 Visited 03/29/2017

Meet Our New Acting Commissioner

Posted on **February 9, 2017** by **Nancy Berryhill, Acting Commissioner for Social Security**

On January 23, I became the acting commissioner of Social Security. That makes me responsible for overseeing one of the nation's largest and most important social insurance programs, providing retirement, survivors, and disability protection to almost all Americans. With a $12 billion budget and almost 64,000 employees serving in more than 1,500 offices across the country and around the world, plus 16,000 state employees making disability determinations, we issue more than $960 billion in payments to nearly 66 million people each year. I am humbled to lead an agency with a legacy and continuing mission that helps so many people.

I'm no newcomer to Social Security. I've been with Social Security for forty years, beginning my career as a student employee. My previous position, as the deputy commissioner for Operations, our organization's largest component, provided me with tremendous insight on the enormous scale of not only what we do, but why we do it. Before I served in executive leadership positions at Social Security, I was on the frontlines providing the critical assistance the public needs. My experience as a claims clerk, service representative, claims representative, operations supervisor, district manager, and area director helped define who I am and affirmed my commitment to serving you. All of the amazing teams I've worked with over the years have helped me

Get blog updates

TAG CLOUD

apply online benefits change address Disability disability benefits disability insurance earnings fraud medicare medicare card my account My Social Security mySocialSecurity my social security account myssa my SSA online online services replacement Social

implement several expanded-service delivery options for the public and develop innovative initiatives that wouldn't have been possible otherwise. The dedication of the workers in Social Security's "family" are unwavering and unmatched.

I'm looking forward to using our history of professional excellence to remain mission-focused and mission-driven. Social Security is with you through life's journey, helping you secure today and tomorrow, and I'm proud to honor that promise.

RELATED POSTS

Social Security Benefits U.S. Citizens Outside the United States

Save Our Cities

Helping America Plan for Retirement

There For You During Life's Uncertainties

Discover a Whole World of Retirement Possibilities

(Visited 14,645 times, 11 visits today)

This entry was posted in **General**, **Special Events**, **Uncategorized** and tagged **Acting Commissioner**, **Acting Commissioner Nancy Berryhilll**, **Americans**, **area director**, **claims clerk**, **claims representative**, **Disability**, **district manager**, **Nancy Berryhill**, **operations supervisor**, **retirement**, **service representative**, **social insurance programs**, **Social Security Acting Commissioner**, **social security payments**, **Survivors** by **Nancy Berryhill, Acting Commissioner for Social Security**. Bookmark the **permalink**.

About Nancy Berryhill, Acting Commissioner for Social Security

Nancy Berryhill, Acting Commissioner for Social Security

View all posts by Nancy Berryhill, Acting Commissioner for Social Security →

285 THOUGHTS ON "MEET OUR NEW ACTING COMMISSIONER"

joshua jackson on **February 9, 2017 at 1:38 pm** said:

I would like to see the Social Security

Security Card retire retirement retirement benefits Retirement Estimator Retirement Planner retirement planning retire online social security social security act Social Security benefits social security card social security disability social security disability benefits Social Security Number Social Security statement Social Security taxes SSA SSA benefits ssdi ssi SSN supplemental security income Survivors survivors benefits taxes tax season

POSTS IN:

- Aging (5)
- Cola (3)
- Disability (56)
- Fraud (6)
- General (18)
- General Questions (31)
- Guest Bloggers (9)
- Health Care (11)

Administration be a place where no one experiences any kind of hostility, no matter of age or ethnicity.

Reply ↓

les
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:21 pm** said:

agreed!

Reply ↓

MB McMahon
on **February 9, 2017 at 3:06 pm** said:

Agree.

Reply ↓

Angela McGill
on **February 9, 2017 at 3:52 pm** said:

Welcome to your new adventure. Agree, Look forward to see what the future holds for our Social Security.
I wish the WEP program could be reviewed, sad to think someone that worked 20 years and paid into social security, if they were then lucky to land a state pension job for the next 30 years, comes to find the 20 hard working years will not collect them their paid in social security monies. How is this double dipping. the

- **History** (14)
- **Medicare** (13)
- **Office of the Inspector General** (2)
- **Online Services** (65)
- **Open Government** (4)
- **Privacy & Identity** (8)
- **Retirement** (54)
- **Special Events** (17)
- **SSDI 60th** (7)
- **Survivors** (19)
- **Taxes** (12)
- **Uncategorized** (31)
- **Work With SSA** (3)

BLOG ROLL

- **Commerce**
- **Disability.Gov**
- **HUDdle**
- **Medicare Blog**
- **NIMH**
- **Retirement Matters**
- **SSA Choose Work**
- **Treasury Notes**
- **VAntage Point**
- **Warrior Care**
- **White House**
- **Work In Progress**

ARCHIVES

- **+ 2017 Expand Archive**
- **+ 2016 Expand Archive**
- **+ 2015 Expand Archive**

person earned it all, worked hard for it all, and the two jobs were unrelated?

Reply ↓

comp.bil on **February 9, 2017 at 6:08 pm** said:

I think there has always been a rule about, a time limit, or as you will, a statute of limitation, concerning the number of your you can let pass and still be eligible. Good common sense would agree, that if you could retire twice, SS would have to have credit quarters paid in the last 5 years.

Vandee DeVore on **February 16, 2017 at 5:03 pm** said:

Andrea, while I agree the WEP

Visited 03/29/2017

should be calculated on a proportional basis of time not covered by Social Security, I have to disagree on a point. WEP is about fairness. An individual that has not paid SS their entire career should NOT earn the SAME benefit as the individual that DID pay their entire career. That is what WEP was supposed to fix, albeit the percentages didn't achieve that goal. The fix needs to be in the calculation of WEP, not an entire repeal.

Norma Padilla
on **February 10, 2017 at 4:51 am** said:

Good

Reply ↓

Beth Sorenson
on **March 2, 2017 at 1:40**

pm said:

I agree as well

Reply ↓

Cesar
on March 6, 2017 at 10:28 am said:

Vandee, WEP is totaly unfair! The years that you did not pay into Social Security are already factored in, they are added as zero's to those years not worked, then all of the amounts, zero's and not are divided by 30, or whatever that number might be.

Reply ↓

Marsha Armstrong
on February 9, 2017 at 3:15 pm said:

I agree..at 69 I collect SS and still have to work full-time..approx 250-300 is taken in taxes but in the review by SS I did get an increase in my SS check of 63.00 and then Medicare B went up more than that so I lose! The only country that makes it hard for elderly to have peace in golden years and has no respect…we are treated as a burden

Reply ↓

Brenda Hollis on **February 9, 2017 at 3:31 pm** said:

So true, I applied for benefits at age 62 and have yet to receive any response. I'm 64 now still working, by the time I know if SS will pay out I could be homeless..

Reply ↓

Sharon Tucker on **February 10, 2017 at 8:49 am** said:

I'd go to a different Social Security office. I've dealt with 2 different offices and they both have been extremely helpful.

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist on **February 10, 2017 at 12:54 pm** said:

Thank you Sharon! We're pleased we can help. We will continue our efforts to meet your requirements and expectations in the years to

come.

Cwicks on **February 10, 2017 at 10:18 am** said:

Brenda Hollis, If you applied for SS at 62, and have had no response, contact SS asap, I signed my husband up in June over the internet and he started to receive shortly after, something sound like it didn't actually signed up. Good luck to you.

Reply ↓

BrendaB on **February 12, 2017 at 6:06 pm** said:

Exactly!! I signed up at age 62 and had $$ within 3mos! I did it all online with no problems! Welcome to the new acting director and please DONT TAKE ANY BULL FROM TRUMP!!!'n

 Visited 03/29/2017

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist on **February 10, 2017 at 12:47 pm** said:

Please call us at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778), Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.; or contact your local Social Security office as soon as possible. Thanks.

Reply ↓

Hope Faith on **February 27, 2017 at 10:25 pm** said:

Brenda Hollis, if you are saying you applied for Early Retirement two years ago and have not heard anything for SSA. You need to go into your local Social Security Office. Be sure and take any papaerwork or other proof you have that you filed.

Reply ↓

comp.bil on **February 9, 2017 at 6:11 pm** said:

Why are you paying taxes? Do

you have a 401,? or some other income?

Reply ↓

Sharon
on **February 10, 2017 at 2:33 pm** said:

I agree without adequate increases the elderly are hurting financially. Cannot afford their drugs or medications which have risen in cost dramatically. Many seniors stop taking the meds needed. The cost of living has increased and the senior population suffers because of it. The excuse for not getting increases was that the gas prices have gone down. Not many seniors can even afford to drive or maintain the upkeep of a car. The rising cost of med, insurance deductibles, co-pays and food is the hardship.

Reply ↓

Linda Duos
on **February 24, 2017 at 7:09 pm** said:

Linda, you are so right I have worked since 15, I am now 67, not in the best of health, but work to supplement my income. I had not had a cost of living increase in seven years, but got one last year and guess what. My supplement premium went up in same amount. Also, since I retired as a teacher, but worked other jobs, I am not allowed to

collect SS for both. NOT FAIR!! I did the work, put into SS for each job. Why can't I get that money. That's not double dipping–its being productive and good work ethics, but I get penalized for it.

Reply ↓

Elaine M. Harrison
on **February 9, 2017 at 3:53 pm** said:

I am on Social Security and I am tired of everyone acting like I am entitled. As many who receive benefits. I worked for 40 years and my employers and I put in for social security and Medicare. I do not know if you are a Trump appointee but do not sacrifice us to the whims of Congress. I also pay tax on my social security as I have a pension. I see many senior citizens just barely existing on benefits and what is next the poor house. Again if Congress had to exist on Medicare and Social Security benefits, they would not be cut. Social Security funds were raided to pay for the Vietnam War.

Reply ↓

Christina Stansberry
on **February 9, 2017 at 4:26 pm** said:

christinastnsberry7@gmail.com, christina stansberry is a celebrity with self-employment on record in ssi office only receives what they think less than kindergartens for lunch receive, $4.50-$160.00 a month ! please pas the word! suppose to receive $1400.00 for 6months and compassionate

allowance $10,000 family members worked foreign affairs for government retired! johnny walker!

Reply ↓

Marc
on **February 9, 2017 at 4:28 pm** said:

Unfortunately, no one at Social Security has any power to reign in what Trump and this scheming Congress have in store for us. The Republicans in Congress have been struggling to privatize Social Security since the Bush administration (George W.) and now they've got the majority in both houses AND Trump to sign off on every nasty thing they haven't been able to get past the last administration for 8 years.

For instance, they've introduced several bills in just the past few weeks since the first of the year to privatize Social Security and eliminate Medicare, insyead providing benegiciaries with a fixed sum of money (and you can bet it won't be much), i.e., "vouchers," with which we're supposed to purchase our own health insurance on the "open market." As every one of us knows good and we'll, there is no way we can purchase health insurance as seniors and/or disabled persons. EThis is what's going on even as we read this blog every day and voice our petty complaints about the wait times on hold and most people aren't even aware of it. You can

read the bills as they're proposed and follow their progress at Congress.gov. It has the full text of every bill in all its forms and tracks every action taken, who voted and how, and whether or not it passes.

Reply ↓

Kathy Aanestad on **February 11, 2017 at 12:39 am** said:

Insurance companies should NOT be able to profit from our health and welfare. It is unethical, bad for society, and especially those suffering from disease.

