

**OUR SERVICES**

**OUR TEAM**

**RESOURCES**

**CONTACT US**

## The Wait For A Social Security Disability Decision

### *What You Should Know About The Process*



Typically, the Social Security Administration (SSA) makes a decision on an applicant's eligibility for disability compensation within three to five months. The timing depends on how long it takes the SSA to receive relevant medical records and other evidence to reach a decision.

Unfortunately, disability benefits are sometimes delayed or denied despite an applicant's qualifications. The Khaki Law Firm is here to help you fill out the application, set up your claim, and evaluate your appeal options in the event of a denial. We understand how critical it is for disabled individuals to receive monthly income

benefits.

### **How Does the Disability Claims Process Work?**

Once you submit an application, the SSA forwards your information to a state agency that reaches out to any healthcare professionals who contributed to your medical records. The state may request additional forms or examinations if necessary to determine your disability eligibility. Fortunately, the state agency will pay for any additional examinations or tests it requires.

Since the SSA is responsible for checking your records, neither a statement from your doctor regarding your impairment nor current disability payments from a different organization will be enough to prove your eligibility for benefits. As time consuming as it may be, this procedure is meant to verify the severity of a medical condition as well as its expected duration.

**[CLICK HERE TO CONTINUE READING](#)**

## What to Expect from a Social Security Disability Psychological Exam

*And How to Prepare*



Proving that you qualify for social security disability benefits involves undergoing various exams. This includes a psychological exam performed by a physician, psychiatrist, or psychologist who is paid by the Social Security Administration (SSA) but not employed by them. This distinction helps reduce potential bias in diagnosis or evaluation.

Who examines you will depend on whether you have any pre-existing conditions as well as the degree to which they impact your disability. It's the responsibility of psychological evaluators to learn more about your mental health and overall condition as it pertains

to your disability claim.

### **The Mental Status Exam**

The psychological exam portion of an SS disability claim determines whether any mental impairments affect your ability to work and specifically looks to identify any reduced cognitive function. Your memory, awareness, mood, and language skills will all be evaluated by medical professionals in a Mental Status Exam (MSE).

You may be asked to remember a few words throughout the exam, discuss your childhood, view images, and describe what you see. Physicians may also look for indications of suicidal or homicidal thoughts and evaluate your hygiene and appearance to determine your ability to care for yourself.

If you have a history of psychiatric conditions such as bipolar disorder or schizophrenia, or mood disorders like anxiety and depression, you may be evaluated by a psychiatrist (MD). They will diagnose you and make recommendations on whether further evaluations and treatment or give opinions on work-related limitations.

**[CLICK HERE TO CONTINUE READING](#)**

## Celebrate Self-Care Awareness Month

*By Taking Some Time For Yourself*

“

"With every act of self-care your authentic self gets stronger, and the critical, fearful mind gets weaker. Every act of self-care is a powerful declaration: I am on my side, I am on my side."

-SUSAN WEISS BERRY

THE  
**KHAKI**  
LAW FIRM LLC  
DISABILITY LAW

Self-Care Awareness Month in September is a time to remind us that taking care of ourselves is essential. Self-care is often neglected in our everyday lives. We all tend to put others needs before our own and it is crucial to remember, that we cannot fill another's cup from our own empty vessel. While getting a massage or taking a walk are beautiful examples of taking time for our well-being, self-care can be more expansive than that.

True self-care is not self-centered nor selfish; it is simply keeping yourself the focus of your own life. It's about paying attention to how you feel in each moment, communicating clearly and speaking up for yourself. Some good, simple, self-care tips:

- Sleep
- Move Around or Exercise
- Keep a Strong Social Support
- Make Time for a Hobby

Use the month of September to make self-care a part of your daily routine - practice being good to yourself. The kindness we show towards ourselves will manifest into a kinder world.

## The Veteran Bravery Nomination

*"Valor is Stability, Not of the Legs and Arms, But Courage and the Soul"*

*Valor is Stability, Not of the Legs and Arms, But Courage and the Soul*  
-John F. Kennedy

Throughout history, many have willingly volunteered to fight for our freedom and have selflessly protected us by risking their own lives. We are excited to announce that this year, for Veteran's Day, we will be recognizing a veteran for all they've done for our freedom. As such, we are now hosting **The Veteran Bravery Nomination** to recognize those who have risked their lives to serve this country.

If you or a loved one have served this country, please take the time to fill out our nomination form for a chance to win a \$500 Visa Gift Card and be recognized as a small thank you. We are now accepting nominations and will continue to do so until Veterans Day, November 11, 2020. To learn more about this nomination and to fill out the form, please visit our **website**.



