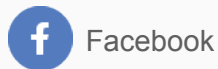




**SOCIAL SECURITY  
VETERANS DISABILITY  
& PERSONAL INJURY**  
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The team at Jan Dils, Attorneys at Law, is dedicated to fighting to help our clients receive the Social Security benefits they deserve as quickly as possible, and that includes the brave men and women who have served our country as members of the Armed Forces. In some instances, Veterans may even be able to benefit by having their claim expedited.

In honor of Memorial Day this year, we have devoted this month's Social Security newsletter to Social Security benefits for our Veterans. Our first article outlines the criteria for expediting the process of Veterans 100% disability claims, with steps to take, and a link to more information. Our second article explores the new ways that Social Security is helping combat homelessness among Veterans, and helping them access the benefits they are entitled to.

Of course, you don't have to be a Veteran to count on us to help you fight for the Social Security benefits *you* deserve. Veteran or not, the experienced, caring team of professionals at Jan Dils, Attorneys at Law, is here to help. Contact us today—we'll be glad to answer your questions, and we're always happy to hear from you!



[Common SSA Questions for Back Pain](#)

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## EXPEDITED PROCESSING OF VETERAN'S 100% DISABILITY CLAIMS



The Social Security Administration provides expedited processing of disability claims filed by Veterans who have a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Compensation rating of 100 percent Permanent & Total (P&T).

Both Social Security and Veterans Affairs pay disability benefits to qualifying people, but their programs, processes, and criteria for receiving benefits are different. A Veterans Affairs compensation rating of 100 percent P&T doesn't guarantee that you'll receive Social Security disability benefits. To receive disability benefits from Social Security, a person must have a severe impairment that's expected to last at least one year or to result in death. The impairment must be so severe that the person would be unable to perform any substantial work.

**NOTE:** Receiving Veterans Affairs compensation won't affect your Social Security benefits.

**What should you do to receive expedited processing?**

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plan on how  
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### Contact a Jan Dils Case Manager

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If you're a disabled veteran rated 100 percent P&T, you must:

- Identify yourself as a “veteran rated 100 percent P and T” when you apply for benefits. If you apply in person or over the phone, tell the Social Security representative that you are a veteran rated 100 percent P and T. If you apply online, enter “Veteran 100% P&T” in the “Remarks” section of the application; and
- Provide Social Security with your Veterans Affairs notification letter which verifies your rating. After Social Security identifies you as a veteran rated 100 percent P&T, they will treat your claim as a high priority workload and rush it through the application process in their field offices, state Disability Determination Services, and the various levels of appeals.

You can find more information at [www.socialsecurity.gov/pgm/disability-pt.htm](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pgm/disability-pt.htm).

Source: <https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10565.pdf>



Carolyn W. Colvin, the Acting Commissioner of Social Security, and other leaders in the fight to end homelessness gathered recently to continue the ongoing battle against homelessness among Veterans, seniors, and other vulnerable populations.

“Social Security plays a key role in reducing homelessness, and our benefit payments help people to secure and maintain stable housing,” Acting Commissioner Colvin said. “Social Security is the most successful anti-poverty program in our country’s history and collaborates with other federal, state and local agencies to ensure that Veterans, people who are disabled, have lost a loved one, or are retiring have access to our benefits and services.”

Acting Commissioner Colvin joined with federal and state officials to discuss initiatives to end homelessness and create outreach programs

to vulnerable populations, including Veterans, at a forum called “Ending Homelessness: Lessons Learned from the Commonwealth of Virginia.” Representatives from the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the Virginia Department of Veterans Services, and the Virginia Housing Alliance participated in the discussion.

In 2015, Virginia announced that it had ended homelessness among Veterans. Many federal and state agencies are looking to replicate best practices from Virginia’s success in their respective states. Social Security has collaborated with other federal agencies to develop key strategies for connecting Veterans and other individuals experiencing homelessness to Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Income (SSDI) benefits.

Through partnerships across the country with the SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR) initiative, the agency receives more complete disability applications. They have a higher rate of approval on the initial application because someone is helping the applicant, especially homeless people who have difficulty documenting their cases and getting their medical records. SOAR is a national project, funded by the SAMHSA, designed to increase access to SSI and SSDI for eligible adults who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and have a mental illness and/or medical impairment. The SOAR project provides training on how to complete the SSI/SSDI application to service providers working with individuals experiencing homelessness.

Veterans are at an increased risk of both homelessness and disability. Social Security offers several initiatives to accelerate processing disability benefit claims from Veterans.

Since 2005, the agency has provided expedited processing of disability applications for wounded warriors who have suffered an injury or illness while serving on active duty after October 1, 2001. Beginning in 2014, disability applications for those with a Veterans Affairs (VA) disability compensation rating of 100% receive expedited processing for Social Security disability benefits. Social Security worked with the VA to set up a data exchange to identify these veterans when they first apply for Social Security or SSI benefits.

Source: <https://www.ssa.gov/news/press/releases/#/post/4-2016-11>

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*Jan Dils keeps you updated on Social Security disability benefits news and important issues that matter the most. We not only focus on Social Security Disability, we also provide legal assistance for Veterans Disability Benefits. We understand the claims process and specialize in making sure Veterans receive the proper representation needed for receiving benefits. For more information on our Veterans Disability*

# FIGHT4VETS.com

## **SOCIAL SECURITY VETERANS DISABILITY & PERSONAL INJURY**

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Jan Dils, Attorneys at Law, handles Social Security disability, Veterans' disability and Personal Injury claims for clients throughout West Virginia with offices located in Parkersburg-Beckley-Charleston-Huntington-Logan as well as one additional office located in Charlotte, North Carolina. But regardless of where you are located we are able to serve you or a family member Nationwide.

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