Reply ↓

Auntie T on **February 13, 2017 at 1:35 pm** said:

Elimination of MEDICARE? How are we supposed to survive? My medical costs are enormous; over $65k for my life sustaining drugs. We're not even including visits to the doctor! I am extremely disabled, and can't work at all! I don't qualify for services WE PAID INTO, yet illegals do. Deport most, not all of them so we can have our resources again.

This seems unchristian? Is it Christian to force homeless Americans to live in encampments because our shelters are full? (Out of sight is out of mind. (I pray I can keep my Medicare and Social Security!). Why do I earn too much on my SSDI to qualify for food stamps, yet illegals get them? Is THAT fair? This isn't a political issue; it's an AMERICAN issue!

Reply ↓

S T on **February 14, 2017 at 3:47 am** said:

What on earth makes anyone think that undocumented immigrants get federal benefits? They do not, and can not.

comp.bil on **February 9, 2017 at 6:15 pm** said:

Johnson was not the first or the last, including Obama to tap the coffers of the FICA accounts.

Reply ↓

Visited 03/29/2017

John
on **February 9, 2017 at 5:02 pm**
said:

How about everyone applying that ethic to all matters in every day interactions, especially in the social media?

Reply ↓

Russ
on **February 9, 2017 at 6:09 pm**
said:

On my infrequent visits to SSA I have always been treated courteously and in a business-like manner. On one special trip, an employee caught me as I was going to the elevator, to return for an improved outcome.
Greeting the SSA employee pleasantly is a good place to start.

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist
on **February 10, 2017 at 11:54 am** said:

Thanks for your feedback Russ! We value your opinion of us and look forward to many more years of serving you in the future.

Reply ↓

Jerry
on **February 10, 2017 at 12:52 pm** said:

I couldn't agree with you more Russ…I've had similar experiences…especially when I have had to call. I found very professional and helpful people to be of assistance. I was pleasantly surprised since there seems to be so much negativity towards the Social Security Administration from both the news organizations and the social media.

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist on **February 14, 2017 at 9:01 am** said:

Thank you for your comment Jerry. Thank you for your support!

Reply ↓

tl on **February 10, 2017 at 6:51 am** said:

Thank you. I really agreed.

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist on **February 10, 2017 at 9:38 am** said:

We appreciate your feedback Joshua and apologize if you had an unpleasant

experience while using our services. Usually, our employees take great pride in offering the best service possible. If you would like to submit a more detailed comment, complaint or suggestion, you can write to us or send us an email message. Thanks!

Reply ↓

Nellie kay sullins
on **February 10, 2017 at 12:55 pm** said:

I sent a simple note ,along with my daughters check stubs , (she is handicapped),asking you to clarify how many hours she could work, and how much she could make ,and of course never got an answer.

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist
on **February 14, 2017 at 9:41 am** said:

Hi Nellie. If your daughter is receiving benefits under the Supplemental Security Income or SSI, and is working, please visit this link to a summary about SSI Work Incentives. Our publication Working While Disabled — How We Can Help provides information to individuals receiving “regular” disability benefits (SSDI). You can call our toll free number at 1-800-772-1213 for further assistance. Representatives are available Monday through Friday, between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. You will generally have a shorter wait time

if you call later in the day or later in the week. Thanks.

Reply ↓

Torrell Brown
on **February 12, 2017 at 12:03 am**
said:

I Torrell Brown think that ssa and ssi should grant there employees more on the pay roll because of the hard work coming out of there check to pay to help people like me that are disabled also the ssi and ssa checks should be raised at least 7 % every year

Reply ↓

Christina Downing
on **February 12, 2017 at 11:28 pm**
said:

agreed….

Reply ↓

Martha
on **February 13, 2017 at 1:02 am**
said:

Of course, but why is that the 1st thing you say to her?

Reply ↓

Isabelle
on **February 17, 2017 at 3:38 am**
said:

O agree. It seems every so often someone new shows up with bright promises. What you don't see is the triumphs we go through. Maybe you turn the other check. But your offices are terrible. Your players attitudes are negative. I am not begging for something I have worked and put away. I agree if you don't earn it you don't deserve it. Many people do deserve it. I have seen people committed suicide because of denials. I like to know who do you people sleep at night? I want see a person who wants to serve, help, make a difference. I don't want sweet words, empty promises because that is politically correct. Please do something. There are people out there that's are a lot fading away. Hope, joy . Please for once do something no one ever has. Do the right thing. Be a rebel go gain the the grain. Help the American people get what they deserve and they have worked for. . Stop the fraud, favoritism, bad employees, kick backs . Your speech is nice. But right now I need solutions. I need help .

Reply ↓

PAUL BLUM on **February 9, 2017 at 1:45 pm** said:
Stop federal income tax on social security!!

Reply ↓

Bill
on **February 9, 2017 at 1:59 pm**
said:

Amen!
The worst part of that law is that the income "thresholds" for taxation of benefits is NOT indexed for inflation. Millions more are paying tax than when

the law was first passed.

Reply ↓

John
on **February 9, 2017 at 5:03 pm** said:

Income thresholds are indexed for inflation.

Reply ↓

Don Wallace
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:05 pm** said:

I agree, Social Security Income should not be taxed. Tax on Social Security income is Tax on Tax. That is disgusting!

Reply ↓

Aloha Grambi
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:11 pm** said:

Not really. We pay into Social Security while we are working and we are not taxed on those dollars at that time. When we receive payments then we are taxed.

Reply ↓

les
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:20 pm** said:

agree. Also, it's only taxable if your income exceeds $25k for a

single individual

Reply ↓

Klik
on **February 9, 2017 at 3:06 pm** said:

Also the company/business you work for match the contributions. Just honk of it being their portion being taxed.

Reply ↓

Constance Betz
on **February 9, 2017 at 3:26 pm** said:

What the heck are you talking about??? I can hardly make it on the money I get every month. If I have to pay tax on that I will be homeless. Not that you care!!!!

Reply ↓

Brenda Hollis
on **February 9, 2017 at 3:33 pm** said:

Yes , you are taxed, thise deductions on pay checks are taked from ur grosd earning then u get

ur net pay…

Reply ↓

comp.bil on **February 9, 2017 at 6:20 pm** said:

I think you are the only one in this conversation that is not retired in some form !

Marian on **February 9, 2017 at 4:09 pm** said:

I believe tax is figured on gross income, before SS, or Medicare are taken out. So those that have to pay tax on SS when they are receiving the benefits, are actually being taxed twice. .

Reply ↓

Russ on **February 9, 2017 at 6:13 pm** said:

The people whose SSA is subject to FIT

have 40K or more of additional income (pension, dividends, stock trading profits.)

John
on **February 9, 2017 at 5:07 pm**
said:

We do pay income tax on out entire wage base including the amount w/h for FICA until we reach the threshold amount. We are then taxed on 85% the SSA that we receive that exceeds either 25 thousand or 32 thousand if married.

Reply ↓

Celeste
on **February 9, 2017 at 6:19 pm**
said:

I do not know where you got the idea that workers are not taxed for Social Security and Medicare while working. The only time the Social Security and Medicare tax deductions are not considered while working is when you have pre-tax benefits as in Section 125 provisions, and/or

when you have reached the annual limit for Social Security. Medicare has no limit so you will pay the tax for however long you work. Another option to not paying Social Security and Medicare is if the worker is paying/subscribing to another Welfare and Pension Plan that they will draw their retirement/disability benefits from when they retire or they are disabled.

Reply ↓

comp.bil on **February 9, 2017 at 6:23 pm** said:

Maybe you can get around this SSA and Medicare, are NOT a tax

Cwicks on **February 10, 2017 at 10:30 am** said:

Aloha Grambi, FYI: Yes, you are taxes on S.S. and Medicare when you are working and paying in S.S. and Medicare, and Federal and State

taxes depending on what State you live in for the State tax.

Reply ↓

Vandee DeVore on **February 16, 2017 at 5:10 pm** said:

The amount of SS Retirement Benefit that you receive far exceeds the amount that you ever paid in as a tax.

Reply ↓

Pauline Buchanan on **February 9, 2017 at 2:29 pm** said:

I agree!

Reply ↓

CHUCK on **February 10, 2017 at 12:06 pm** said:

Don Boy,Did you know you DO NOT HAVE TO PAY TAXES ON YOU S.S. Just go TO a S.S. Office AND ASK TO FILL OUT A FORM SAYING YOU DO NOT WANT TO PAY TAXES ON YOUR S.S. CHECK ANY MORE.THEN IT WILL BE ON YOUR CHECK FROM THEN ON.

Reply ↓

Visited 03/29/2017

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist on **February 10, 2017 at 12:41 pm** said:

Please read our Benefits Planner: Income Taxes And Your Social Security Benefits web page.

Reply ↓

Vuong Pham on **February 9, 2017 at 2:09 pm** said:

I agreed. We have been taxed over taxes… over taxes… 10 times already. Let's stop that burden on our last resource.

Reply ↓

Joanne on **February 9, 2017 at 2:13 pm** said:

Yes we don't get that much and our cost of living raise is so small.
Most of us don't have a pension with companies we worked for.

Reply ↓

BB on **February 9, 2017 at 2:31 pm** said:

Visited 03/29/2017

AMEN to that Paul!

Reply ↓

MB McMahon
on **February 9, 2017 at 3:15 pm** said:

I believe that any money earned outside of Social Security should be taxed. Our benefit should not be added to the additional earnings, increasing the amount which is taxed.

Reply ↓

maggie
on **February 10, 2017 at 7:37 am** said:

when i retired at 66 ssi told me i could earn as much as i wanted if i decided to go back to work….well that was all changed by that thief obama…now i pay income tax on my social security and of course my earnings as i did decide to return to work! this needs to return to the original law and quickly!

Reply ↓

Dr Eli Edith, PhD
on **February 14, 2017 at 12:41 am** said:

Obama had nothing to do with it. First of all only Congress can tax, spend or levy taxes or appropriate funds. You are misinformed. Dr Eli Edith

Reply ↓

S T
on **February 14, 2017 at 3:50 am** said:

No one at Social Security told you that if you had earnings you would not have to pay taxes. Social Security does not give out IRS advice.

Reply ↓

S T
on **February 14, 2017 at 3:53 am** said:

What someone may have told you is that your retirement benefit would not be reduced due to earnings once you reached Full Retirement Age.. though I thought it was after age 70 when the earnings limit is eliminated entirely.

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist
on **February 14, 2017 at 1:52 pm** said:

The retirement earnings test applies only to people below normal retirement age

also known as full retirement age.

Hope Faith on **February 27, 2017 at 10:34 pm** said:

maggie, you were told when you retire at Full Retirement Age, how much you earn from working has no affect on your Social Security Retirement. Your total income is what determines if you pay federal income taxes. This is not new.

Reply ↓

Karen Bauer on **February 9, 2017 at 1:46 pm** said:

I hope you will fight with all you have not to allow Trump, Ryan, McConnell and others on Capitol Hill destroy SSA. Unlike most, SSA is my sole income; I'd hate to think what it would mean without it.

Reply ↓

Collyn on **February 9, 2017 at 1:50 pm** said:

Save Medicare, too!

Reply ↓

Melissa on **February 9, 2017 at**

1:55 pm said:

And Medicaid.

Reply ↓

Mike Wukitsch on **February 9, 2017 at 2:35 pm** said:

Trump, Ryan and McConnell are not trying to destroy SS, Medicare or Medicaid. Remember it was the democrats, with Al Gore casting the deciding vote as Vice President) that brought about the taxing of our SS funds. And, it was both parties who decided to dip into the SS Fund to “borrow” money for use elsewhere in the budget. The whole lot of those politicains need to be replaced and the SS Fund needs to go back to being used solely for SS payments.

