



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



Welcome to our February e-newsletter! I hope you've had a good start to 2014 so far, and that you are as determined as we are to make it the best year yet! For our latest edition, we decided on two topics that we've been hearing a lot about lately. The first article explains in three easy steps how to change your name on your Social Security card, which is something that we are asked about frequently. And our next article contains some good news: Social Security has announced a list of new conditions that will now qualify for Compassionate Allowances, and we have included the list for your reference.

While we try to be as informative as possible in our newsletters I understand that, sometimes, there is just no substitute for a more personal means of communication. That's why we want to invite you to give us a call or send us an email with any questions you may have about Social Security disability benefits. Over the years, our team has earned experience in every aspect of Social Security disability, and we are always happy to share what we know to help make the process easier for you.

So take a look at this month's articles, and let us know if you have any questions. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

Sincerely,

**IN THIS ISSUE**  
Letter From Jan  
New Benefits Technology  
New Health Care Website  
Jan Dils Law Blog

**JAN DILS**  
Social Security Disability  
law blog

RECENT POSTS:

**Celebrating 20 Years of Success**

**Benefits approved! What happens next?**

**January 2014 MVP - Jan Dils Attorneys at Law**

**Are you eligible for Social Security back pay?**



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## HOW DO YOU CHANGE THE NAME ON YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY CARD?

### Follow the steps below, changing your name on your Social Security card is as easy as 1-2-3!

#### Step 1: Gather documents proving your:

- Legal name change;

Marriage document;  
Divorce decree;  
Certificate of Naturalization showing a new name; or  
Court-ordered name change.

- Identity; and U.S. citizenship (if you have not established your citizenship with Social Security) or immigration status (including Department of Homeland Security permission to work in the United States.

#### Step 2: Complete an Application for a Social Security card.

#### Step 3: Take or mail your completed application and documents to your local Social Security office.

All documents must be either originals or copies certified by the issuing agency. Social Security cannot accept photocopies or notarized copies of documents. Any documents you mail to Social Security will be returned to you along with a

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receipt.

### **Important Information**

Social Security will mail your card as soon as they have verified your documents. You should receive your card within 10 business days from the date on your receipt. The new card will have the same number as your previous card, but will show your new name.

**DOWNLOAD FORM**



Source: <https://faq.ssa.gov/ics/support/kbanswer.asp?deptID=34019&task=knowledge&questionID=1995>



**SOCIAL SECURITY ANNOUNCES  
NEW COMPASSIONATE  
ALLOWANCES CONDITIONS**

Carolyn W. Colvin, Acting Commissioner of Social Security, recently announced 25 new Compassionate Allowances conditions, including a dozen cancers, bringing the total number of conditions to 225. The Compassionate Allowances program expedites disability decisions for Americans with the most serious disabilities to ensure that they receive their benefit decisions within days instead of months or years. The new conditions also include disorders that affect the digestive, neurological, immune, and multiple body systems.

"We are dedicated to providing vulnerable Americans with faster access to disability benefits through our Compassionate Allowances program," said Acting Commissioner Colvin. "Social Security disability benefits are a vital lifeline for individuals who are facing severe diseases and we must ensure that they receive the benefits they rightly deserve."

The Compassionate Allowances program identifies claims where the applicant's disease or condition clearly meets Social Security's statutory standard for disability. By incorporating cutting-edge technology, the agency can easily identify potential Compassionate Allowances and quickly make decisions. To date, almost 200,000 people with severe disabilities have been approved through this fast-track disability process.

The Compassionate Allowances program is a significant initiative that highlights collaboration between government, medical experts, advocacy groups, and members of the public. Social Security has conducted public outreach hearings and gathered feedback from various stakeholders to identify conditions that are most likely to meet the agency's definition of disability.

"I am extremely pleased that the SSA has included Prostate Cancer in its Compassionate Allowance list -- a decision that will save lives, and give more patients access to treatment options," said Congressman Elijah Cummings (D-MD). "Working with constituents fighting this disease, I know just how life altering it can be, as well as how many will benefit from this change in policy." For more information on the program, including a list of all Compassionate Allowances conditions, please visit

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

#### **New Compassionate Allowances Conditions:**

- Angiosarcoma
- Atypical Teratoid/Rhabdoid Tumor
- Chronic Idiopathic Intestinal Pseudo Obstruction
- Coffin- Lowry Syndrome
- Esthesioneuroblastoma
- Giant Axonal Neuropathy
- Hoyeaal-Hreidarsson Syndrome
- Intracranial Hemangiopericytoma
- Joubert Syndrome
- Leptomeningeal Carcinomatosis
- Liposarcoma- metastatic or recurrent
- Malignant Ectomesenchymoma
- Malignant Renal Rhabdoid Tumor
- Marshall-Smith Syndrome
- Oligodendroglioma Brain Tumor- Grade III
- Pallister-Killian Syndrome
- Progressive Bulbar Palsy
- Prostate Cancer - Hormone Refractory Disease - or with visceral metastases
- Revesz Syndrome
- Seckel Syndrome
- Sjogren-Larsson Syndrome
- Small Cell Cancer of the Thymus
- Soft Tissue Sarcoma- with distant metastases or recurrent
- X-Linked Lymphoproliferative Disease
- X-Linked Myotubular Myopathy

Source: <http://www.ssa.gov/pressoffice/pr/compassionate-allowances-0114-pr.html>

*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-Morgantown 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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