



Urban Justice Center

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Dear SSI/Social Security Disability Benefits Unit:

The Urban Justice Center (UJC) and the National Senior Citizens Law Center intend to challenge the Social Security Administration's (SSA) unlawful implementation of the "fugitive felon" provisions. **We request your assistance identifying individuals who have had their Supplemental Security Income (SSI), disability, or retirement benefits suspended because SSA has determined that there is an outstanding warrant for the person's arrest.**

SSA's implementation of the "fugitive felon" provisions is in direct contravention of the statutes and regulation. SSA automatically terminates benefits on the basis of a warrant alone without determining whether the person is actually fleeing prosecution. In 2005 the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit held that suspension of benefits requires a specific finding by a court or other tribunal that a person is aware his or her apprehension is sought and is intentionally fleeing arrest. Although the SSA issued an acquiescence ruling agreeing to follow the decision in New York, Connecticut and Vermont (the states that make up the Second Circuit), the SSA continues to suspend benefits on the basis of a warrant alone in the rest of the country.

We are interested in speaking to individuals who lost or were denied benefits because of this policy and may be interested in joining as a party to a future class action. Specifically, we would like to speak with individuals residing outside the Second Circuit, whose benefits were suspended based on an alleged arrest warrant, and there is a pending appeal of that suspension or a related overpayment. If you represent such an individual, or if you want more information, please contact **Emilia Sicilia** at esicilia@urbanjustice.org or **(646) 602-5668**.

We would appreciate your sharing the enclosed flyer with colleagues in your office.

Sincerely,

Emilia Sicilia
Staff Attorney
UJC Mental Health Project

Denial or Suspension of Benefits Under the Social Security “Fugitive Felon” Policy

The Urban Justice Center (“UJC”) and the National Senior Citizens Law Center (“NSCLC”) intend to challenge the Social Security Administration’s unlawful implementation of the “fugitive felon” provisions.

UJC and NSCLC are interested in speaking to individuals who have had their SSI, Social Security disability, or retirement benefits suspended because of an **arrest warrant** in an **open case** (not a warrant for a parole or probation violation) and have a pending appeal of that suspension or overpayment.

If you know of individuals who have been affected by this policy and may be interested in joining as a party to a future class action, please contact:

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