Reply ↓

Dangafl on **February 9, 2017 at 3:01 pm** said:

Bravo Mike, so many in our society are quick to blame without stopping and researching their

Visited 03/29/2017

comments.
Very good
catch!
Dan

Salvatore R LaRosa on **February 9, 2017 at 3:12 pm** said:

you’re right Mike. Also I do not trust the Congress to pay back all they borrowed. Acting Commissioner. Does she support our President Trump? We want a Commishioner for the Seniors and the people.

L Galbreath on **February 9, 2017 at 3:16 pm** said:

From the SSA.GOV site: Q3. Which political party started taxing

Visited 03/29/2017

Social Security annuities?

A3. The taxation of Social Security began in 1984 following passage of a set of Amendments in 1983, which were signed into law by President Reagan in April 1983. These amendments passed the Congress in 1983 on an overwhelmingly bi-partisan vote.

The basic rule put in place was that up to 50% of Social Security benefits could be added to taxable income, if the taxpayer's total income exceeded certain thresholds.

The taxation of benefits was a proposal which came from the Greenspan Commission appointed by President Reagan and chaired by Alan Greenspan (who went on to later

Visited 03/29/2017

become the Chairman of the Federal Reserve).

The full text of the Greenspan Commission report is available on the website.

President's Reagan's signing statement for the 1983 Amendments can also be found on our website.

A detailed explanation of the provisions of the 1983 law is also available on the website.

MB McMahon on **February 9, 2017 at 3:18 pm** said:

Agreed.

MB McMahon on **February**

Visited 03/29/2017

9, 2017 at 3:19 pm said:

I agree.

Marc on February 9, 2017 at 4:35 pm said:

False and incorrect. Whether Republican or Democrat, this Congress IS currently working on eliminating all 3 programs mentioned. As my earlier post says, you can read the actual text of the bills currently being advanced through the House that will end all 3 programs. Congress.gov. Not only the text, but every action taken and who sponsors each bill as well as every vote cast and who voted year or nay. This is the official website of the United

States Congress.

Richard1950 on **February 10, 2017 at 12:25 am** said:

I don't caress with that it was all in 2006 & 2007 that the republicans that went into ss used the funds

Sharon Tucker on **February 10, 2017 at 9:08 am** said:

I agree. And if they "borrowed" the funds, they should be forced to put the funds back in there. The elderly should not be punished financially for being old. We gave many good years of service, paid our taxes, paid into SS and now they want to find ways to

Visited 03/29/2017

use this money for other things. That is unacceptable.

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist on **February 10, 2017 at 12:53 pm** said:

Social Security is a pay-as-you-go system. Social Security taxes collected from today's workers pay the benefits of today's retirees. Any funds in excess of what is needed to pay today's benefits are invested in special issue, U.S. Government, interest-bearing securities. This investment – the purchase of U.S. Government securities – is what constitutes the "borrowing" that people are sometimes concerned about. Any funds that have

Visited 03/29/2017

been "borrowed" from the Social Security Trust Funds have always been paid back in full, plus interest. Please check out our Trust Fund Frequently Asked Questions web page for more information.

Barb on **February 10, 2017 at 10:01 am** said:

Good response.

Shirley on **February 14, 2017 at 9:32 am** said:

True Mike!

AKA on **February 9, 2017 at 5:12 pm** said:

And blue whales!

Reply ↓

comp.bil
on **February 9, 2017 at 6:27 pm** said:

Medicaid is controlled by the state, pay attention to what your state legislature is doing, concerning that.

Reply ↓

cathyk
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:05 pm** said:

I agree. If you need more funding maybe stop the limit on ss tax withheld and make it on all wages, even the 500,000 earners,

Reply ↓

Aloha Grambi
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:11 pm** said:

Agreed!

Reply ↓

Patty
on **February 9, 2017 at 3:11 pm** said:

Amen

Reply ↓

 Visited 03/29/2017

James
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:34 pm** said:

The newly elected President Donald J Trump has promised to protect your SSA and Medicare programs. That is way more than Obama ever did. Obama gave us Obamacare, a program that, by design, is now disintegrating as costs go through the roof until the whole house collapses.

Reply ↓

Dangafl
on **February 9, 2017 at 3:10 pm** said:

Great point. Maybe more people are now covered but with insane $6500 deductibles and $15000 max out of pocket. Also many providers are not accepting the low cost plans as well as many carriers have pulled out of the market. We're stuck, or pay a fine!

Reply ↓

MB McMahon
on **February 9, 2017 at 3:20 pm** said:

Totally agree.

Reply ↓

misery chick
on **February 9, 2017 at 4:21 pm** said:

Why would you EVER believe that narcissistic liar? I truly don't mean to be disrespectful but do you actually pay attention to what he's been saying, and worse, DOING?!? Lord help us ALL.

Reply ↓

Marc
on **February 9, 2017 at 4:43 pm** said:

In January 2015, the very first bill Congress passed was one that CUT Social Security benefits for disabled persons on SSDI by 20%, effective January 1, 2016. (You will recall that the election in 2014 gave the majority of both houses to the Republicans.) President Obama refused to sign that bill, and negotiated a budget deal with congressional Republicans to continue paying SSDI (NOT SSI) recipients their full benefits through 2016. It's Obama you have to thank if you're disabled and living on SSDI that you didn't get 20% whacked right off the top every month.

Reply ↓

AKA
on **February 9, 2017 at 5:14 pm** said:

20% fantasy, do you have another fake story?

Reply ↓

Visited 03/29/2017

Dr Eli Edith, PhD on **February 14, 2017 at 12:44 am** said:

You are right. Thanks for educating everyone
Dr Eli Edith

Reply ↓

Dr Eli Edith, PhD on **February 14, 2017 at 12:45 am** said:

It was Marc I said was correct
Dr Eli Edith

LyndaP on **February 9, 2017 at 6:44 pm** said:

Trump is a classic sociopathic/narcissist. He lies constantly about almost everything. His only allegiance is to himself and possibly his children. He has bankrupted at least 4 of his businesses and has not paid many contractors for completed work. He has no idea how to run America. He will flush our society in a heartbeat unless we RESIST.

Reply ↓

Richard1950
on **February 10, 2017 at 12:30 am** said:

I don't believe any that man and his friends in Washington say out they mouths Trump a big lier don't truth him about anything he say…

Reply ↓

Richard1950
on **February 10, 2017 at 12:40 am** said:

I don't believe any that man and his friends in Washington say out they mouths Trump a big lier I don't truth him about anything he say…

Reply ↓

Dr Eli Edith, PhD
on **February 14, 2017 at 12:46 am** said:

agreed

Reply ↓

Dale E.
on **March 11, 2017 at 10:40 pm** said:

How can you even say that? Have you even read the Republican proposals? Trump

has flip-flopped on many other promises. But hey, you know “it’s gonna be great!” Oh, and b/t/w “Obamacare” was originally a republican idea. Look it up.

Reply ↓

DOMINGO ARROYO
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:45 pm** said:

I agree!

Reply ↓

MB McMahon
on **February 9, 2017 at 3:20 pm** said:

Manny, many like you!

Reply ↓

John
on **February 9, 2017 at 5:10 pm** said:

No one is proposing the destruction of SS except Democrat talking heads trying to scare the folks. Remember starving grandma and throwing her off the cliff? The demagoguery continues.

Reply ↓

maggie
on **February 10, 2017 at 7:41 am** said:

current medicare and social security benefits will not change for those of us who have reached retirement age…the laws will change to encourage the younger generations to save their own money for retirement (better return anyway)….health insurance for seniors who are not well WILL have to be subsidized by the govt in some form….insurance for people with renal disease and alzheimers and cancer will most likely be very expensive

Reply ↓

Gonzalo A. Quinones on **February 9, 2017 at 1:47 pm** said:

Please, do not let Trump put another no-nothing leading the SOCIAL SECURITY.. You know the rest…

Reply ↓

DOMINGO ARROYO on **February 9, 2017 at 2:46 pm** said:

I agree!

Reply ↓

Carole McGinty on **February 9, 2017 at 1:52 pm** said:

I would like to see that the Social Security Administration makes sure that Only Living Citizens of the USA are receiving benefits from their contributions .

It is time to get the records up to date and accurate.

Reply ↓

chris
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:39 pm**
said:

Congratulations and best wishes for your new position. I am sure you will thrive in this new administration that finally understands people and works for the people instead of special interest groups and businesses. Godspeed

Reply ↓

L Galbreath
on **February 9, 2017 at 3:19 pm**
said:

From the SSA>GOV site:
Q5. Which political party decided to start giving annuity payments to immigrants?

A5. Neither immigrants nor anyone else is able to collect Social Security benefits without someone paying Social Security payroll taxes into the system. The conditions under which Social Security benefits are payable, and to whom, can be found in the pamphlets available on the website.

The question confuses the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program with Social Security. SSI is a federal welfare program and no contributions, from immigrants or citizens or anyone else, is required for eligibility. Under certain conditions, immigrants can qualify for SSI benefits. The SSI program was an initiative of the Nixon Administration and was signed into law by President Nixon on October 30, 1972.

An explanation of the basics of Social Security, and the distinction between

 Visited 03/29/2017

Social Security and SSI, can be found on the Social Security website.

Reply ↓

Roberto Argentini on **February 9, 2017 at 1:52 pm** said:

Good Afternoon Acting Commissioner Nancy Berryhill,

I wish to congratulate you on your appointment and your introductory e-mail sent to me. I appreciate all of the services and attention which Social Security offers.

Best Wishes and Continued Success!

Reply ↓

Ralph grorge on **February 9, 2017 at 2:24 pm** said:

Well said

Reply ↓

Samuel Brandt on **February 9, 2017 at 3:04 pm** said:

Agreed & well said. She sounds as if she is very competent and a low very considerate of her customers…

Reply ↓

Jacqueline Willis on **February 9, 2017 at 1:52 pm** said:

It would extremely benificial to all involved if the Medicare and SS offices shared the same "system". Reason: I have been on Medicare for 2 years now. I use the SS office for inquiries and corrections to Med B premiums. Although all the SS employees are extremely nice, the premiums continue (2 years and counting!) to be incorrect. The Medicare Ofc instructs me to talk to the SS Offices! The SS Offc instruct me to contact Medicare Ofc.??? It's truly unbelievable that this continues and continues and continues AND I am told that I MUST pay whatever premium is reflected on the Medicare Bill be in correct or incorrect or else I'll be throw off. So far I've paid way more than is correct. I do wish this could be resolved…

Reply ↓

AKA
on **February 9, 2017 at 5:17 pm**
said:

Write in to your Representative.

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist
on **February 10, 2017 at 9:48 am**
said:

Hi Jacqueline. Unfortunately and because of security reasons we do not have access to personal records in this blog. Please continue working with your local office. You should be allowed to speak with the manager to see how we can help to expedite resolution of your situation. If you would like to submit a more detailed comment, complaint or suggestion, you can write to us or send us an email message. Thanks!

Reply ↓

Phyllis Bell on **February 9, 2017 at 1:53 pm** said:

I have just been approved and I want to say thank you and I know you will do a good job.We need you

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist on **February 10, 2017 at 9:50 am** said:

Thanks for your comment Phyllis! We appreciate your thoughts. We are committed to providing the public with the best service possible.

