



News Release

SOCIAL SECURITY

Get Direct Deposit to Stay Ahead of Hurricane Season

With the 2011 hurricane season underway, Michael J. Astrue, Commissioner of Social Security, has an important message for people receiving checks from Social Security: please sign up for Direct Deposit before the first storm hits.

“Direct Deposit is a secure and convenient way to receive Social Security payments, particularly when a natural disaster strikes,” Commissioner Astrue said. “This is a simple step people can take to eliminate one concern as they prepare for the hurricane season. Having funds available in the event of a storm is critically important. Eighty-seven percent of our beneficiaries already take advantage of Direct Deposit, and I urge anyone not yet signed up for electronic payments to do so now.”

As of May 1, 2011, anyone who applies for Social Security or Supplemental Security Income benefits will receive payments electronically, and all current beneficiaries must switch to electronic payments by March 1, 2013. To sign up or learn more, please visit www.godirect.org.

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