

Social Security Administration
Retirement, Survivors and Disability Insurance
Important Information

Date: 03/31/2014

SSN: _____

Dear _____

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

We are writing to let you know that we are suspending your disability benefits. We also are suspending the benefits of anyone entitled to benefits under your Social Security record. We are suspending these benefits because we believe that fraud or similar fault was involved in providing evidence that we used to find you disabled.

Recently, the New York County District Attorney's office filed criminal charges against an attorney representative and three other individuals. The attorney representative is Raymond Lavalce and the other individuals are Thomas Hale, Joseph Esposito and John Minerva. These individuals are charged with making false statements or representations to the Social Security Administration in the medical and other reports they provided to us. At least two doctors were also involved in the scheme.

One or more of these sources provided evidence in your case that we used to find you disabled. In light of the evidence obtained in the criminal investigations and the review of the evidence in your file, we are suspending your benefits while we redetermine whether you were entitled to benefits on 10/08/07, the date we initially allowed your claim.

If We Do Not Hear From You

If you believe this information is incorrect, you have 10 days to respond. If we do not hear from you in that time, we will make our final decision.

If you have information to show this decision is incorrect, please send it to:

Social Security Administration

result, we have redetermined your claim to benefits and decided that you were not disabled on 10/08/07, the date we initially found you entitled to benefits. When we redetermined your case, we disregarded the following evidence:

Dr. Edward Sodaro report received on 08/06/07

Mr. Raymond Lavalley reports received on 07/05/07

If You Disagree With The Decision

If you disagree with this decision, you have the right to appeal. We will review your case and consider any new facts you have. A person who did not make the first decision will decide your case.

- o You have 60 days to ask for an appeal.
- o The 60 days start the day after you get this letter. We assume you got this letter 5 days after the date on it unless you show us that you did not get it within the 5-day period.
- o You must have good reason for waiting more than 60 days to ask for an appeal.
- o You have to ask for an appeal in writing. We will ask you to sign a form SSA-561-U2, called "Request for Reconsideration." You may contact one of our offices or call 1-800-772-1213 to request this form. Or you may complete this form online at <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disability/appeal>. Contact one of our offices if you want help. Send the completed form to:

Social Security Administration
Disability Processing Branch
PO Box 319100
Jamaica NY 11431-9819

If You Want Help With Your Appeal

You can have a friend, lawyer, or someone else help you. There are groups that can help you find a lawyer or give you free legal services if you qualify. There are also lawyers who do not charge unless you win your appeal. Your local Social Security office has a list of groups that can help you with your appeal.

If you get someone to help you, you should let us know. If you hire someone, we must approve the fee before he or she can collect it. And if you hire a lawyer, we will withhold up to 25 percent of any past due Social Security benefits to pay toward the fee.

Social Security Administration

Retirement, Survivors and Disability Insurance

Notice of Disapproved Claim

DATE: June 02, 2014 06/02/2014

[REDACTED]

SSN: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

We are writing to you about your Social Security benefits. We recently looked at your disability claim again to make sure our decision was correct. We took this action because we believe that fraud or similar fault was involved in providing evidence that we used to find you disabled.

After reviewing all of the information carefully, we now find that you were not entitled to Social Security disability benefits on 10/08/07, the date we initially allowed your claim. We are stopping your benefits.

The law requires us to redetermine certain claims when we believe benefits in those cases may have been obtained based on fraud or similar fault. When we redetermine these cases, we disregard evidence if we think that you or someone else made an incorrect, incomplete or fraudulent statement that we relied on in making our decision that you were disabled. The New York County District Attorney's office filed criminal charges against an attorney representative and three other individuals. The attorney representative is Raymond Lavallee and the other individuals are Thomas Hale, Joseph Esposito and John Minerva. These individuals are charged with making false statements or representations to the Social Security Administration in the medical and other reports they provided to us. At least two doctors were also involved in the scheme.

One or more of these individuals provided evidence in your case that we used to find you disabled.

We have reviewed the facts and the evidence in your case. We have decided that Dr. Edward Sodaro and Mr. Raymond Lavallee provided incorrect, incomplete or fraudulent evidence to us and that fraud or similar fault was involved in your application for disability benefits. As a

result, we have redetermined your claim to benefits and decided that you were not disabled on 10/08/07, the date we initially found you entitled to benefits. When we redetermined your case, we disregarded the following evidence:

Dr. Edward Sodaro report received on 08/06/07

Mr. Raymond Lavalley reports received on 07/05/07

If You Disagree With The Decision

If you disagree with this decision, you have the right to appeal. We will review your case and consider any new facts you have. A person who did not make the first decision will decide your case.

- You have 60 days to ask for an appeal.
- The 60 days start the day after you get this letter. We assume you got this letter 5 days after the date on it unless you show us that you did not get it within the 5-day period.
- You must have good reason for waiting more than 60 days to ask for an appeal.
- You have to ask for an appeal in writing. We will ask you to sign a form SSA-561-U2, called "Request for Reconsideration." You may contact one of our offices or call 1-800-772-1213 to request this form. Or you may complete this form online at <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disability/appeal>. Contact one of our offices if you want help. Send the completed form to:

Social Security Administration
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PO Box 319100
Jamaica NY 11431-9819

If You Want Help With Your Appeal

You can have a friend, lawyer, or someone else help you. There are groups that can help you find a lawyer or give you free legal services if you qualify. There are also lawyers who do not charge unless you win your appeal. Your local Social Security office has a list of groups that can help you with your appeal.