Reply ↓

Maureen on **March 7, 2017 at 4:18 pm** said:

Oh really, the way your employees treatment of when I explained she continued to cut me off, even though it was wrong I asked for supervisor no one is listening, the next person said I can't cancel my payee, vi have the form for cancel payee doctor signed and dated sense last year, I've gone to the office in Anaheim CA and now San Diego CA, I was thrown out because I have few different things from your employees and either was listing or allowed me to process my application. Now really appreciate your lack of help. There attitude was deliberate rud.

Visited 03/29/2017

Reply ↓

Marcel on **February 9, 2017 at 1:53 pm** said:

I agree with Joshua; in the SSA office in my city, I have experienced several times getting abrupt cold answers to my inquiries. When a person of color is talking to the SSA representative, the clerk seems to have all the time in the world, making suggestions on how to get additional benefits detailing programs, and being generally very friendly and courteous. Most of the service reps in the office that I use are also African Americans. I think the service reps profile folks and assume that white people must have enough money and that is why they are not helpful or courteous.
"Don't judge a person by the color of his or her skin, but rather the content of his/ her character!"

Reply ↓

Mwesten
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:15 pm**
said:

Waukegan office.

Reply ↓

Ralph grorge
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:26 pm**
said:

Well said

Reply ↓

BJane
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:30 pm**
said:

Words used by the late, and great, Martin Luther King Jr, and a statement that is truer than true. The treatment you receive cannot be excused; however, perhaps now you could possibly empathize with the same treatment, and worse, that Black people and others of color have been receiving for years and years.

Reply ↓

Dangafl
on **February 9, 2017 at 3:16 pm** said:

Sorry Bjane, there is no excuse for rudeness.

Reply ↓

Sharon Tucker
on **February 10, 2017 at 9:32 am** said:

You've heard of the program "Undercover Boss". Maybe you or someone you appoint should visit certain SS offices and pose as someone asking questions to see just how these offices respond. I've visited 2 separate offices (1 extremely busy) and both get high marks from me. Some people are just not cut out to work with the public and maybe should work behind the scenes or not work there at all.

Reply ↓

H Martin Prather on **February 9, 2017 at 1:53 pm** said:

Welcome! Hope you can support the President's initiatives! Itis time to move on.

I am retired on SS and look forward to continued participation in the program.

Reply ↓

Joan St Germain on **February 9, 2017 at 1:53 pm** said:

When are retirees getting a raise in Social Security?

Reply ↓

Bill on **February 9, 2017 at 2:01 pm** said:

I'm so surprised you didn't notice it. It went up 3/10 of 1%. My wife's check went up a whole $3.

Reply ↓

Aloha Grambi on **February 9, 2017 at 2:13 pm** said:

Except that the rate hike for Medicare ate it up.

Reply ↓

Charleeta Southwick on **February 9, 2017 at 3:23 pm** said:

Congratulations on your appointment . Please look into widow benifits. I was sixty-two when my husband passed. Therefore I could not recieve his full amount. They gave me a

choice of living on my $400.00 SS for three years or take a portion of his funds now. Some choice. You should be able to get the full amount when you turn sixty-five. Let them try to live on $1200.00 a month for the rest of their life having multiple chronic conditions. Thank you for your letter and your time.

Reply ↓

misery chick on **February 9, 2017 at 4:32 pm** said:

LOL-that response was meant for Bill, not you, Charleeta. I'm very sorry for your situation.

Reply ↓

misery chick on **February 9, 2017 at 4:25 pm** said:

LOL

Reply ↓

Gloria Perry on **February 9, 2017 at 1:54 pm** said:

Please help persons like me whose Dr says I cannot work ever and my previous job of 24 years retired me on disability but SS says I am too young to be disabled. I was treated so badly during my hearing I was devastated for days. I can't work and cant get any assistance from SS. I'm not

understanding.

Reply ↓

Melissa
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:03 pm**
said:

If you put paid work hours in, you should be able to get SSDI. I don't think there is a specific age where it says you are too young to get SSDI. I got mine at about age 24 or so. I had enough work credits so I could get SSDI.

Reply ↓

F. Adkins
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:20 pm**
said:

there is no such thing as being to young for ssdi. Did you do it alone or use an attorney qualified in denials of claims? If you don't have one get one that specializes in SS cases.He doesn't get paid until you do,and since you have already started your case he can probably get it done alot sooner. When I went for mine I used a lawyer and only took a couple of months for approval. Good luck to you and hang in there.

Reply ↓

Rhonda Holloway on **February 9, 2017 at 1:55 pm**
said:

I would like to see people that were born disabled not fall between the cracks. They should be able to keep their money's even if they marry.
They could not help being born with disabilities so why should they be penalized because they were.

Don't they suffer enough .

Thank you
Rhonda Holloway

Reply ↓

F. Adkins
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:25 pm**
said:

They are not being penalized. It's a known fact a spouse becomes responsible for the disabled. They will take the tax credit and should have known this beforehand. That is why SS has such a great website and call handlers…so people don't jump into something if they don't know what they are doing. Sorry.

Reply ↓

AKA
on **February 9, 2017 at 5:22 pm**
said:

God forbid if you are adopted and the parent is forced to support you. Also, if you get married let's not require your spouse to support you either. Let's stick the tax payers with the bill, that's the answer. Pathetic.

Reply ↓

vjones
on **February 13, 2017 at 12:27 pm**
said:

If you receive SSI you will lose your benefits if your spouse income is over a certain low amount. SSI is a needs based program. SSDI will not necessarily make you lose your benefits. If two people who

receive SSI marry, their single benefit goes down to a couples benefit. Two cannot live on less. Living in “sin” becomes a necessary evil in order to pay your bills. Get a divorce and your SSI payments will continue. A piece of paper does not define true love.

Reply ↓

Chris Schelp on **February 9, 2017 at 1:56 pm** said:
Welcome to the new acting commissioner of social security. I hope you take a bright-eyed look from your new vantage point and see where the current issues are. Looking forward to change. Welcome again!

Reply ↓

Fred Bichl on **February 9, 2017 at 1:56 pm** said:
Please let us know immediately if the Trump administration and Congress try to interfere with Social Security in any way. We want to protect this program that we have paid for during our entire lives. We do not want our funds and objectives to be stolen by the forces of greed and deception.

Reply ↓

Aloha Grambi
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:19 pm**
said:

She works for them not us. She is a lifer so to ensure that she collects that incredible pension pretty soon, she will not be looking out for our best interests. Look what Trump did with that Attorney General who opposed him … she was fired.

Reply ↓

Mike Wukitsch
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:40 pm** said:

She was a political appointee who was fired for insubordination!

Reply ↓

misery chick
on **February 9, 2017 at 4:34 pm** said:

@ Mike Wukitsch- believe it or not, this gives me some hope!!

Reply ↓

AKA
on **February 9, 2017 at 5:23 pm** said:

Yep, let's fire a few more sycophants.

Reply ↓

James
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:39 pm** said:

Fred Bichi……..As the Democrats have been doing for years

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist
on **February 10, 2017 at 9:55 am** said:

Currently, there have been no changes to the Social Security programs. According to the Social Security Board of Trustees, the combined assets of the Social Security trust funds are projected to be depleted in 2034. If Congress does not act before then, there will only be sufficient income coming in to pay 79 percent of scheduled benefits. For more information, please visit https://www.ssa.gov/OACT/TR/2016/index.html. Thank you!

Reply ↓

nelsonalicea on **February 9, 2017 at 1:56 pm** said:
I hope you use the same standard for Puerto Rico as the rest of USA why we receive less benefit ….$$$$ when we paid the same amount like everybody else… I dont get it…

Reply ↓

Lawrence Lannoo on **February 9, 2017 at 1:56 pm** said:
I have visited a s s office 3 times and my opinion of all the employees were all cool and aloof. Also why all the armed guards?

Reply ↓

AKA
on **February 9, 2017 at 5:25 pm** said:

They heard a guy named Larry was

 Visited 03/29/2017

coming and heard he was a loose cannon.

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist
on **February 10, 2017 at 10:07 am** said:

Hi Lawrence. Our Security guards are present to ensure the safety and security of SSA employees, visitors, and property.

Reply ↓

Richrad Clutter on **February 9, 2017 at 1:57 pm** said:
If it is within your powers please see that Social Security is no longer taxed as income.

Reply ↓

Melissa
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:07 pm** said:

Mine (SSDI) isn't.

Reply ↓

F. Adkins
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:32 pm** said:

I agree you paid into it as a worker so it was already taxed and should not be double taxed.

Reply ↓

Vanessa Brooks on **February 9, 2017 at 1:57 pm** said:

I've been a Disabled Single Mother and fighting for Disability for about 3 years now and have lost everything. I pray you can help this process speed up.

Reply ↓

Melissa on **February 9, 2017 at 2:09 pm** said:

Can you get a Pro-bono lawyer to help? They don't get paid unless they win the case. And if they win, then they get a % of your back pay.

Reply ↓

F. Adkins on **February 9, 2017 at 2:34 pm** said:

That is the way disability attorneys have to work..if you don't win your case they get nothing.

Reply ↓

Dana Gossman on **February 9, 2017 at 1:58 pm** said:

Keeping up with my social security.

Reply ↓

Loraine F Sweetland on **February 9, 2017 at 2:00 pm**

said:

I don't think our SS should be taxed. And I think we should be able to survive on the amount we get each month. Many of us are widows who also worked most of our lives and still don't have enough money to to be able to pay our medical bills.

Reply ↓

Sharon on **February 9, 2017 at 2:01 pm** said:

social security is my sole source of monthly income. It would be nice if we could get a realistic cost of living increase without Medicare snatching it all away before we even see it. I got s $3/mo increase this year. Medicare part B premium went up $3. Nice planning. probably the only reason we got an increase at all since medicare can't increase premium if there's no SS increase.

Reply ↓

Melissa on **February 9, 2017 at 2:11 pm** said:

I totally agree.

Reply ↓

F. Adkins on **February 9, 2017 at 2:37 pm** said:

Me too…medicare should come at no cost,no co pays…no deductibles. You paid into it all your life so you can get the shaft when you need it? That is just greed on the governments part and they have a ton of excuses as to why it has to be that way.

 Visited 03/29/2017

Reply ↓

William Leroy Hicks on **February 9, 2017 at 2:01 pm** said:

Being 100% disabled I would like to know what all my rights are. Am I getting everything I'm suppose to?

I'm 70 years old now and my body is breaking down more and more.

Reply ↓

les on **February 9, 2017 at 2:22 pm** said:

after age 65 there are no disabililty benefits. You would simply continue to get your retirement.

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist on **February 9, 2017 at 4:56 pm** said:

Full retirement age had been 65 for many years. However, **beginning with people born in 1938 or later, that age gradually increases until it reaches 67** for people born after 1959. A person who reached his or her full retirement age will not be eligible for disability benefits.

Reply ↓

Aloha Grambi
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:26 pm**
said:

Find an advocate. Some cities have Case Managers who work with seniors. Usually health insurance companies have case managers. If you are in a Part D program then they'll probably have someone, if you are in traditional part A and B then probably not. Call 211 for your area and ask them if there are senior Advocates in your area. Go to you local senior center and ask if they can recommend once. Call and talk to a HICAP counselor. 211 should be able to get you that number for your area.

Reply ↓

Bob Bembenek on **February 9, 2017 at 2:02 pm** said:
Now that I am retied and rely on my SS for my primarily, at times only, source of income. I am thinking back, since I am inherently lazy, that it would have been prudent if I had been required to also contribute to another source of retirement income. I KNOW that is always was an option, BUT I didn't think I'd live this long and much less needing more $$ to do other things in retirement that I cannot afford to do.

