

Report: Decentralized Inheritance Protocol

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1 Introduction

No one can escape death - but what happens to your crypto when you die? According to [1], it is estimated that around 3.7 million Bitcoin are lost and unrecivable. One of the top reasons is death: crypto holders that pass away and failed to share access information with heirs will be responsible for inaccessible funds. Traditional inheritance systems are flawed: they take very long, are expensive and more often than not lead to conflicts within heirs.

2 Appendix

Appendices

Listing 1: smart contract

```
1 // SPDX-License-Identifier: MIT
2 pragma solidity ^0.8.28;
3
4 import "@openzeppelin/contracts/access/Ownable.sol";
5 import "@openzeppelin/contracts/token/ERC20/IERC20.sol";
6 import "@openzeppelin/contracts/utils/ReentrancyGuard.sol";
7 import {IDeathOracle} from "./IDeathOracle.sol";
8
9 contract InheritanceProtocol is Ownable, ReentrancyGuard {
10
11     IERC20 public immutable usdc;
12     IDeathOracle public immutable deathOracle;
13     address private notaryAddress;
14
15     /**
16      * Stores address and payout percentage amount (0-100) of a beneficiary.
17      */
18     struct Beneficiary {
19         address payoutAddress;
20         uint256 amount;
21     }
22
23     Beneficiary[10] private _beneficiaries;
24
25     uint256 private _balance;
26     State private _currentState;
27
28     uint256 private _lastCheckIn;
29     bool private _called = false;
30
31     uint256 private constant NOT_FOUND = type(uint256).max;
32     uint256 private constant MAX_BENEFICIARIES = 10;
33     uint256 private constant MAX_PERCENTAGE = 100;
34     uint256 private constant CHECK_IN_PERIOD = 90 * 1 days;
35     uint256 private constant GRACE_PERIOD = 30 * 1 days;
36
37     event BeneficiaryAdded(address indexed payoutAddress, uint256 amount, uint256
38 index);
39     event BeneficiaryRemoved(address indexed payoutAddress, uint256 index);
40     event Deposited(uint256 amount);
41     event Withdrawn(uint256 amount);
42     event CheckedIn(uint256 timestamp);
43     event StateChanged(uint256 timestamp, State from, State to);
44     event PayoutMade(uint256 amount, address payoutAddress);
```

```

44     event TestEvent(string s);
45     event TestEventNum(uint s);
46
47     /**
48      * Initializes a new InheritanceProtocol.
49      * @param _usdcAddress address of the currency used (non-zero).
50      */
51     constructor(address _usdcAddress, address _deathOracleAddress, address
52     _notaryAddress) Ownable(msg.sender) {
53         require(_usdcAddress != address(0), "USDC address zero");
54         require(_deathOracleAddress != address(0), "Death Oracle address zero");
55         usdc = IERC20(_usdcAddress);
56         deathOracle = IDeathOracle(_deathOracleAddress);
57         notaryAddress = _notaryAddress;
58         _currentState = State.ACTIVE;
59         _lastCheckIn = block.timestamp;
60     }
61
62     /// ----- MODIFIERS -----
63
64     /**
65      * This modifier requires the function call to be made before distribution.
66      */
67     modifier onlyPreDistribution() {
68         require(_currentState < State.DISTRIBUTION, "Cannot modify funds post-
69         distribution");
70         _;
71     }
72
73     /**
74      * This modifier requires the function call to be made in the ACTIVE or
75      * WARNING phase
76      */
77     modifier onlyActiveWarning() {
78         require(_currentState < State.VERIFICATION, "Cannot make administrative
79         changes without Owner check-In");
80         _;
81     }
82
83     /**
84      * This modifier requires the function call to be made in the DISTRIBUTION
85      * phase
86      */
87     modifier onlyDistribution() {
88         require(_currentState == State.DISTRIBUTION, "Can only make payouts in
89         distribution phase");
90         _;
91     }
92
93     /**
94      * This modifier requires the function call to be made by the notary
95      */
96     modifier onlyNotary() {
97         require(msg.sender == notaryAddress, "Only notary can call this function");
98         _;
99     }
100
101    /// ----- STATE MACHINE & CHECK-INS -----
102
103    /**
104      * Defines the state of the contract.
105      * - Active: mutable state, owner check-ins required.
106      * - Warning: Missed check-in, notification sent at 90 days,