If you get someone to help you, you should let us know. If you hire someone, we must approve the fee before he or she can collect it. And if you hire a lawyer, we will withhold up to 25 percent of any past due Social Security benefits to pay toward the fee.

Social Security Administration
Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance
Notice of Change in Benefits

Northeastern Program
Service Center
1 Jamaica Center Plaza
Jamaica, New York 11432-3898
Date: June 9, 2014
Claim Number: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

We are writing to give you new information about the disability benefits which you receive on this Social Security record. In the rest of this letter, we will tell you:

- How we paid you \$199,754.00 too much in benefits; and
- What to do if you think we are wrong about the overpayment.

We recently looked at your disability claim again to make sure our decision was correct. After reviewing all of the information carefully, we found that you were not entitled to Social Security disability benefits since September 2006.

Your Benefits

Since we did not stop your payments until April 2014, you were paid \$199,754.00 too much in benefits.

If you have any questions about this overpayment, you may call us toll free at 1-855-676-5800. We can answer most questions over the phone. You can also write or visit any Social Security office.

Information About Medicare

Since you are no longer entitled to monthly Social Security disability benefits, you are not eligible for Medicare insurance. Therefore, your Medicare terminates back to September 2008.

Since your Medicare entitlement is no longer valid, please ignore any Medicare premiums bill that you may receive.

Please, destroy your Medicare card; it is no longer valid.

SEE NEXT PAGE

How To Pay Us Back

You should refund this overpayment within 30 days. Please make your check or money order payable to "Social Security Administration," and send it to us in the enclosed envelope. Include your claim number (as shown above) on your check or money order.

If you cannot refund the full \$199,754.00 now, please send:

- A partial payment
- An explanation of why you cannot pay the full amount now, and
- A plan to repay the money

Do You Think We Are Wrong About The Overpayment?

You have certain rights with respect to this overpayment and its recovery.

1. **Right to Appeal:** If you disagree in any way with this overpayment determination, you have the right, within 60 days of the date you receive this notice, to request that the determination be reconsidered. If you request this independent review of the overpayment determination, please submit any additional information you have which pertains to the overpayment.

2. **Right to Request Waiver:** You also have the right to request a determination concerning the need to recover the overpayment. An overpayment must be refunded or withheld from benefits unless both of the following are true:

- a. The overpayment was not your fault in any way, and
- b. You could not meet your necessary living expenses if we recovered the overpayment, or recovery would be unfair for some other reason.

If you request waiver, we may need a statement of your assets and monthly income and expenses.

If you request reconsideration and/or waiver within 30 days, the overpayment will not have to be recovered until the case is reviewed. This review is described in more detail on the attached form SSA-3105, Important Information About Your Appeal and Waiver Rights. The people in any Social Security office will be glad to help you complete the forms for requesting reconsideration (SSA-561-U2, Request for Reconsideration) and/or waiver (SSA-632-BK, Overpayment Recovery Questionnaire).

SEE NEXT PAGE

Even if you do not want to request reconsideration or waiver, please call, write or visit any Social Security office if you have questions or need more information. Please take this letter with you if you do visit an office.

Do You Think We Are Wrong?

If you do not agree with this decision, you have the right to appeal. We will review your case and look at any new facts you have. A person who did not make the first decision will decide your case. We will review the parts of the decision that you think are wrong and correct any mistakes. We may also review the parts of the decision that you think are right. We will make a decision that may or may not be in your favor.

- You have 60 days to ask for an appeal.
- The 60 days start the day after you receive this letter. We assume you received this letter 5 days after the date on it unless you show us that you did not receive it within the 5-day period.
- You must have a good reason if you wait more than 60 days to ask for an appeal.
- You can file an appeal with any Social Security office. You must ask for an appeal in writing. Please use our "Request for Reconsideration" form, SSA-561-U2. You may go to our website at www.socialsecurity.gov/online/ to find the form. You can also call, write, or visit us to request the form. If you need help to fill out the form, we can help you by phone or in person.

If You Want Help With Your Appeal

You can have a friend, representative, or someone else help you. There are groups that can help you find a representative or give you free legal services if you qualify. There also are representatives who do not charge unless you win your appeal. Your local Social Security office has a list of groups that can help you with your appeal.

If you get someone to help you, you should let us know. If you hire someone, we must approve the fee before he or she can collect it. And if you hire a representative who is eligible for direct pay, we will withhold up to 25 percent of any past due benefits to pay toward the fee.

SEE NEXT PAGE

Suspect Social Security Fraud?

Please visit <http://oig.ssa.gov/r> or call the Inspector General's Fraud Hotline at 1-800-269-0271 (TTY 1-866-501-2101).

If You Have Questions

We invite you to visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov on the Internet to find general information about Social Security. If you have any specific questions, you may call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213, or call your local Social Security office at 1-866-964-7375. We can answer most questions over the phone. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, you may call our TTY number, 1-800-325-0778. You can also write or visit any Social Security office. The office that serves your area is located at:

SOCIAL SECURITY
510 PARK AVENUE
WEST BABYLON, NY 11704

If you do call or visit an office, please have this letter with you. It will help us answer your questions. Also, if you plan to visit an office, you may call ahead to make an appointment. This will help us serve you more quickly when you arrive at the office.

If you need to write to the office that has your records, the address is:

NORTHEASTERN PROGRAM SERVICE CENTER
1 JAMAICA CENTER PLAZA
JAMAICA, NEW YORK 11432-3898

Social Security Administration

Enclosure(s):

Form SSA-3105
Refund Envelope