In other words, continue SS, but require future applicants to subsidize another side fund as well.

Also it wouldn't hurt to have the higher income brackets and the rich folks who don't even need SS to contribute more % of thier income or not draw on it at all if they don't need too.

Your thoughts?

Reply ↓

F. Adkins
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:45 pm**
said:

you might apply to the extra help program to see if you qualify for benefits to help pay for ins and medicine…or move to Puerto Rico .

Reply ↓

LyndaP
on **February 9, 2017 at 7:04 pm**
said:

As of now, ss contributions are capped at around $118,000 a year. That is painfully low. It should be up to at least $250,000. Problem mostly solved. But do you really think the current administration would be a proponent of that? NO. People fail to see the logic in this. A healthy and happy citizenry means less crime, more education, etc.

Reply ↓

Hope Faith
on **February 27, 2017 at 10:49 pm**
said:

Bob Bembenek, Social Security Retirement was not meant to be a person's sole support in their retirement years. Everyone needs to save their money and plan for a rainy day and their retirement.

Reply ↓

Joanne on **February 9, 2017 at 2:02 pm** said:

 Visited 03/29/2017

I went to the Social Security office in Willimantic ST, on February 23rd and worked with Jay and he did a GREAT job. He was kind, helpful, and knowable.
This is the kind of person that works for you… thanks again

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist
on **February 9, 2017 at 5:03 pm**
said:

Thank you for your feedback Joanne! We're pleased we can help. Our employees are committed to providing the public with the best service possible. It's wonderful to know our efforts are paying off.

Reply ↓

gwen on **February 9, 2017 at 2:02 pm** said:
I've been working since the age of 12- I put myself through college and make a decent (not 6 figures or anything!) salary, pay taxes through the nose. I am now 62 , tired, awaiting the time I can get barely enough to live on- please don't take it away. I have no cable, no cell phone, a tiny (paid for) house, no debt -but I will not be able to make the golden years without that income- PLEASE don't let Trump ruin us!

Reply ↓

James
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:44 pm**
said:

Why don't you get an Obama phone??

President Trump will protect your benefits. Not raid the fund like the Democrats have been doing.

Reply ↓

F. Adkins
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:48 pm** said:

yeah right he has already said he will cut SS and he is trying to get rid of Medicare…that twit is out there to help no one but himself and his friends

Reply ↓

AKA
on **February 9, 2017 at 5:29 pm** said:

More fake news from the peanut gallery.

Reply ↓

LyndaP
on **February 9, 2017 at 7:07 pm** said:

Trump is a loose cannon who will say anything for the vote. He has no interest in your welfare. It's all about him and his billionaire buddies.

Reply ↓

Auntie T
on **February**

Visited 03/29/2017

13, 2017 at 2:26 pm said:

At least he only earns $1.00/year for his services. (Required.) I'd like to see ALL millionaires currently working for the governmework for FREE! I only am aware of one other: Former California governor Arnold Scwartchenegger (sp?). Why don't all government workers have to pay into SS, but are allowed to receive it when they retire? Imagine how much more money SS would have if those millions of THOSE Americans paid into it; like the rest of us!

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist on **February 14, 2017**

Visited 03/29/2017

at 10:41 am said:

Until 1984, employment by the Federal government was covered under the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and not by Social Security. People who began working for the Federal government in 1984 or later are covered by the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) instead of CSRS. **Work under FERS is covered by Social Security.**

Dr Eli Edith, PhD on February 14, 2017 at 12:58 am said:

why do Trump supporters always say fake news when they cannot defend Trump? They know Obama never raided SS,

presidents cant,
only Congress
can
Dr Eli Edith

Richard S. Wooden on **February 9, 2017 at 2:03 pm** said:

I am happy that the powers behind the appointment of Ms. Berryhill
to this most important position where able to recognize the experience that she possesses as a valuable and much needed asset.for the.Social Security Administration.
Many congrats and best wishes!.

Sincerely,
R.S.Wooden

Reply ↓

Phil Lefler on **February 9, 2017 at 2:04 pm** said:

I asked this question days ago with no response from SS. Why did my wife get her very small cost of living raise but I still did not get it on my check this year. Yes its a joke that after couple years its about four dollars but I'm not getting it. PHIL

Reply ↓

F. Adkins
on **February 9, 2017 at 3:41 pm**
said:

they raised the cost of something in SS to exactly the same amount as your cola.

Reply ↓

Visited 03/29/2017

AKA
on **February 9, 2017 at 5:31 pm**
said:

They can't answer questions about your wife's account unless you are her payee, you are wasting their time.

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist
on **February 10, 2017 at 10:52 am**
said:

Hi Phil. For some beneficiaries, their Social Security increase may be partially or completely offset by increases in Medicare premiums. For security reasons, we do not have access to personal information via this blog. We suggest contacting our toll free telephone number at 1-800-772-1213 and speaking to one of our representatives for specific questions. Representatives are available Monday through Friday between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Thanks!

Reply ↓

American Patriot on **February 9, 2017 at 2:04 pm**
said:

Please stop bashing President Trump. He promised not to make any changes to Social Security. However, there are others in Congress who have other ideas. Let's keep the story straight in a time of tremendous misinformation.

Reply ↓

Aloha Grambi
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:37 pm** said:

Really? This is a real concern. This is not based on misinformation. He has proven that he is not a man of his word. The Republicans led by President Trump want changes in the ACA, Medicaid, Medicare and Social Security. We have to let our concerns be known. We have to educate our communities on the ACA and how certain components have to be maintained if we are to protect our seniors. Many seniors are only fighting for their $1200 Social Security check to not be taxed. There are many other issues out there that will hurt them far worse. These seniors need to be educated and we need more advocates for these people.

Reply ↓

Mike Wukitsch
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:46 pm** said:

Please see my earlier comment on what happened to cause our SS income to be taxed. The only changes you may see on SS is a ferreting out of the SSDI and Medicaid cheats who get some of the money you might be receiving otherwise.

Reply ↓

James
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:46 pm** said:

ACA is collapsing on its own. It must be replaced!!!

Reply ↓

F. Adkins on **February 9, 2017 at 4:47 pm** said:

I am fine with ACA..it's only the rich bitching about it

Reply ↓

AKA on **February 9, 2017 at 5:38 pm** said:

That is not so, the ACA does not effect them so why would they bitch about it? The average Joe who can't pay the co pays and deductables,they ate the one's complaining. Of course the truth does not fit the liberal narrative, pitting one class against the other.

AKA on **February 9, 2017 at 5:34 pm** said:

The ACA is a piece of crap. We need advocates for seniors all right, but they need to know what they are talking about, not just spouting liberal drivel.

Reply ↓

F. Adkins
on **February 9, 2017 at 4:44 pm**
said:

he lied..as usual

Reply ↓

Paul Wilson on **February 9, 2017 at 2:06 pm** said:
I am so glad to know that a Real person is in charge and not a android.

Reply ↓

Marion gugliuzzi on **February 9, 2017 at 2:06 pm** said:
If you have nothing you get some aid. If your sole income is ss you get no cost of living increase to keep up with cost of living increases. It is hard to have to decide between food and paying your mortgage. Government big wigs get automatic pay increases weather they do a good job or not. Take care of the senior citizens, we have been taking care of ourselves without help long enough.

Reply ↓

Melissa
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:16 pm**
said:

SSDI is my sole income, and I get the (small) COLA increases. Have you looked into the SNAP program (food stamps)? That has really helped me a lot. I don't have to worry about food now.

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist on **February 10, 2017 at 11:09 am** said:

For information about the food stamps program, also called the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), contact your local SNAP office. We hope this information help

Reply ↓

Aloha Grambi on **February 9, 2017 at 2:39 pm** said:

In addition to SNAP, make sure that you are getting any utility assistance that you may be eligible for.

Reply ↓

Fonda Cobb on **February 9, 2017 at 2:09 pm** said:

Social securtity adm refuse process i asked appeal they force me work i cant high risk injury bones damage i ask appeal please asap proof face judge thank you..

Reply ↓

S. Henry on **February 9, 2017 at 2:09 pm** said:

Yes, only make Social Security better by having the Congress replace with,interest, all the money they so gleefully took from our Social Security. Do the Republicans not remember or even know that we paid into this plan for an annuity? You are only giving our investment back with interest, which is taxed. Taxes I do not mind, but the constant pressure Congress puts on me and my fellow Americans to foot the bill while living on lower fixed monthly income, and also trying to take that away to give to the upper echelon of people. I am tired of seeing the happy smirk on Ryan's face now that he can take everything away from older and handicapped individuals, even Veterans.
Thank You

Reply ↓

Mike Wukitsch
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:49 pm**
said:

Unfortunately, you are somewhat misinformed about Ryan, from my perspective. Tax and spend has been a democrat mainstay for many years. It might be why we have a $20 Trillion debt after only 8 years…ya think?

Reply ↓

AKA
on **February 9, 2017 at 5:41 pm**
said:

Yep, Johnson financed the RVN war with SS surpluses and what is borrowed has been collecting % but why bother with the truth?

Reply ↓

 Visited 03/29/2017

Tom on **February 9, 2017 at 2:15 pm** said:

Field offices should be open normal business hours 8-5, M-F

Reply ↓

John on **February 9, 2017 at 5:44 pm** said:

Right, and let's not give them any time to process their workloads. We'll just interview people and add their requests to the inbox never getting to anything. That's the answer alright.

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist on **February 10, 2017 at 11:04 am** said:

Thank you for your comment Tom. Our offices are open to the public on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays until 4:00 p.m. Every Wednesday at noon, offices are closed to the public so that employees have time to complete current work and reduce backlogs. Generally, when calling our toll free number at 1-800-772-1213, you will have a shorter wait time if you call later during the day or later during the week. Our representatives are available Monday through Friday, between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Remember that many services are conveniently available anytime at our website. Individuals can create a personal my Social Security account to get general information about our programs or manage their Social Security benefits. Also, we respond to questions and

 Visited 03/29/2017

provide general information on our Retirement, Survivors, Disability, Medicare and SSI programs through our Blog and Facebook page. If you have a general question, we encourage you to ask here. But remember, never post personal information on social media. We hope this helps!

Reply ↓

Christopher Land on **February 9, 2017 at 2:16 pm** said:

I'm Disabled and having a rough time of it , without counting pennies to try and just get by day to day .

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist on **February 10, 2017 at 11:11 am** said:

Hi Christopher. Individuals receiving disability benefits may also be eligible to receive social services from the state in which they live. These services include Medicaid, free meals, housekeeping help, transportation or help with other problems. You can get information about services in your area from your state or local social services office. Or you can visit the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services web page for more information. We hope this information helps!

Reply ↓

Marion gugliuzzi on **February 9, 2017 at 2:17 pm** said:

Also get ss changed back to a trust fund so no one

 Visited 03/29/2017

can touch it.the government got it put into a general fund so they could have access to it.This was wrong. If a lawyer touched a trust fund they would end up in jail.

Reply ↓

Mark on **February 9, 2017 at 2:18 pm** said:
Welcome ! You sound like the right person for the job, I will support and pray for you and good guidance in your position..

Reply ↓

Linda J Hall on **February 9, 2017 at 2:19 pm** said:
Like many of the others who have commented, good luck with your new assignment and I'm happy that you have so many years of experience with the Social Security System. I'd also like to comment on the fact that our Social Security benefits are considered taxable income. It's hard to believe that it's taxable when so many of us are just barely squeaking by as it is! All our bills, insurance, rent, utilities, medical co-pays and deductibles, etc. keep going up, but our income is stagnant! It's very stressful trying to make ends meet, but, I'm well aware that so many have it so much worse than we do. I'm hopeful that we will be getting a decent cost-of-living raise?

