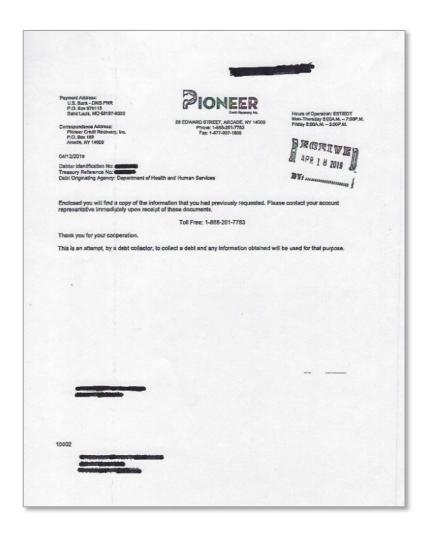


www.pay.gov/paygov/paymydebt.com



PO Box 979110 St. Louis, MO 63197

Will provide verification of debt





#### Notice from collector: Coast Professional, Inc.





PO Box 246 Geneseo, NY 14454



1-800-963-4714



www.pay.gov/paygov/paymydebt.com

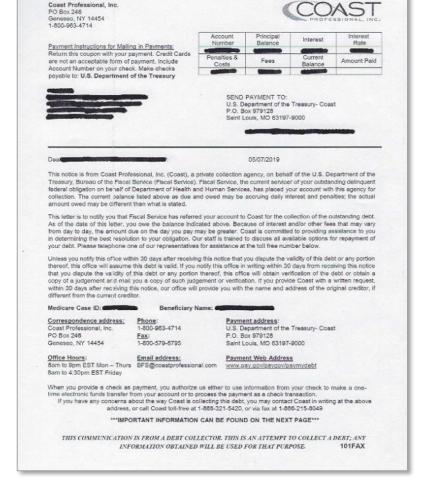


PO Box 979110 St. Louis, MO 63197



bfs@coastprofessional.com

- 30 days to dispute validity
- Will provide verification of debt





#### Notice from collector: Transworld Systems Inc.

#### Transworld Systems<sup>®</sup>



PO Box 15616 Wilmington, DE 19850



1-866-206-7443

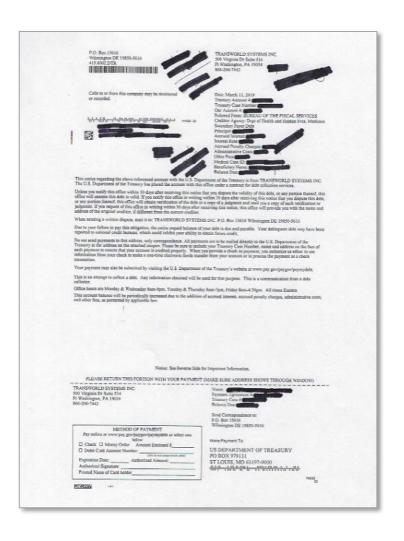


www.pay.gov/paygov/paymydebt.com



PO Box 979110 St. Louis, MO 63197

- 30 days to dispute validity
- Will provide verification of debt





#### Notice from collector: Performant Recovery, Inc.



ACCELERATE YOUR PATH TO VALUE



PO Box 5501 San Angelo, TX 76902



1-800-258-1498



www.pay.gov/paygov/paymydebt.com



PO Box 979110 St. Louis, MO 63197



treasury@performantcorp.com

- 30 days to dispute validity
- Will provide verification of debt



PERFORMANT
Performant Recovery, Inc.
P.O. Box 5501, San Angelo, TX 76902-5501

P.O. Box 979112, St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

Enclosure: Verification of Debt

U.S. Duportment of the Treasury 1200/1711 04/18/2019

Chem (NIRIE) Co. L'oppulments ou use a correction.

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Again, please be sure to include a separate payment for each dobt and reference the proper Case ID number on the payment to ensure an accurate pointing to your account. Payments may also be made one-line at wave paymynopolypaymode; when you provide acches a payment, you admired the U.S. Destruction of the Treasure either to use information from your clouds to make a coeff-time destruction from treasure from your second or to prove the populate as a chosen treasure. Present not, the U.S. populations of the Treasure of the Treasure from the treasure from your second or to prove the populate as a chosen treasure.