```

```

101     *      verification phase starts at 120 days.
102     * - Verification: submission of death certificate (30 days).
103     * - Distribution: distribute assets based on defined conditions.
104     */
105 enum State { ACTIVE, WARNING, VERIFICATION, DISTRIBUTION }
106
107 /**
108 * Updates the State in the State-Machine
109 * Should always be possible and accessible by anyone
110 * @return currentState after execution
111 */
112 function updateState() public returns (State) {
113     uint256 elapsed = uint256(block.timestamp) - _lastCheckIn;
114     State oldState = _currentState;
115
116     // --- Phase transitions in logical order ---
117
118     // If in ACTIVE and check-in expired  WARNING
119     if (_currentState == State.ACTIVE && elapsed > CHECK_IN_PERIOD) {
120         _currentState = State.WARNING;
121     }
122
123     // If in WARNING and grace period expired  VERIFICATION
124     if (_currentState == State.WARNING && elapsed > CHECK_IN_PERIOD +
125 GRACE_PERIOD) {
126         _currentState = State.VERIFICATION;
127     }
128
129     // If in VERIFICATION and death confirmed  DISTRIBUTION
130     if (_currentState == State.VERIFICATION && deathOracle.isDeceased(owner()))
131     {
132         _currentState = State.DISTRIBUTION;
133     }
134
135     emit StateChanged(block.timestamp, oldState, _currentState);
136
137     // Trigger payout if we reached DISTRIBUTION
138     if (_currentState == State.DISTRIBUTION) {
139         distributePayout();
140     }
141
142
143 /**
144 * Changes the state of the contract to a given state.
145 * @param to the state to change to.
146 */
147 function changeState (State to) public {
148     require(to != _currentState, "Already in requested state");
149     emit StateChanged(block.timestamp, _currentState, to);
150     _currentState = to;
151 }
152
153 /**
154 * The owner checks in to verify that he's alive.
155 * Should be possible in active and warning state.
156 */
157 function checkIn() public onlyOwner {
158     require(_currentState == State.ACTIVE || _currentState == State.WARNING, "
159 Need to be in active or warning state");
160     emit CheckedIn(block.timestamp);

```

```

161     _lastCheckIn = block.timestamp;
162 }
163
164 /// ----- BENEFICIARY HANDLING -----
165
166
167 /**
168 * Finds the index of a beneficiary in the beneficiaries list.
169 * @param _address the address whose index to find.
170 * @return the index if the address is in the list, 'NOT_FOUND' otherwise.
171 */
172 function findBeneficiaryIndex(address _address) public view returns (uint256)
{
173     if (_address == address(0)) {
174         return NOT_FOUND;
175     }
176     for (uint256 i = 0; i < MAX_BENEFICIARIES; i++) {
177         if (_beneficiaries[i].payoutAddress == _address) {
178             return i;
179         }
180     }
181     return NOT_FOUND;
182 }
183
184 /**
185 * Removes a beneficiary with a given address.
186 * Only the owner can perform this action.
187 * @param _address the address to remove.
188 * Fails if the provided address is zero OR not in the list of beneficiaries.
189 * @return true if the deletion was successful, false otherwise.
190 */
191 function removeBeneficiary(address _address) public onlyOwner
onlyActiveWarning returns (bool) {
192     checkIn();
193     uint256 index = findBeneficiaryIndex(_address);
194     if (index == NOT_FOUND) {
195         return false;
196     }
197     delete _beneficiaries[index];
198     emit BeneficiaryRemoved(_address, index);
199     return true;
200 }
201
202 /**
203 * Adds a beneficiary to the list.
204 * Only the owner can perform this action.
205 * Requirements:
206 * - List not full
207 * - Payout after adding <= 100
208 * @param _address the address to add to the list.
209 * @param _amount the payout amount related to this address.
210 * @return true if the addition was successful, false otherwise.
211 */
212 function addBeneficiary(address _address, uint256 _amount) public onlyOwner
onlyActiveWarning returns (bool) {
213     checkIn();
214     require(_address != address(0), "Invalid address");
215     require(_amount > 0 && _amount <= MAX_PERCENTAGE, "Invalid amount");
216
217     // Check for duplicate
218     if (findBeneficiaryIndex(_address) != NOT_FOUND) {
219         return false;
220     }

```

```

221
222     uint256 currentSum = getDeterminedPayoutPercentage();
223     if (currentSum + _amount > MAX_PERCENTAGE) {
224         // it should not be possible to payout more than 100%
225         return false;
226     }
227
228     // Find empty slot
229     uint256 emptyIndex = NOT_FOUND;
230     for (uint256 i = 0; i < MAX_BENEFICIARIES; i++) {
231         if (_beneficiaries[i].payoutAddress == address(0)) {
232             emptyIndex = i;
233             break;
234         }
235     }
236
237     if (emptyIndex == NOT_FOUND) {
238         return false; // Max beneficiaries reached
239     }
240
241     _beneficiaries[emptyIndex] = Beneficiary({ payoutAddress: _address, amount:
242 _amount });
242     emit BeneficiaryAdded(_address, _amount, emptyIndex);
243     return true;
244 }
245
246
247
248     /// ----- BALANCE HANDLING -----
249
250 /**
251 * Deposits a given amount of USDC.
252 * @param _amount the amount to deposit.
253 */
254 function deposit(uint256 _amount) external onlyOwner nonReentrant
onlyPreDistribution {
255     checkIn();
256     require(_amount > 0, "Amount has to be greater than zero.");
257
258     usdc.transferFrom(msg.sender, address(this), _amount);
259     _balance += _amount;
260
261     //TODO add yield generating here -> Aave or something similar
262     emit Deposited(_amount);
263 }
264
265 /**
266 * Withdraws a given amount of USDC.
267 * @param _amount the amount to withdraw.
268 */
269 function withdraw(uint256 _amount) external onlyOwner nonReentrant
onlyPreDistribution {
270     checkIn();
271     require(_amount > 0, "Amount has to be greater than zero.");
272     require(_balance >= _amount, "Insufficient balance");
273
274     _balance -= _amount;
275
276     usdc.transfer(msg.sender, _amount);
277     emit Withdrawn(_amount);
278 }
279
280

