

**Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Program
Bureau of Justice Assistance
Office of Justice Programs
U.S. Department of Justice**

**PSOB Death Claims Data
FY 2013 and FY 2014¹**

	FY 2013 (10/1/12 – 9/30/13)	FY 2014 (10/1/13 – 9/30/14)
Total death claims determined	164	218
Average number of days to assign PSOB Outreach Specialist	18	15
Average number of days to receive basic required documents	168	143
Average number of days to determine claim after basic required documents received	253	309
Percentage of claims determined within one year	46%	46%
Approval percentage	74%	88%
Denial percentage	26%	12%
<i>PSOB death claims filed</i>	<i>294</i>	<i>319</i>

PSOB Review Process

1. PSOB Office receives initial death claim documents and assigns a claim number.
2. Outreach Specialist is assigned to the claim to request all basic required claim documents from the survivors and agency.
3. Benefits Specialist reviews the claim and supporting documents and drafts a determination recommending whether or not the claim can be approved. The claim may be sent for an independent medical review, if indicated.
4. PSOB Director reviews the evidence and draft determination for concurrence.
5. PSOB Legal Counsel reviews the evidence and draft determination for concurrence.
6. Once a determination is made, the survivors and agency receive written notification regarding the outcome of the claim.

**At any stage, the claim may require additional follow up to establish legal sufficiency.*

¹Data represents claims determined at the initial PSOB Office level, and does not include appeals determined during the same reporting period.