We encourage you to contact our effice for any assistance. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not heating to contact your Performant representative as 800-255-1498 or send as onised to <u>treasure freedominations come</u>.

This is an attempt to collect a debt you detect collector and any informations occur do for that purpose.

PLEASE DETACH THIS STUB AND RETURN WITH PAYMENT (We do not accept credit cards.)

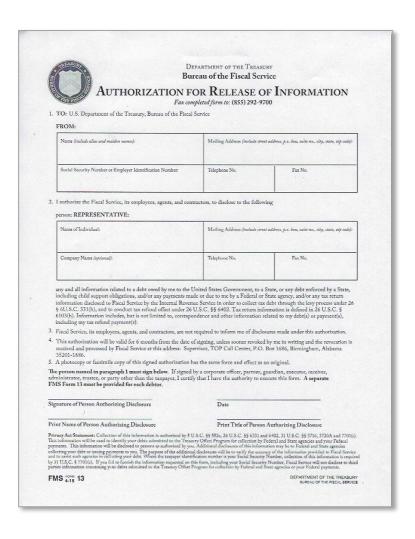
Amount Poor



#### **Authorization for Release of Information**

#### Treasury Form 13

- Authorizes Treasury Fiscal Service to disclose info to representative related to debt
- Valid for only six months, so may need multiple ones throughout claim
- Cannot speak with or receive info from Treasury without it





#### **Treasury CRS Dispute Form**

- Received Notice of Debt from Treasury or Collector
- Use the CRS Dispute form to dispute a debt sent to Treasury
- May halt referral to Treasury's Debt Management Services (DMS)
- Must provide details and supporting evidence timely

CRS Dispute Form				
If you object to the invoice you received, your dispute must be in writing, signed, and delivered as indicated below. Supporting documentation is strongly encouraged as your objection(s) will be considered based on the information you provide with this form. This dispute formwill NOT hall interest and penalty assessment (if applicable) on your invoice(s). This dispute submission will halt referral of the invoice to Treasury's Debt Management Services (DMS), but only until a dispute decision is mailed to you.				
Instructions:  1) Complete Requestor Information: place an X in the checkbox of the section(s) that fit your dispute, and document an explanation of your dispute. ALL FIELDS REQUIRED.  2) Sign and date form.  3) Submit this form and any attachments by Fax, or Mail to:  Fax: 314-418-4121 or Mail: CRS Servicing, PO Box 970014, St. Louis, MO 63197				
Requestor Information				
Name:		Invoice Number:		Date:
Address:				
City, State, Zip: Phone Number:				
Select a Dispute Reason				
Existence of the receivable described in the invoice     I do not owe this receivable (Proof contained in documentation provided).				
2. I already paid the invoice in full     Proof contained in documentation provided (Ex. Check, bank statement, tracking #).				
Amount of the invoice     I do not owe the full amount on invoice (Ex. partially paid or disputing invoiced amount).				
4. The validity of the invoice is in question due to an identity issue     I have provided proof that this bill does not belong to me (Ex. wrong identity, Jr./Sr.).				
Explanation of Dispute				
Provide as much information on your request as possible. We strongly encourage you to supply supporting documentation.				
rivacy Act Statement: Collection of this information is authorized by 5 U.S.C. § 552a, 26 U.S.C. §§ 6331 and 6402, 31 U.S.C. §§ 716, 3720A and 7701(c). This information will be used to identify your receivables (whether current or delinquent) submitted				
o the Department of the payments made or due to rou. Additional disclosu payments to you. The pu	Treasury's Bureau of the Fiscal o you by Federal or State agenc res of this information may be to prose of the additional disclosu	Service for collection by Fede ies. This information will be dis o Federal and State agencies c ires will be to verify the accura	ral and State ag sclosed to perso ollecting your d cy of the inform	gencies, and to identify ons as authorized by lebts or issuing nation provided to the
	vice and to assist such agencies			

requested, including your Social Security Number, may delay or prevent proper review and assessment of your request.

