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**GOOD MORNING AND WELCOME TO:
E- BREAKFAST WITH VINCENT...**

Friday, October 31, 2008



A Hidden Benefit for Veterans

Many Veterans and their families do not realize that a veteran may be entitled to a monthly check to help pay for his or her medical expenses or living expenses. It is known as the “**Aid and Attendance Pension Benefit.**”

This Monthly Benefit can be as much as \$932 for a veteran without a spouse or child and as much as \$1,843 for a veteran with a dependent. The Veteran must submit a claim to the Veterans Office (VA Form 21-526). It is not automatic.

A Veteran can qualify for this benefit if he or she has: (i) served on active duty, (ii) did not receive a dishonorable discharge, and (iii) is totally disabled or age 65 or older.

There is an income and asset test. The “**Critical Calculation**” to determine the Income for Veteran Affairs Purposes (the “IVAP”) can be the key to qualification. Like Medicaid, one must understand the eligibility rules and most importantly, the exceptions and the permissible planning strategies.

There are also **Special Pension Benefits with Aid and Attendance** available to a spouse or dependent child of a veteran who is deceased (VA Form 21-534) – Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) and the Death Pension. The VA may pay a higher benefit than the DIC or Death Pension for Aid and Attendance.

Our Law Firm believes that every Veteran should receive this benefit he or she has earned, if eligible. We are available to assist families in determining eligibility and the submission of a claim, as well as making sure there is a plan in place to protect the Veteran and his or her family.

Don't Forget November 18th – Veteran Benefits

Our HealthCare Professional Roundtable will feature Pat Yngstrom (Deputy Director of Nassau County Veterans Services and Project Coordinator for the Nassau County Homeless Veterans Standdown) and Michael Majikas (Public Liaison Coordinator for the Nassau County Office for the Physically Challenged) who will be discussing Veteran Benefits on Long Island.

Limited Seating – so if you have not already reserved your seat at the table – please do so by contacting Sue Tame (516-393-3146 or stame@vjrusso.com).

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