Reply ↓

Nathaniel E. Smith on **February 9, 2017 at 2:21 pm** said:
Commissioner Berryhill, I am looking forward to your leadership.

Reply ↓

 Visited 03/29/2017

les on **February 9, 2017 at 2:23 pm** said:

I am VERY pleased to see that the acting commissioner is someone who has actually worked for SSA instead of an uninformed political appointee!

Reply ↓

Susan M Mehan on **February 9, 2017 at 2:25 pm** said:

Picture I.D. cards would take away any doubt of who is receiving benefits. Death certificates could be sent by the issuing party that should cut down on the crimes associated with folks getting wrongful benefits. Please protect all medicare, medicaid, and social security benefits for those who have earned it!!

Reply ↓

James on **February 9, 2017 at 2:50 pm** said:

Democrats are against any type of photo I D They are afraid that a photo I D would eliminate all the voter fraud that helps Democrats get elected.

Reply ↓

James on **February 9, 2017 at 2:51 pm** said:

Liberals are against any type of photo I D They are afraid that a photo I D would eliminate all the voter fraud that helps Them get elected.

Reply ↓

 Visited 03/29/2017

James
on **February 9, 2017 at 2:52 pm** said:

Any type of photo I D They are afraid that a photo I D would eliminate all the voter fraud that helps Them get votes. The new Administration wants to end this criminal fraud.

Reply ↓

Lynn
on **February 9, 2017 at 4:04 pm** said:

How uninformed. Such political rhetoric. Any type of “federal” ID would have NOTHING to do with voter IDs as that’s a STATE issue. Voter identification laws are determined state by state.

Reply ↓

John
on **February 9, 2017 at 5:47 pm** said:

Who is talking about a federal ID? It is a State issue alright and resisted by every liberal in every State.

Reply ↓

Bill on **February 9, 2017 at 2:27 pm** said:
Congratulations Nancy!

 Visited 03/29/2017

I know you have a lot of experience with SS, but I hope you will take this new position as an opportunity to shake things up from bad past practices:

Social Security taxes should never have been approved under the Clinton administration. Time to repeal that!

Make sure future increase are tied to real needs of seniors and projected COL adjustments in the year they are implemented. This last increase was shameful.

Finally cut out waste in your Department and clean up the deadbeats in the system who should not be getting these cherished repayments of what we have already put in our long careers,

I stand ready to help, so Nancy, call on me!

Reply ↓

Vishnu Karnataki on **February 9, 2017 at 2:42 pm** said:

Nancy Berryhill, Acting Commissioner for Social Security

My Hearty Congratulations !!!!

Hopping for better & efficient services !!!!

Reply ↓

Lesly Francois on **February 9, 2017 at 3:00 pm** said:

In GOD we trust thanks

Reply ↓

Dena on **February 9, 2017 at 3:07 pm** said:

Some of the comments above are more disturbing and mean spirited than the Trump agenda. On one of the many above: to suggest ACA/Obamacare is disintegrating would be OK if we had a Medicare for all system–there are no alternatives being proposed. What is your position on Medicare for all and sustaining the Medicare we have??

Reply ↓

AKA on **February 9, 2017 at 5:49 pm** said:

Alternates are proposed but you are too lazy to look them up. Medicare for all destroys the Medicare we currently have.

Reply ↓

David Holley on **February 9, 2017 at 3:17 pm** said:

I hope the Whitehouse did not place you in the position to privatize or desolve SS.

Also in these times we need to allow seniors to work and collect their social security – before they reach 67.

Good luck.

Reply ↓

Charles Dale on **February 9, 2017 at 3:20 pm** said:

The COLA formula for Social Security should be changed from CPI-W to CPI-E in order for seniors to get a more accurate formula on what seniors spend their money on and CPI-E would give a

slightly higher COLA amount every year.

Reply ↓

Fahmi Natour on **February 9, 2017 at 3:27 pm** said:
With someone like you in charge, we know the operation is in good hands. Best luck.
Fahmi

Reply ↓

Wiley J. Huff on **February 9, 2017 at 3:31 pm** said:
Congratulations on the appointment after so many years of service.

Reply ↓

wayne rhys on **February 9, 2017 at 3:39 pm** said:
when I think of the salaries that people who are in the senate and the congress receive and the high courts and then the cost of living that they give to social security recipients it makes me sad to wonder what has become of the heart of our leaders when they enjoy so much because of the people who have put them in office. Very sad indeed..

Reply ↓

bettyg on **February 9, 2017 at 3:55 pm** said:
i want to see an article listing each state and how many people are assigned to disability claims per state.

also, how many admin law judges, ALJ, are assigned PER state breakdown so we could understand better why it takes 2.5 yrs. before we see ALJ.

also, want to see 14.08 of LYME DISEASE be expanded since it is mentioned with those 2 words only and NO MORE!

it should be vector-borne diseases as there are 25+ with all the different co-infections there are.

itemize them as you have your other APPROVED list of adult/KID impairments please

thank you nancy; good luck being the leader of 64,000 employees and good luck with our new president!!

iowa recipient

Reply ↓

Steve on **February 9, 2017 at 3:59 pm** said:
Welcome to your acting position. We look forward to you and Mr. Trump making good on the promises made when we were conscripted into this retirement investment. We are not entitled we are lifelong investors and are counting on y'all keeping the faith.

Reply ↓

Tom
on **February 9, 2017 at 4:11 pm**
said:

Fact: Your beloved Trump will cut the budget and allow only one new employee for every 3 that leave. I am certain that will improve service using magical thinking. He is reputedly also thinking about privatization of social security. So instead of 0.7% of funds going to a federal agency you can insure the CEO and investors are living high on the hog with your hard earned contributions while 2008 happens all over again with regulations repealed. Nice new jets and a golden parachute

paid for by you! You have probably been voting against your economic interests for years while politicians make you afraid of terrorists being everywhere and having your guns taken away. When you let yourself stop being manipulated by phony facts and issues we will finally “make America great again”. And it won’t just be an empty slogan while Trump fills the swamp back up with Wall Street executives and oilmen.

Reply ↓

AKA on **February 9, 2017 at 5:53 pm** said:

You are projecting what the Democrat VP initiated in 1996 with his hiring freeze but of course you attribute everything to Trump. I’d rather have a swamp full of successful people than the Liberal swine currently there.

Reply ↓

Marsha on **February 9, 2017 at 4:28 pm** said:

Congratulations, Nancy! You were a Regional Commissioner when I served on the SSAB.
SSA and the general public are lucky to have you in this position.
Marsha

Reply ↓

Dr Edith Eli on **February 9, 2017 at 5:00 pm** said:

Welcome to your new job as Acing Coordiator. I know everyone is giving you advice. Here is mine

from a prof of marketing with a PhD and host of medical issues. If one is going to tax SS, it should be for people who make over 100,000 in income not including IRAs or 401Ks or annnuities.
Also, please protect Obamacare, Medicaid and Medicare from repeal, block grants, and vouchers, respectively. Obamacare is the reason I can afford my many prescription drugs that keep me functioning as a prof with a PhD despite horrible constant pain. I have fibromaylagia and artritis and neurological conditions and I use a medicare HMO for my specalists and medications. Please protect Obamacare
Do not listen to Donald Trump or Ryan as they have no heart or care for sick and disabled people.

Reply ↓

Kenneth Aitken on **February 9, 2017 at 5:50 pm** said:
Whatever you do, fight the privatization of Social Security at all costs!

Reply ↓

Concerned Citizen on **February 9, 2017 at 6:51 pm** said:

YES!!!

Reply ↓

Yvonne M Perret on **February 9, 2017 at 6:06 pm** said:
I hope that you will work hard to protect SSI, both for adults and children as well as the other benefits. The most hard hit individuals are those who haven't been able to work enough to be insured and/or those who have worked hard, had minimal wages, and are struggling. I am 70, receive SSA retirement and still work. But, I'm ok.

Most concerned about others who continue to struggle so much.

Reply ↓

Concerned Citizen on **February 9, 2017 at 6:49 pm** said:

Why are the Syrian refugees given upwards of $2,000 cash of my taxpayer dollars for free (along with free housing, free medical, etc.) when they enter our country, yet I who was born and raised here, have lived and worked here all my life (I am 75 years old), receive nothing. The new owner of the apt bldg I've lived in for more than 15 years raised my rent by $650/mo from one month to the next, yet I cannot get help anywhere to meet this new rent figure and am facing the prospect of becoming homeless in about two months. And, THERE HAS ALSO BEEN NO SOCIAL SECURITY RAISE FOR THREE YEARS now!!! WHY NOT?? I paid into Social Security for over 50 years, yet I am not receiving SS benefits that reflect what I paid into the system for years and years. I am VERY unhappy about all of this!!! ; (

Reply ↓

Robert Dolan on **February 9, 2017 at 7:00 pm** said:

Hello and congratulations on you new position. Our SS. is not an entitlement, like our government things it is, many of us have been paying into SS for 30, 40, or 50 years or so. It was implemented by President Roosevelt in 1935. The money in the trust fund was put in there by hard working Americans for many years to be used as a retirement pension plan. The government should not be able to take a penny of that money, for other reasons, other than to pay SS retired benefits to seniors who have paid into the system, for disability benefits, and for our veterans.

The COLA formula for Social Security should be

changed from CPI-W to CPI-E in order for seniors to get a more accurate formula on what seniors spend their money on and CPI-E would give a slightly higher COLA amount every year. The minimum COLA raise should be at least 3% per year or more. I would like to see our elected Senators and Congressmen live on $800.00 or $1000,00 dollars a month like a lot of retired seniors do. They cry now that they have a hard time living on $174.000 a year plus all the perks and benefits they have, give me a break, I don't know how they can sleep at night. Protect (our) money and use it correctly, and don't touch it for other reason's than what it was intended for, retired pensions for people who paid into it for the golden years. In the last eight years, the COLA raise has been an average of 1.1% over eight years, but yet the government keeps raising Medicare Part B premiums, and the deductible every year. The COLA raises don't even cover the Part B premium increases and the deductible increases. I agree with President Trump, make America number one, take care of our own first. I agree with what our President is doing. God Bless America the Greatest Country on Earth.

Reply ↓

Deborah C on **February 9, 2017 at 8:12 pm** said:

The SSC shouldn't, be taxed it's sad. And it should be hands off for loans for anything except for what it is intended for benefits for those who have paid into it legally. The government borrowing from it should not be allowed. If we Citizens take funds out of our 401k or IRA's we as citizens pay a huge penalty. Where in fact the only way to get money for a U.S.A. Citizen's IRA or 401k should only be for a hardship and no penalty. And There should only be one kind of IRA a traditional IRA and not be taxed when you meet the proper requirements. Roth IRA's shouldn't be a option.

Reply ↓

 Visited 03/29/2017

Athena Bond on **February 9, 2017 at 8:30 pm** said:

I would congratulate you on your appointment and ask one small thing. I have two disabled children seeking SSI and one was approved and one declined. In order to see the SSA doctor's report which I filled out the form asking for a copy sent to me and one to our pediatrician, I had to pay $43 and wait 4-6 weeks…that's a little long considering all these documents were scanned into your system. Can someone please list the minor children on the MySocialSecurity website as a part of the requesting parent or guardian's social security number and web page? This would simplify this process greatly, because as you know, if you are under age 18, you cannot have a login on your website. This causes many unnecessary trips to SSA offices and many hours waiting that could be spent on many more important things to further the care of the kids. I would greatly appreciate it if something simple like this association to the parent/guardian's SSN could be accomplished in your database. It makes so much sense. Thank you!

