

Injury Disability Newsletter

Social Security News



Spencer & Spencer Attorneys at Law

Every case is important to our clients,
and every client is important to us.

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This issue's articles focus on compassionate allowances, long lines at SSA and the economic recovery package.

COMPASSIONATE ALLOWANCES

List of Conditions Fast-Tracks Some Cases

If you or someone you know is applying for disability, take a look at whether you have one of the 50 impairments - 25 rare diseases and 25 cancers - on the list. If you do, it may allow your application to be fast-tracked.

The policy allows applicants to receive a decision on their disability application within days, if their medical conditions are so severe that they obviously meet Social Security's definition of disability.

[SSA's Compassionate Allowances](#)

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LONG LINES AT SSA

Baby boomer retirements, combined with a "retirement wave" of the Social Security Administration's most experienced staff, could create unprecedented backlogs and long lines.

The Government Accountability Office report, "[Social Security Administration: Service Delivery Plan Needed to Address Baby Boom Retirement Challenges](#)," found that staffing in field offices has already dropped more than 4 percent and that field offices kept up only by deferring work they considered low priority. Not surprisingly, customer satisfaction has dropped from 84 percent to 81 percent.



The report states that "SSA estimates that retirement and disability filings will increase the agency's work by about 1 million annual claims by 2017. Further, SSA will experience an agency-wide retirement wave in the coming years-the agency projects that 44 percent of its staff will retire by 2016."

THE STIMULUS AND SS BENEFITS

Are You Eligible for the Tax Rebate?



You may have read that the economic stimulus package will give one-time \$250 payments to people on Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, and military disability and pensions.

To find out if you are eligible for a stimulus payment or if you have other questions about the stimulus bill, check [the IRS website](#), where you will find the most accurate and up-to-date information about the tax rebates.

Spencer & Spencer takes all types of Social Security cases, including Social Security Disability (SSDI), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Children's SSI and Social Security appeals - to the Appeals Council and Federal Court.

We also represent clients who are seeking Colorado Workers' Compensation and Veteran's Disability benefits.