```

```

281     /// ----- DEATH CERTIFICATION -----
282
283     /**
284      * Upload the death verification to the chain
285      * Only callable by the notary
286      */
287     function uploadDeathVerification(bool _deceased, bytes calldata _proof)
288     external onlyNotary{
289         deathOracle.setDeathStatus(owner(), _deceased, _proof);
290     }
291
292     /**
293      * Checks if the owner died by calling death certificate oracle.
294      * @return true if the owner died, else otherwise.
295      */
296     function checkIfOwnerDied() public view returns (bool) {
297         return deathOracle.isDeceased(owner());
298     }
299
300     /// ----- DISTRIBUTION METHODS -----
301
302     /**
303      * Distributes the payout based on definitions given by owner.
304      * Is only called in the updateState() Function, after death verification
305      */
306     function distributePayout() public {
307         require(!_called, "Payout can only be called once.");
308         _called = true;
309         uint256 count = getActiveCount();
310         Beneficiary[] memory activeBeneficiaries = getActiveBeneficiaries();
311         uint256 originalBalance = _balance;
312         for (uint256 i=0; i<count; i++) {
313             Beneficiary memory beneficiary = activeBeneficiaries[i];
314             uint256 amount = beneficiary.amount;
315             address payoutAddress = beneficiary.payoutAddress;
316
317             uint actualAmount = (originalBalance * amount) / MAX_PERCENTAGE;
318
319             // decision made: change balance value (should be 0 at the end)
320             // pros: good for checking / testing
321             // cons: just setting it to 0 would be less error-prone
322             _balance -= actualAmount;
323
324             usdc.transfer( payoutAddress, actualAmount);
325             emit PayoutMade(actualAmount, payoutAddress);
326         }
327     }
328
329     /// ----- VIEW METHODS -----
330
331     /**
332      * Checks if the currently defined payout is fully determined, meaning
333      * 100% of the balance is being spent.
334      * @return true if the full balance will be spent, false otherwise.
335      */
336     function isPayoutFullyDetermined() public view returns (bool) {
337         uint256 sum = getDeterminedPayoutPercentage();
338         return sum == MAX_PERCENTAGE;
339     }
340
341     /**
342      * Calculates the percentage amount of currently determined payout.

```

```

342     * @return a number between 0 and 100, equivalent to the combined relative
343     * payout.
344     */
345     function getDeterminedPayoutPercentage() public view returns (uint256) {
346         uint256 sum;
347         for (uint256 i = 0; i < MAX_BENEFICIARIES; i++) {
348             if (_beneficiaries[i].payoutAddress != address(0)) {
349                 sum += _beneficiaries[i].amount;
350             }
351         }
352         return sum;
353     }
354
355     /**
356     * Gets the current balance.
357     * @return the balance of the combined deposited funds.
358     */
359     function getBalance() public view returns (uint256) {
360         return _balance; // If using Aave this might not work anymore
361     }
362
363     /**
364     * Getter for the beneficiaries list.
365     * @return the list of 10 beneficiaries (might contain empty slots).
366     */
367     function getBeneficiaries() public view returns (Beneficiary[10] memory) {
368         return _beneficiaries;
369     }
370
371     /**
372     * Counts the number of active beneficiaries.
373     * @return the number of active beneficiaries.
374     */
375     function getActiveCount() public view returns (uint256) {
376         uint256 count;
377         for (uint256 i = 0; i < MAX_BENEFICIARIES; i++) {
378             if (_beneficiaries[i].payoutAddress != address(0)) {
379                 count++;
380             }
381         }
382         return count;
383     }
384
385     /**
386     * Gets only the active beneficiaries.
387     * @return an array of beneficiaries.
388     */
389     function getActiveBeneficiaries() public view returns (Beneficiary[] memory) {
390
391         uint256 activeCount = getActiveCount();
392         Beneficiary[] memory active = new Beneficiary[](activeCount);
393         uint256 count = 0;
394         for (uint256 i = 0; i < MAX_BENEFICIARIES; i++) {
395             if (_beneficiaries[i].payoutAddress != address(0)) {
396                 active[count] = _beneficiaries[i];
397                 count++;
398             }
399         }
400         return active;
401     }
402
403     /**
404     * Gets the current state of the contract.

```

```
403     * @return the current state.  
404     */  
405     function getState() public view returns (State) {  
406         return _currentState;  
407     }  
408  
409     /**  
410     * Gets the last check-in time.  
411     * @return the last check-in time.  
412     */  
413     function getLastCheckIn() public view returns (uint256) {  
414         return _lastCheckIn;  
415     }  
416  
417 }  
418
```

A References

References

- [1] Bitget. *How Many Bitcoin Have Been Lost?* Accessed 2025-11-06. 2025. URL: <https://www.bitget.com/wiki/how-many-bitcoin-have-been-lost>.