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The Honorable Nikki. R. Haley  
Office of the Governor  
1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley

Streamlining of Social Security Benefits

I am appealing to you and your office for assistance in streamlining the process for obtaining Social Security benefits.

In November of 2013 my wife Diana-Lesley Janet Geldenhuys (675 – 07 – 6530) suffered a stroke. As a result she had to close her Alteration business. Before going it alone she worked a Pay Day Loan company single handed for many years until the owner was forced to close his doors. Based on this information the Social Security office has made a determination that she can find herself a job as an Office Manager, although she has had no formal training in this profession. This decision has been appealed but to no avail.

The effects of the stroke has also left her right side (dominant) in a weakened state. Her attention to detail has also deteriorated. We will not discuss the bladder and bowel control.

Since the stroke she has also contracted shingles, had cataracts removed and had to have surgery to remove an ovarian cyst. With the cost of medication and doctors bills ± \$700.00 per month we were close to being put on the street.

I work as a Detention Deputy and as you may well know a family cannot survive on one income. During March and April of 2015 I suffered with a venous ulcer to my right ankle and was off work for close to 3 months. I had to swallow my pride and register with food banks in the area in order to survive.

It is not that we are looking for a hand out, but monthly contributions have been paid in to the fund for many years without reservation for such occurrences. Without the assistance from Social Security my wife's quality of life is deteriorating rapidly.

It is a shame that the doctor's reports and test results are not sufficient to qualify for these benefits and now we have to have a lawyer intervene. This intervention by the way is not free as they take up to 30% if they win the case on our behalf.

In order for a lawyer to agree to handling the case he/she is in need of a CD containing all the documentation. This is obtainable from The Social Security Office. When applying in January of 2016, I was told that this information would be mailed to me within 30 days. I have phoned the office on several occasions and have just been told that the case is pending. On 03/18/2016 I once again phoned. This time I was told that they are only just starting on the applications received during August 2015.

The lady then told me that this would be delayed further as they had just received ±2000 cases from the office down in Florida.

Your investigation regards this matter would greatly be appreciated.

Kind Regards



Steven C. Geldenhuys