



Madison County Genealogical Society



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www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nemcgs/ www.nesgs.org/~mcgs

What can you find from a copy of a Social Security application?

When you find your ancestors in the Social Security Death Index, you may want a copy of your ancestors original Social Security application. This application has valuable additional information and can serve as documentation for your own records. The Social Security Administration makes copies of the original Social Security application form (the SS-5) available to third parties who request information on a deceased individual. This information can be invaluable because the application form was filled out by the person requesting a social security number, not a relative or clerk or someone who was perhaps not as well informed like a death certificate or some other documents. The first numbers were issued in late 1936.

The application form (SS-5) contains the following information:

- Full name
- Full name at birth (including maiden name)
- Present mailing address
- Age at last birthday
- Date of birth
- Place of birth (city, county, state)
- Fathers full name "regardless of whether living or dead"
- Mothers full name, including maiden name, "regardless of whether living or dead"
- Sex and race
- Ever applied for SS number/Railroad Retirement before? Yes/No
- Current employers name and address
- Date signed
- Applicants signature

If you are requesting copies of applications for a Social Security Number (Form SS-5) for people who are deceased, address your request to:

Social Security Administration
OEO FOIA Workgroup
300 N. Green Street
P.O. Box 33022
Baltimore, Maryland 21290-3022

The cost is \$27 if you know the Social Security Number and \$29 if you do not know the

Social Security Number.