Reply ↓

Mitchell on **February 9, 2017 at 10:15 pm** said:

Maybe ths time around when I try to obtain SSDI I will actually get it not a runaround or a judge that does not do his job and says no every time no matter what the medical records say. Since I have attempted to file, I basically have been told so sad to bad not enough work credits yet I was born in the USA and have worked my whole life i would say out of 52 years 30 + working.

Reply ↓

Andrew Andrzej Mikolajczyk on **February 9, 2017 at 10:26 pm** said:

Thank you for sharing your post. It is very

informative. SSA provides important services. I see their importance every day in the lives of many Americans. I appreciate services provided and trainings offered by your staff in different settings. All the best. Andrew .

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist
on **February 10, 2017 at 11:50 am** said:

Thanks for your comment Andrew! Your thoughts are important to us and we're pleased when feedback is positive. We try hard to provide the best possible service to our customers and your satisfaction is our reward.

Reply ↓

helen on **February 9, 2017 at 10:45 pm** said:
hi

Reply ↓

Richard1950 on **February 10, 2017 at 12:48 am** said:
It is about time That A woman take the rings because all the men who held that job only work for they self .. Thank God and God bless you

Reply ↓

jeanh
on **February 10, 2017 at 4:09 am** said:

SSA has already had multiple female Commissioners.

Reply ↓

jeanh on **February 10, 2017 at 4:07 am** said:

I worked for SSA for 39 years. It makes me sad to see all of the misinformation in these comments. For the entire time I worked for SSA, the Democrats protected SSA and Medicare while the Republicans looked for ways to cut benefits. People who refuse to see that are fooling themselves. Taxation of benefits started in the 1980s under Reagan. SSA has been restricted on hiring for many years, and Trump's total hiring ban can only makes things worse. Ms Berryhill became the acting Commissioner by default – she was not appointed. She is highly respected by employees. Hopefully, Trump will not replace her with someone who has no regard for the importance of SSA.

Reply ↓

Carmen on **February 10, 2017 at 8:02 am** said:

Obama did a lot of damage to Medicare; what are you talking abour?

Reply ↓

david-lee: buess on **February 10, 2017 at 5:06 am** said:

Congratulations Ms. Berryhill on your appointment to the Social Security Administration as acting Commissioner.
I trust you will be worthy of being a public servant and working with the lawful bloodline Americans, Article 2 [5], who are so deserving of their Social Security Checks.

You are under no obligation to participate in the Income Tax Fraud by the IMF/IRS as they are unregistered foreign agents. The IRS ruled unconstitutional for these union States in 1935 U.S. v. Constantine 296, U.S. 287. Any jurisdiction of the IRS only applies to the Federal Zone = Washington, DC, New York City NY, and the holding territories belonging to the United States thereof. This is why the tax code is called the INTERNAL REVENUE CODE = it has no jurisdiction outside the Federal Zone.

I would suggest you read this case on taxes: U.S. V. LLOYDE R. LONG, FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT TN., CASE NUMBER: CR-1-93-91. The federal jury found Mr. Long not guilty on all counts – why – the Income Tax Amendment, 16th, to the Constitution was never lawfully ratified.

This administration cannot nor can the IMF/IRS tax wages of the bloodline American Worker. The lawful definition of "income" as ruled by the USSC 1913 Stratton Indep. v. Howbert 231 U.S. 399 … the gain arrived from Capital, from labor or from both combined, provided it includes the profit gained from the sale of a capital asset. Also see U.S. v. Lopez 247 U.S. 165 (1918). This would be the result of Business/Corporate activities.

Form 1040 has no standing in law a ruling of the U.S. District Court Grand Rapids Michigan in 2005. All 1040 debt is counterfeited debt. This form is also a violation of Title 42 @ 48(a)(8). which carries a 5 year prison term and fines upon conviction. I would suggest you look closely at all IRS Forms and prosecute accordingly calling for a Grand Jury Investigation(s).

Reply ↓

MomMom
on **February 10, 2017 at 7:46 pm**
said:

Congrat to you on your new job. Wish you the best Ms. Berryhill

Reply ↓

Mark Burkhardt on **February 10, 2017 at 5:16 am** said:

Where does she stand on Social Security Cuts? Is she a Pawn in Paul Ryan's Plan or Will she Stand up for the People who have Social Security Disability as their Only Source of Income?

Reply ↓

J.Rice on **February 10, 2017 at 6:54 am** said:

Congratulations hope do well with your new job. I doubt you can change the tax laws, but I would love a simplified sign in option for SSA. As it is now it is way too cumbersome and have to change passwords too often to make it worth using.

Reply ↓

Carmen on **February 10, 2017 at 8:00 am** said:

Congratulations and welcome in your new position. I just want to add that the people who work at the area where I live is very nice, very helpful, and very polite. I have been in three opportunities with three different persons, and they are wonderful

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist on **February 10, 2017 at 12:55 pm** said:

We appreciate your thoughts Carmen. Thanks for your comment!

Reply ↓

 Visited 03/29/2017

Janis on **February 10, 2017 at 8:32 am** said:

IT IS NICE TO SEE THAT PREZ APPOINTED A NRW COMMISSONER. PREZ TRUMP..I HAVE A FEELING MR.PREZ WANTS TO CUT OFF SSI CLAIMANTS FROM COLLECTING SSI.UNLESS THEY HAVE SOLID PROOF THEY ARE DISABLED.TO SAVE THE COUNTRY MONEY.THEY CUT MY CHECK FROM $733.00 TO "$409.00.THEY STILL HAVE YET TO DEPOSIT THE BALANCE OF THE MONEY SO I CAN PAY MY ATTYS.OH MY GOD.

Reply ↓

Hope Faith on **February 27, 2017 at 11:10 pm** said:

Janis, when you have other income that exceeds $20 a month, your monthly SSI benefits are reduced. If you do not pay your share of living expenses if you live in someone elses home and have proof. Or you are not paying your rent, utilities and food, your SSI is reduced by one third.

The money for food is because a monthly allotment of food stamps is not all of your food for a month. You are suppose to spend a percentage of your income on food.

The One-Third Reduction Provision- https://secure.ssa.gov/apps10/poms.nsf/lnx/0500835200

Reply ↓

Barb on **February 10, 2017 at 10:10 am** said:

We should ALL be on the same page! Write your Senator (and everyone else who will listen.)

Rewrite the IRS/SSA law. Presently, once you reach The social security wage base limit of $127,200, you no longer pay Social Security of 6.2%. As previous payroll and HR management (CPP/SPHR), this means (for many), after a few checks in January, they no longer pay into the SSA system. This needs to be amended so every worker pays the same percentage. Actually, a person (example) making $340,000 annually would not object. They will not miss it. This is one very simple 'rewrite' of the law that will make Democrats, Republicans and any intelligent person very proud. Good luck. PS – the SSA in my town does a remarkable job.

Reply ↓

MomMom on **February 10, 2017 at 7:39 pm** said:
I worked for a bank for 36 years. and been working since I was 16. I got hurt at work a few years ago, at work Then 2 years after that I had spine operation. Can not work at all. Went to apply for ssd. got it now they tell me I was not entitle to my ck. because I was over payee by my job. So now ssd says I owe them so they are taking my whole check for 6 mo. and I won't get a whole ss. check until the year 2020. Why did I even work. should have been on welfare would have got everything free. And would not have to pay anything back. Anyway I payee into worker comp. Why would I have to pay ss. back. they didn't give me anything.

Reply ↓

Kelli S George on **February 11, 2017 at 4:07 pm** said:
Too bad I had to report the SSA for FRAUD since you are NOT reimbursing my Medicare premiums since September in the current amount of $636 and are continuing to withhold Medicare premiums from my check while at the same time accepting reimbursement for said premiums from the state of Oklahoma!!!

Reply ↓

Ann Clifton
on **February 13, 2017 at 1:09 pm**
said:

Hello, Kelli. We apologize for any inconvenience. For security reasons, we do not have access to personal records via this blog. Please continue working with your local office and know you can request to speak with the local office manager to see how we can help to expedite resolution of your situation. If you are unable to visit your local servicing office, you may call our toll free number at 1-800-772-1213, representatives are available Monday through Friday between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Generally, you will have a shorter wait time if you call later in the week. We hope this matter gets resolved quickly. Thanks.

Reply ↓

Christine Rothe on **February 11, 2017 at 8:53 pm**
said:
Thank you so much for supporting us, Nancy!

Reply ↓

Martha on **February 13, 2017 at 1:05 am** said:
Thank you for taking such an important job. I hope you will make it a top priority to root out the many $BILLIONS$ in fraud, waste, corruption and abuse every year at SS.

Reply ↓

 Visited 03/29/2017

Willard Austin on **February 13, 2017 at 7:37 am** said:

I would like to see the it all updated and better I have bilateral carpal tunnel server and spondystonosos in my lower spine server and ben out of work sence 2012'and still didnt get aproved for help I need

Reply ↓

Vanessa Brooks on **February 13, 2017 at 9:49 am** said:

I've been Disabled for 3 years, fighting for Disability. I even have a Disability Attorney, but it doesn't seem to help. I've lost everything and it's so degrading to have family and friends supporting me and my children. I hear of so many people get approved quickly, but people like me, that have tons of health problems and can't barely even walk some days, and have to fight for it! It's not right at all. If i die waiting and to get medicare to see the right doctors, that would be horrifying. Someone please help! Anyone!

Reply ↓

Vanessa Brooks on **February 13, 2017 at 12:03 pm** said:

Also, it's been over a year since my Appeal was filed and neither me or my Disability Attorney have heard anything at all.

Reply ↓

Ann Clifton on **February 13, 2017 at 1:37 pm** said:

Hi, Vanessa. We care about our customers and are working as fast as we

can. If you're referring to the length of time it takes to get a hearing, the wait-period may vary depending on our case volume and availability of the judges. Although the Administrative Law Judge attempts to schedule all hearings promptly, there may be some delay if there are many requests ahead of yours or because of travel schedules. If you wish to submit feedback, visit our Contact Social Security page. Once there, select the "Email Us" link. This will take you to the "Email a Question to our Support Team" form, where you can complete and submit a compliment, complaint, or suggestion. Hope this helps.

Reply ↓

vjones on **February 13, 2017 at 12:06 pm** said:

It is great to see that a person who is put in a position to oversee the Social Security Administration has come from the trenches. Appointing a person with a college degree and no real life experience has no compassion or understanding of what goes on at a Social Security Office that the general public patronizes. Hopefully you can attempt to make changes, with the bureaucracy, to make it easier for people that are not computer literate.

Reply ↓

James G.Giza on **February 15, 2017 at 9:18 am** said:

The Social Security Administration Would Frighten Franz Kafka
and Amuse "Ernestine."

It might seem a stretch to conflate the Social Security Administration with the writer Franz Kafka, the author of TheTrial and the Castle , and

 Visited 03/29/2017

the comedienne Lily Tomlin's portrayal of "Ernestine", a phone company "spokes person," but walk with me down absurdity lane.

