

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS

Notice required under Section 7(b) of the Federal Privacy Act of 1974

Under Section 7(b) of the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a (note), any government agency which requests an individual to disclose his Social Security account number must inform that individual whether the disclosure is mandatory or voluntary, by what statutory or other authority such number is solicited, and what uses will be made of it.

The Probate Judge of Clayton County is authorized to request Social Security numbers pursuant to *Official Code of Georgia Annotated*, Section 16-11-129, which regulates firearms licensing clerks and also under Rule 24.1, *Uniform Rules for the Probate Courts* in other situations as set forth therein including guardianships, conservatorships, and estates. The Social Security number blanks appear in certain forms published by the State of Georgia and by the local Court.

The Social Security number is used as a secondary identifier when processing checks of criminal history records maintained by the state and federal governments. In specific investigations which may involve examination of particular records obtained from outside sources, the Social Security number might be used to determine whether the individual named in the records and the individual under investigation are the same or different persons.

The listing of Social Security numbers on the disclosure forms is voluntary. Under Section 7(a) of the Privacy Act, it is not proper to deny or revoke a license or impose any penalty because of an individual's refusal to disclose a Social Security number.

However, **the absence of a Social Security number as a secondary identifier may delay processing and decisions because of necessary additional investigative time.** Note that the absence of a Social Security number may result in an individual initially being identified as having a criminal record which actually is that of another person.

This, again, may result in delays in the decision.

I have reviewed the above privacy information regarding my social security number and I chose to:

- Provide my Social Security number, or _____
- Not provide my Social Security number.

Name

Date

Application Number: _____