



**PERSONAL INJURY  
VETERANS DISABILITY  
& SOCIAL SECURITY**  
We Won't Take NO For An Answer®



I can hardly believe it's time to send out our September Social Security newsletter...It seems like summer break was just starting a few days ago. Now, September is here, my son Spencer has started 8th grade, and Hayden's at Marshall. Things change so quickly it can be hard to keep up!

On that note, our first article this month concerns reporting changes to Social Security. This is one you won't want to miss, with an overview of the types of changes you'll need to report, as well as deadlines, and even some links to online Social Security publications that provide more detailed information.

Speaking of online activity, please be sure to read our second article concerning a recent alert from the Social Security Inspector General. Scammers are preying on people who are filling out disability applications online. So be aware, and protect yourself. If you have any doubts about a request for information and whether or not it is legitimate, please give us a call. We'll be happy to help!

Sincerely,



[Are my Social Security benefits taxed?](#)

[What is a Disability Benefit Questionnaire?](#)

[How To Choose An Experienced SSD Attorney In West Virginia](#)

[Learn the Facts About Distracted Driving](#)

[Does receiving SSDI and SSI benefits qualify you to receive Food Stamps?](#)

[Mental Illnesses and](#)

Jan Dils

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## REPORTING CHANGES THAT MAY IMPACT YOUR BENEFITS



If you receive benefits from Social Security, you have a legal obligation to report changes, which could affect your eligibility for disability, retirement, and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. You must report any changes that may affect your benefits immediately, and no later than 10 days after the end of the month in which the change occurred.

Changes you need to report range from a change of address to traveling outside the United States for 30 consecutive days. To get a list of reporting responsibilities under disability, please read the publication [What You Need to Know When You get Social Security Disability Benefits \(https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10153.pdf\)](https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10153.pdf), and for SSI, read [What You Need to Know When You Get](#)

[Social Security Disability](#)

[What Medical Conditions Qualify for Social Security Disability or SSI?](#)

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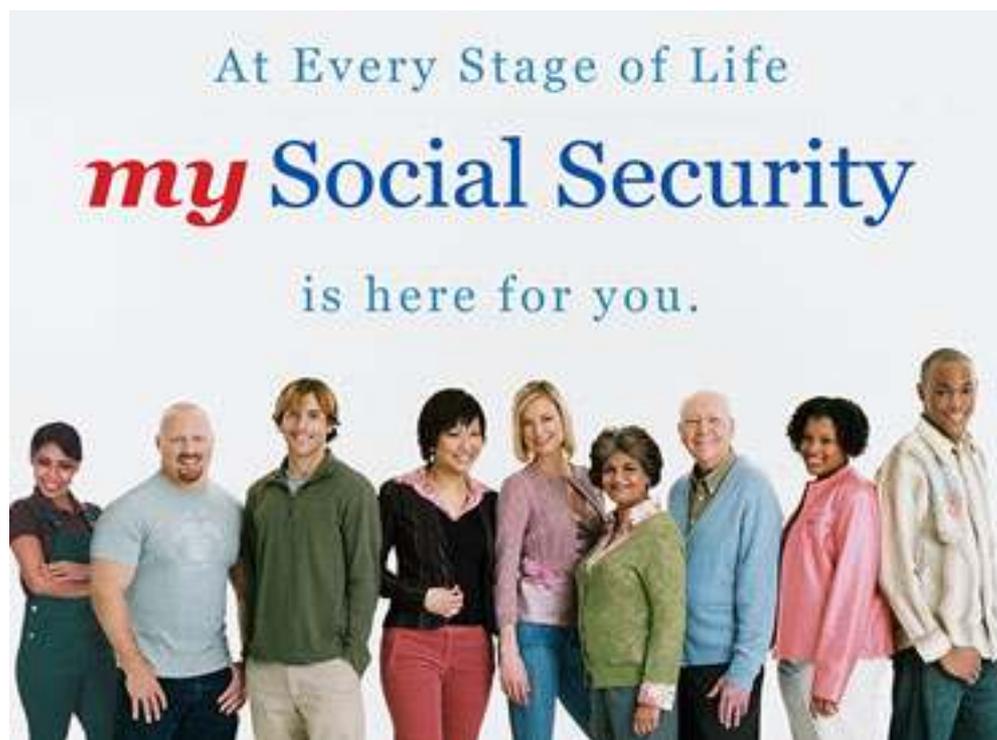
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[Supplemental Security Income](https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-11011.pdf) (<https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-11011.pdf>). If you're receiving retirement benefits, [What You Need to Know When You Get Retirement or Survivors Benefits](https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10077.pdf) (<https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10077.pdf>) is also helpful.

Life changes can affect your benefits. You may be due additional payments, or you may be overpaid and have to pay Social Security back because you didn't report the overpayment in a timely manner. The SSI program may apply a penalty that will reduce your benefits if you fail to report a change, or if you reported the change later than 10 days after the end of the month in which the change occurred. If you fail to report changes in a timely way, or if you intentionally make a false statement, Social Security may stop your SSI, disability, and retirement benefits. They may also impose a sanction against your payments. The first sanction is a loss of payments for six months. Subsequent sanctions are for 12 and 24 months.

You can report your change online at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov), or by calling toll free at 1-800-772-1213. If you're deaf or hearing-impaired call TTY 1-800-325-0778. Mail the information to your local Social Security office or in person if you prefer. If you receive SSI, you should ask about options to use the automated toll-free [SSI Telephone Wage Reporting Service](#) or the free SSI Mobile Wage Reporting Smartphone app.

If you receive benefits and need to change your address or direct deposit, you can conveniently do so by creating a my Social Security account at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount).



Get the right check, in the right amount, at the right time, by reporting changes right away!

Source: <http://blog.ssa.gov/reporting-changes-is-your-responsibility/#more-1050>

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## SCAMMERS OFFERING TO HELP WITH DISABILITY APPLICATIONS



Scammers are trying to get personal information from people by pretending to help with applications for disability benefits and claims. A recent alert from the Social Security Inspector General warns of this phishing scam, and — whether or not you’ve started an application for benefits — these scammers could contact you. They’re taking a shot in the dark, hoping that you have started an application, and hoping you’ll give them a little more info over the phone. To “complete the process,” they might ask you to give, or confirm, your Social Security number or bank account numbers.

If scammers get your information, you could face [identity theft](#) and benefit theft. So here are a few things you can do to help protect yourself:

- Never give your Social Security number or account numbers to someone who calls you.
- Don’t wire money or send money using a prepaid debit card. In fact, never pay someone who calls out of the blue.
- If you have disability benefits, regularly check their status, and

review your statements to make sure they're right.

Pressured to provide your information? That's a sure sign of a scam. Hang up immediately and report it to the [Social Security Fraud Hotline](#) and the [FTC](#). If you have questions about disability benefits, or get calls offering help with them, call the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213. And read up on more ways to combat [phishing](#) and [identity theft](#).

Source: <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog/scammers-offering-help-disability-applications>

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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 services, please visit [www.fight4vets.com](http://www.fight4vets.com)*

**FIGHT4VETS.com**

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Jan Dils, Attorneys at Law, handles Personal Injury Claims, Social Security and Veterans Disability 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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