## We Imagine a World Without Pulmonary Fibrosis

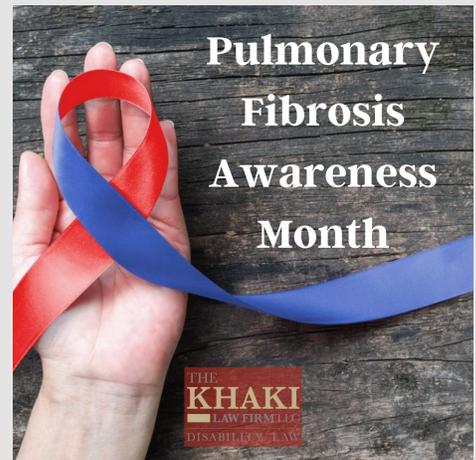
*Every Breath Counts*

During September, Pulmonary Fibrosis (PF) Awareness Month makes a concentrated effort toward spreading knowledge, increasing activities, support, and funding for those affected by this life-altering disease. PF is a group of devastating lung diseases that cause scarring in the lungs. The scarring limits the oxygen intake necessary for the brain, heart and other organs to function.

Symptoms include a dry, hacking cough and shortness of breath. Patients are often misdiagnosed. PF affects over 200,000 Americans. 50,000 new cases are diagnosed each year.

A diagnosis of Pulmonary Fibrosis can be devastating- the condition is very debilitating and severe. As such, the Social Security Administration has included PF as one of the 88 conditions that qualify an individual for faster disability approval under the SSA's Compassionate Allowances guidelines.

While there is no cure, research is underway. Data in the Registry will be used in studies that will lead to a better understanding of how to diagnose, treat and eventually cure the disease.



## Client Testimonial:

***Thank You Laurie T. For The 5 Star Review!***

Thank you for the wonderful review Laurie! At The Khaki Law Firm, we provide our clients the legal guidance they need to live the life they deserve. Our mission is to zealously advocate for the disabled and injured members of our society while adopting a holistic approach to an unpredictable disability process that incorporates empathy with excellent communication skills and quality care derived from our guiding values and our drive to always be ahead of the Social Security Administration. If you need help with your social security disability case, call us at (678) 228-8688.



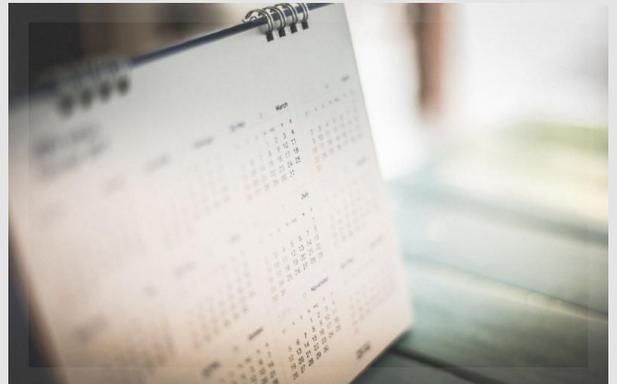
"These folks got our family through a confusing and desperate process that would have been a frightening ordeal without their guidance and sweet concern. They have even been following up periodically to make sure we are still having no further problems, and we are grateful to everyone there."

-Laurie T.

THE  
**KHAKI**  
LAW FIRM LLC  
DISABILITY LAW

## *Calendar of Events:* **September 2020**

September 3: In court; Virtual  
September 11: In court; Virtual  
September 14: In court; Virtual  
September 15: In court; Virtual  
September 16: In court; Virtual  
September 17: In court; Virtual  
September 18: In court; Virtual  
September 21: In court; Virtual  
September 22: In court; Virtual  
September 23: In court; Virtual  
September 24: In court; Virtual  
September 30: In court; Virtual



\*Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, all in-person Social Security Disability Hearings have been rescheduled to a telephone hearing. Contact us at (678) 225-8688 if you have any questions.\*

## Contact Us!

The Khaki Law Firm  
Main Office: 3562 Old Milton Parkway  
Alpharetta, GA 30005

By Appointment Only: Buckhead

(678) 228-8688  
[TheKhakiLawFirm.com](http://TheKhakiLawFirm.com)



Stay Connected



The Khaki Law Firm Team



CLIENT SATISFACTION

SOCIAL SECURITY & DISABILITY  
LAW DIVISION

American Institute of  
Legal Counsel™



Super Lawyers®  
RISING STARS 2018

