



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



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Welcome to the newest edition of our electronic newsletter for Social Security Disability benefits. Over the years, our team has helped countless people get the Social Security Disability benefits they are entitled to. One of the best things about our work is helping people who have fought for so long, only to be told “no” over and over again. Many of our clients have struggled with the system on their own, sometimes for years, because: 1) They didn't know that they were entitled to have an attorney help them; 2) They thought they couldn't afford it or; 3) They thought the process would be easier than it is.

In our newsletter this month, we have included an article from the Social Security Administration about your right to choose a representative to help you in your disability claim. As a reminder, our firm never charges a fee unless you win your case, so affordability isn't an issue for our clients. And we guide you through the process every step of the way, making sure you have the best possible chance of winning your case.

If you or someone you know is struggling with the process of



[PTSD Isn't Just for the Front Line](#)

[Ovarian Cancer and SSDI](#)

[Does the SSA Send Emergency Payments for Supplemental Security Income \(SSI\)?](#)

[Back Pain and Social Security Disability Benefits](#)

[Severe Anxiety and Social Security Disability Benefits](#)

obtaining disability benefits or simply considering applying, our experienced, compassionate team is here to answer your questions and help you decide how you want to proceed. I hope you'll take advantage of our expertise and consider putting us to work for you.

Sincerely,



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Want to keep up with all of the latest news or to get to know us better? Like us on Facebook!

## YOUR RIGHT TO REPRESENTATION

You have the right to have a representative, such as an attorney, help you when you do business with Social Security. They'll work with your representative, just as they would work with you.

For your protection, in most situations, your representative can't charge or collect a fee from you without first getting written approval from Social Security. However, your representative may accept money from you in advance as long as they hold it in a trust or escrow account. Both you and your representative are responsible for providing Social Security with accurate information. Providing false information knowingly, or willfully, is illegal. If you do, you may face criminal prosecution.

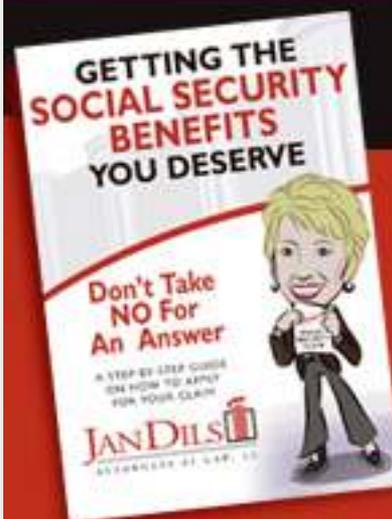
### What a Representative Can Do

After you appoint a representative, he or she can act on your behalf before Social Security by:

- Getting information from your Social Security file;
- Helping you get medical records or information to support your claim;
- Coming with you, or for you, to any interview, conference or hearing you have with Social Security;

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easy-to-understand  
plan on how  
to apply for  
and win  
your benefits

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### Contact a Jan Dils Case Manager

Email Address by Last Name

#### A-D

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[ARichard@jandils.com](mailto:ARichard@jandils.com)

- Requesting a reconsideration, hearing or Appeals Council review; and
- Helping you and your witnesses prepare for a hearing and questioning any witnesses.

Your representative will also receive a copy of the decision(s) that Social Security makes on your claim(s).

### Choosing a Representative

You can choose an attorney or other qualified person to represent you. You can also have more than one representative. However, you can't have someone who, by law, can't act as a representative. Also, you can't have someone the Social Security Administration has suspended or disqualified from representing others.

Some organizations can help you find a representative or give you free legal services if you qualify. Some representatives don't charge unless you receive benefits. Your Social Security office has a list of organizations that can help you find a representative.

You can appoint one or more people in a firm, corporation, or other organization as your representative, but you can't appoint the firm, corporation, or organization.

After you choose a representative, you must tell Social Security in writing as soon as possible. To do this, you may use a form on Social Security's website, or your representative can help you.

**Your Right To Representation**

You can have a representative, such as an attorney, help you when you do business with Social Security. We'll work with your representative, just as we would with you.

For your protection, in most situations, your representative can't charge or collect a fee from you without first getting written approval from us. However, your representative may accept money from you in advance as long as they hold it in a trust or escrow account.

Both you and your representative are responsible for providing us with accurate information. Providing false information knowingly, or willfully, is illegal. If you do, you may face criminal prosecution.

**What a representative can do**

After you appoint a representative, he or she can act on your behalf before Social Security by:

- Getting information from your Social Security file;
- Helping you understand information;
- Coming with you to interviews, meetings, or hearings with us;
- Requesting a reconsideration or an Appeals Council hearing;
- Helping you prepare for a hearing and appeal.

Your representative will also receive a copy of the decision(s) that we make on your claim(s).

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You can choose a representative. A qualified person also has more than one representative. However, you can't have someone who, by law, can't act as a representative. Also, you can't have someone the Social Security Administration has suspended or disqualified from representing others.

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You can appoint one or more people in a firm, corporation, or other organization as your representative, but you can't appoint the firm, corporation, or organization.

After you choose a representative, you must tell us in writing as soon as possible. To do this, you may use Form SSA 1696-L34, Appointment of Representative, from our website at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) or from any Social Security office.

You must give the name of the person you're appointing and sign your name. If the individual isn't an attorney, he or she must also sign the form.

**What your representative may charge you**

To charge you a fee for services, your representative must first get our written approval. Usually, we'll approve the agreement and tell you in writing how much your representative may charge as long as:

- You both signed the agreement;
- We approved your claim, and you're getting past due benefits; and
- You're a system.

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[www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)

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Your Right To Representation



## SOCIAL SECURITY CELEBRATES 80 YEARS!

**This year, the Social Security Administration proudly celebrates its 80th anniversary.** On August 14, 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act, landmark legislation that continues to provide hope and protection to some of the most vulnerable members of society. Acting Commissioner Carolyn W. Colvin marked Social Security's historic birthday by reaffirming the agency's commitment to the public.

"As Social Security celebrates its 80th anniversary, we remain the underpinning of economic security of this country, and will continue to be a strong foundation for the next 80 years and beyond," Acting Commissioner Colvin said. "Social Security is the most successful domestic program in America's history. Providing outstanding customer service to the public has been a cornerstone of our agency's mission since the beginning and will continue into the future."



Earlier this year, Social Security launched a commemorative 80th anniversary website where people can learn more about the agency's legacy and the importance of the Social Security program. The public has used the website, [www.socialsecurity.gov/80thanniversary](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/80thanniversary), to submit stories that show how Social Security has benefited them or their families. Social Security employees around the country have also expressed their enthusiasm and support through the agency's "Why I Serve" campaign, which highlights employees telling their own stories illustrating why they enjoy giving back through public service.

Social Security will host a ceremony at the agency's headquarters in Baltimore to commemorate the occasion. U.S. Congressman Elijah E. Cummings (D-MD) will join Acting Commissioner Colvin and Social Security employees at the event. "I am deeply honored to have longtime friend and staunch Social Security supporter Elijah Cummings join us in celebrating our 80th birthday," Acting Commissioner Colvin said.

The agency is also celebrating "America's Favorites: Baseball, Hot Dogs, Apple Pie & SSA" Night at Major and Minor League baseball games across the country.

Source: <http://www.ssa.gov/news/press/releases/#/post/8-2015-1>

*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 Social Security disability and Veterans' disability 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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