



242 St. Paul Street Westfield, 07090 | (908) 232-7400 | <http://VanarelliLaw.com>

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Special Needs Planning News is a monthly e-newsletter that brings you legal developments and trends of vital interest to individuals with special needs and their advocates. This Newsletter is brought to you by Donald Vanarelli, Attorney at Law.



How Disabled Does A Veteran Have To Be In Order To Qualify For Needs-Based VA Pension Benefits?

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides two (2) types of monetary benefit programs for veterans. These monetary benefit programs are separated into benefits for (1) service-connected disabilities and (2) non-service-connected disabilities. The primary benefit for non-service-connected disabilities is the VA "pension" benefit.

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SSA Liberalizes Rules on When Special Needs Trusts Can Reimburse Family Members for Travel

For years, the Social Security Administration (SSA) has placed strict limitations on when special needs trusts can distribute payments to family members for travel expenses. But things just got a little easier.

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Are State ABLE Programs Sustainable? Disability Advocates Raise Concerns

State ABLE savings programs aren't attracting enough account holders to keep afloat financially, according to early projections. Changes are needed, say disability advocates.

DETAILS



New Qualifications for ALJs Are Bad News for Social Security Beneficiaries, Legal Experts Warn

President Trump has issued an executive order that could compromise the independence of federal agency judges, most of whom work at the Social Security Administration (SSA).

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Contributions to ABLE Accounts May Now be Eligible for the Saver's Credit

Certain low- and middle-income workers will now be eligible for a tax credit when they contribute to ABLE accounts for people with special needs.

FULL STORY



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