In his two works, Kafka focuses on the absurdity of the world exacerbated by anonymous, domineering, insensitive bureaucracies pursuing governmental policies that are at best illogical and at worse, patently unfair, unforgiving, and often deadly. Lilly Tomlin's "Ernestine", frequently opined disdainfully about customer complaints by saying, " we don't care, we're the phone company." These two themes, faceless bureaucracies inefficiently and unfairly doing a government's business, reinforced by a monopolistic attitude of not caring about citizen redress, applies to the Social Security (SS) Administration. As a Kafkaesque governmental entity its leadership doesn't care about legitimate complaints , because , to channel "Ernestine"- "we don't care, we're the Social Security Administration".

A recent article in the Baltimore Sun highlighted the absence of a permanent Social Security Administrator, and that there is a 20 month backlog in reviewing disability claims. For me, this backlog has nothing to do with a lack of leadership or personnel, but is a deliberate ploy to stone wall legitimate claims so as to make the claimant go away because of sheer despondency at getting a resolution to the appeal.

I am a retired Baltimore Police Sergeant and when working I did not contribute to the SS system. But after retiring I earned enough quarters to qualify for SS benefits and consequently Medicare. I applied , on- line, for benefits on January 3rd 2010, and answered yes to the questions regarding pension benefits. In an anonymous letter dated March 15, 2016, SS stated that I allegedly owed $27,577.00 in over payments based on the Windfall Elimination Provision because of my pension, and I had 30 days to repay. I say allegedly when I refer to any of the figures quoted by SS because I have no idea of their accuracy. Included with the letter was a repayment envelope

and I didn't have to use a stamp-how considerate. Now this SS saga became Kafkaesque, instead of just consummate incompetency.

SS has a multitiered appeal protocol. I filed on March 29, 2016 and stated SS was at fault for the alleged overpayment. Naively, I thought requesting an informal meeting, per a SS's appeal protocol, would resolve the issue. Approximately eight months later, in a letter dated November 15, 2016, SS admitted fault in processing my application without taking into account my pension. However, I would be getting a letter explaining my "new overpayment"- a decision that I could again appeal. These SS letters are sent regular snail mail with SS assuming you get them without proof of delivery. Nice gambit, particularly when you are given a 30/60 day window to appeal.

A letter dated January 24, 2017 claimed I allegedly owed $23,841.00. No mention of my informal meeting request or that the alleged overpayment added to my gross income for tax purposes. SS used $3,736.00 of my benefits to recover part of the alleged overpayment, and if I didn't remit the $23k plus in 30 days, my entire SS benefit would be used to recover the money.But, I could appeal for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge (ALD) to contest.

This depressing Kafkaesque joke became more surreal. On February 2nd, I submitted an appeal for an ALD hearing with supportive documentation to my assigned SS office. On Saturday , February 4th, I received a letter from SS ,dated February 3, 2017, and with this letter the hammer fell . My benefit was terminated effective the March 2017 payment, including my Medicare premium, until November 2020. Consequently,I will have to pay out of pocket for my Medicare health coverage and I recently received the first premium bill with billing date if 1/27/2017. Meaning, that SS /Medicare processed a premium bill 3 days after the date of the last SS letter I received stating I could appeal. So much for this scam of an appeal system. The insane thing is that there are two more appeal steps I am entitled to, but I know what they are

worth. Your appeal is denied even before your appeal steps are exhausted, and you are punished accordingly based on an anonymous whim. – Kafka smiles in his grave.

Compared to what many Americans experience at the anonymous "hands" of the Social Security Administration, my SS absurdity pales, but it exemplifies what the Administration thinks of the American public, "we don't care, we are the Social Security Administration."

Reply ↓

Janis on **February 16, 2017 at 9:05 am** said:
It's. Nice to see so many hardworking people who paid into the system.I only worked 2 jobs here in FLA. SSA KEEPS TELLING ME I AM ONLY ENTITLED TO $409.00. WHY BECAUSE THEY THINK SONEONE IS SUPPORTING ME AND NO ONE IS.THEY SEEM TO BE PUNISHING ME FOR. TURNING 62 YRS AND GETTING MY SSA CHECK.I GUESS I WAS BETTER OFF WITHOUT. IT FROM THE BEGINNING.SINCE I WON MY CASE IN NOV.2016. I QUITE FRANKLY. DONT BELIEVE I AM ON SSI AT,ALL.AND I INTEND TO LEAVE FLA BEHIND INSTEAD OF FIGHTING WITH THE PEMBROKE PINES SSA OFFICE.R
THANK YOU.

Reply ↓

Janis goldberg on **February 16, 2017 at 9:06 am** said:
It's. Nice to see so many hardworking people who paid into the system.I only worked 2 jobs here in FLA. SSA KEEPS TELLING ME I AM ONLY ENTITLED TO $409.00. WHY BECAUSE THEY THINK SONEONE IS SUPPORTING ME AND NO ONE IS.THEY SEEM TO BE PUNISHING ME FOR. TURNING 62 YRS AND GETTING MY SSA CHECK.I GUESS I WAS BETTER OFF WITHOUT. IT FROM THE BEGINNING.SINCE I

WON MY CASE IN NOV.2016. I QUITE FRANKLY. DONT BELIEVE I AM ON SSI AT,ALL.AND I INTEND TO LEAVE FLA BEHIND INSTEAD OF FIGHTING WITH THE PEMBROKE PINES SSA OFFICE.R
THANK YOU.

Reply ↓

Louis on **February 16, 2017 at 5:47 pm** said:
I submitted a FOIA request to SSA over two months ago. No response whatsoever to the request or to two followup phone calls (I left messages on the recorder each time).

Obviously, SSA is still out of control.

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist on **February 17, 2017 at 10:32 am** said:

Thank you for your feedback Louis. Please understand that some requests may take longer than expected, depending on the difficulty of finding the record and how much other work we have.
To learn more about how we process your requests, please visit our Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) web page.

Reply ↓

Byron Haskins, former Director of Disability Policy and Training Support on **February 21, 2017 at 10:22 am** said:
Congratulations! It's great to have the work ethic of Region V projected into the Beltway. Please

 Visited 03/29/2017

continue to support the Disability Program policy and research work. It is much needed. Best wishes working with the Congressional delegation. They are a tough bunch. Continue to work to keep SSA strong for future generations. Though I'm retired from SSA, I still believe in the mission and support it in every way I can! Best wishes to you and your talented staff.

Reply ↓

Phyllis DeFonzo on **February 21, 2017 at 6:01 pm** said:

Your field office tells me there is an "issue" with my social security account, but are unable to tell me what it is. It has been over three months since I submitted a 521 to withdraw benefits, with no action taken in that regard. I have gone over three weeks without the courtesy of a call-back from your regional office. I called them again and all they do is repeat there is an "issue," with no details. I need to know what is going on with my money and my account as soon as possible.

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist on **February 22, 2017 at 10:53 am** said:

We apologize for the delay and inconveniences you are experiencing, Phyllis. Unfortunately, but for your security, we do not have access to personal records in this blog. Please continue working with your local office. You should be allowed to speak with the manager to see how we can help to expedite resolution of your situation. If you are unable to visit the local office, you can call our toll free number at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778). Representatives are available Monday

through Friday between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Generally, you will have a shorter wait time if you call later in the day or later in the week.

Reply ↓

Darrell on **February 24, 2017 at 10:01 am** said:

Commissioner Berryhill,
Is there any way anything could be done to process post award payments to claimant's and their attorneys? In our area, it is sometimes taking 2-3 months during which time I have clients, already in dire straights, that are truly suffering. Thank you.

Reply ↓

GILDO PINEDA JR. on **February 26, 2017 at 10:33 am** said:

I would like to see the Social Security Administration be a place where no one experiences discrmination for residing overseas and not being able to view personal info on-line like stateside peers. SS beneficiaries payments are delivered to foreign countries/banks therefore restricting on line access appears to be contradictory and discrimiatory.

Reply ↓

Linda on **March 1, 2017 at 5:05 pm** said:

I'm on SSI. I live in public housing and receive $22 a month in food stamps.I was paying child support, deducted from my small amount of alimony in the divorce and when my child support ended, I got the balance of alimony each month. I informed Social Security 2 months ahead of time that this would occur. I faxed documents, called repeatedly

and got nowhere. I finally sent a certified letter and still got nowhere. So now, they say I'm overpaid, despite my efforts to not even let all this begin. Finally, I got someone on the phone to listen to me and my SSI is back to the beginning payments again but the over payment is still there. I requested a waiver and I have documents to send but I don't know if I will be heard. Public housing won't lower my rent and I won't be able to make it. I live in a small country town with no public transportation for 100 miles and have no way to get to the nearest office since my truck isn't in good shape and I can't afford to get it fixed. I couldn't keep the over payment amount in the bank due to having to buy food since I had lost my food stamps at the time, so I bought food and paid medical bills. Any suggestions?

Reply ↓

Ray Fernandez, Public Affairs Specialist
on **March 2, 2017 at 1:56 pm** said:

We apologize for the inconveniences Linda. We wish we could be more help, but for security reasons we do not have access to personal records in this blog. Please continue working with your local office, as they will be able to assist you better in resolving your overpayment issue. If you are unable to visit the local office, please call our toll free number at 1-800-772-1213, representatives are available Monday through Friday between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Generally, you will have a shorter wait time if you call later in the week or later during the day. For more information and to learn about appeal and waiver rights, read our publication on "Overpayments". Thanks.

Reply ↓

Jackie Burr-Harris, DO 498 on **March 3, 2017 at 11:22 am** said:

Hi Nan, But I am going to give you the respect your deserve as being commissioner. You know we been knowing each other since payment days. Speaking about PC 4 in Chicago.

Good work an I have am so proud of you, always have. you go girl.

Reply ↓

Dianne on **March 20, 2017 at 3:13 pm** said:

We have a client who now has a wage garnishment due to over payment of disability. Our client already made arrangements to repay the money, and money is being taken out of her bank account by Social Security. The problem is that the garnishment directs us to call the Southeastern Program Service Center in Birmingham, AL at 1200 Rev. Abraham Woods Blvd, but when we call, no one answers. We were on hold for 3 1/2 hours during the first call with no one answering the phone. The office closed. We were on hold for 2 hrs 14 minutes on a second call, and again the office closed at 4:30 PM so we hung up. We can provide you with pictures of the phone verifying the calls and the hold time. Can you please help us? They took over $300 dollars from my client and she can't afford it and can't deal with the stress. She has lupus. We have called other SSA offices, and they can not help. Can you please help?

Reply ↓

Joshua Davis on **March 22, 2017 at 1:56 pm** said:

Here's one for the Acting Commissioner:
How is it that as a veteran having been declared unemployable then rated at 100% by the VA and receiving Disability Compensation along with getting additional compensation for what is

referred to as meeting “special housebound criteria” can be told by the SSA I’m NOT disabled? Administrative Law Judge falsified information in her ruling, I provided evidence proving it but my appeal was denied anyway. Federal Civil Court was the next step but $400.00 for the filing fee was impossible to acquire and the court would not waive it. I’ve attempted to contact the SSA Office of Inspector General a total of 5 times. By mail on 25 May 2016, 11 July 2016 and 18 September 2016. 2 phone calls rang off the hook… 30 minutes for the first one and 60 minutes on my second attempt. The website for the SSA OIG is about useless unless someone wants to report fraud. Whatever happened to waste and abuse? At least the VA’s OIG had the courtesy to tell me looking into shenanigans at the Cleveland regional office wasn’t in their jurisdiction when I contacted them back in 2010.

Reply ↓

Leave a Reply - (comment policy)

Your email address will not be published. Required fields are marked *

Email *

Visited 03/29/2017

Post Comment

Paid for at U.S. taxpayer expense