Page 1 of 1



Signature:\_ RS-13J-1.0 CRS Dispute Request Form

#### If offset not yet taken

Request remand to CRC and Request for Redetermination of Medicare's Demand

Must provide appropriate basis for remand

- Debt previously paid, timely appealed, sent to incorrect RRE or wrong address.
- The fact that payments are not related to claim may not be sufficient reason for remand
- Provide detailed analysis showing conditional payments are not related to claim



#### If offset not yet taken and you wish to preempt offset

- You can make full payment
  - Send payment to US Department of Treasury, Bureau of the Fiscal Service,
     Debt Management Services in St. Louis, MO
  - Send payment to Medicare Commercial Repayment Center in Cleveland, OH
  - Upload into MSPRPortal
- Request file be remanded to CRC or recalled back to the CRC, the federal creditor agency
- Request Redetermination of Medicare's Demand with proof that conditional payments are not related to claim







Treasury did not receive payment after first correspondence to debtor

## WAIT, THEY DID WHAT?



Treasury collection agency was unable to collect from debtor



Debt referred to Treasury Offset Program (TOP)





Treasury verifies federal funds due to debtor through sweep of all federal agencies and collects from one/many accounts on one/multiple claims





## CAN THEY DO THIS TO ME?



- 31 U.S.C. Section 3711
- The Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 provides Treasury with government wide debt collection responsibilities
- The law provides that delinquent non-tax debts must be turned over to the Treasury for appropriate action to collect the debt
- This includes salary offset, government-wide cross servicing, tax refund offset and wage garnishment



#### Treasury can involve the IRS and Department of Justice

- •31 CFR Part 285.1-13; 31 CFR Part 900-904
- Authorizes Treasury to collect past-due debts by administrative offset of federal payments
- Allows offset of tax refund payments to collect past-due, legally enforceable non-tax debt
- The Bureau of the Fiscal Service, within the Department of the Treasury, is responsible for carrying out such responsibilities



#### **Treasury Offset Program (TOP)**



Under the U.S.C. and C.F.R., administrative offset means withholding funds payable by the United States or State government



The TOP is a centralized offset program which intercepts funds otherwise due to RRE and uses these to collect on delinquent debts owed to federal agencies and states



In fiscal year 2018, TOP recovered more than \$2.9 billion in delinquent debts



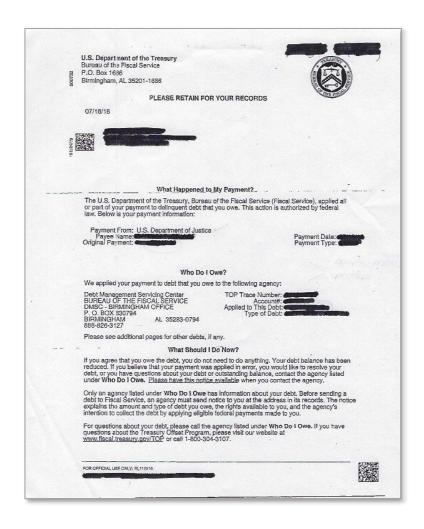
#### **Suspending or Terminating Offset**

- Before an eligible federal payment is disbursed to a payee such as an RRE, disbursing Treasury officials compare the payment information with debtor information by matching tax identification numbers.
- TOP will offset eligible federal payments until the federal creditor agency (Medicare) suspends or terminates debt collection or offset activity for the debt
- A creditor agency, Medicare will suspend collection if the debt is subject to a bankruptcy stay. A creditor agency will terminate collection of a debt if it is paid in full, compromised, discharged, or if other reasons justify termination



#### **Notice of Offset/Payment**

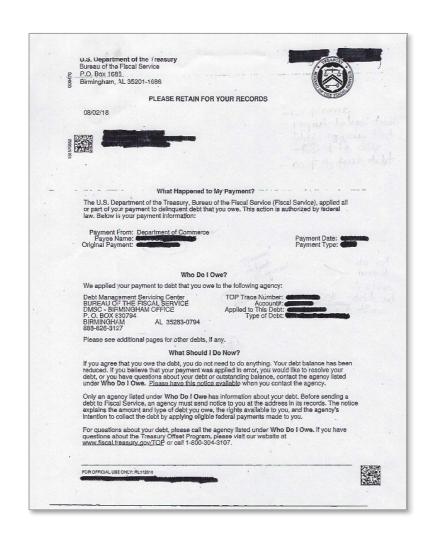
- Oftentimes no claimant name, SSN
- Will show what government entity owed RRE and amount of total offset
- Will show where payment was redirected to, TOP and Treasury account number, and amount applied to debt
- If disagree, go to BFS





#### Notice of offset/payment

- Only notice that Treasury offset other payments due to satisfy CRC debt
- If after first offset, there remains a balance, will continue to sweep all government entities that owe monies to RRE to further offset







### BEST PRACTICES



- RREs may monitor their CRC Open Debt Report uploaded from the Medicare Secondary Payer Recovery Portal (MSPRP)
- CRS Dispute Form
- Request to terminate collection efforts
- Request to remand matter to CRC/BCRC







### BEST PRACTICES



- After offset use Treasury Cross Servicing Dispute Form
- Request for refund (if already offset) and not owed
- Detailed explanation for basis with proof of:
  - Debt previously paid (copy of deposited check)
  - Timely appeal filed with CRC/BCRC
  - Favorable decision from CRC/BCRC
  - Wrong RRE and/or wrong address (MIR data reported)



#### If offset already taken

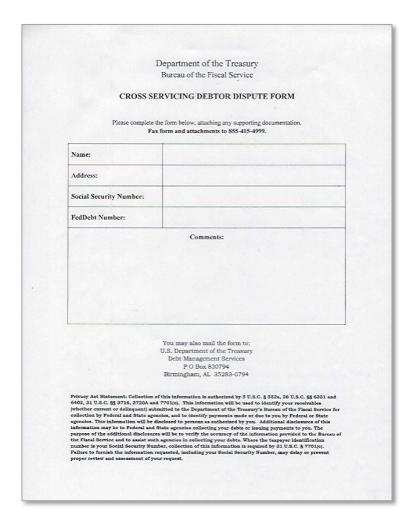
Request remand to CRC and request reimbursement from CRC

- Must provide appropriate basis for remand
- Debt previously paid, timely appealed, sent to incorrect RRE or wrong address
- Must provide detailed analysis showing conditional payments made by Medicare are not related to claim



#### **Cross servicing debtor dispute**

- If disagree with offset taken, must file
   Dispute Form with attachments
- Must have claimant name, address,
   SSN and case federal debt number
- Should include request for proof of debt, request to terminate collection efforts, request for reimbursement if already offset, request to remand matter to CRC and detailed explanation for basis for why debt not owed







## REASONABLE EXPECTATIONS



- Do not expect to hear from Treasury, Fiscal Service, or Debt Management Services
- Very difficult to communicate consistently, so follow up with monthly calls with Treasury and CRC and monitoring of MSPRecoveryPortal
- Lengthy waits (> six months) to get file remanded back to CRC
- Once remanded, must go through CRC administrative appeals process:
  - Redetermination, Reconsideration, ALJ Hearing,
     AC Review (> six months to > two years)
  - If win, lengthy wait for reimbursement (> six months)



#### **Lessons learned**



Establish a protocol to make sure ORM and ORM termination was addressed and properly reported via Section 111 before closing a file.



Reassess RRE TIN and Office Code (Site ID) combinations reported in Section 111 fields 52 and 53 and their associated mailing addresses to ensure CMS/Treasury notices/demands are getting to an address in which someone knows how to respond before deadlines lapse.



### THANK YOU

#### Lavonya Chapman, Esq, RN, CMSP

Associate General Counsel
Optum Settlement Solutions

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175 Kelsey Lane, Tampa, FL 33619



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#### About Optum Worker's Comp and Auto No-fault Solutions

Optum Workers' Comp and Auto No-fault Solutions collaborates with clients to lower costs while improving health outcomes for the claimants we serve. Our comprehensive pharmacy, ancillary and managed care services, including settlement solutions, combine data, analytics, and extensive clinical expertise with innovative technology to ensure claimants receive safe, efficacious and cost-effective care throughout the lifecycle of a claim. For more information, email us at expectmore@optum.com.

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