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Special Needs Planning News is a monthly e-newsletter that brings you legal developments and trends of vital interest to individuals with special needs and their advocates. This Newsletter is brought to you by Donald Vanarelli, Attorney at Law.



Annual Contribution Limit for ABLE Accounts Will Rise in 2018

The amount that people with disabilities can deposit in an ABLE account each year without jeopardizing eligibility for needs-based governmental benefits will rise from the current \$14,000 to \$15,000 starting in 2018.

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Donald D. Vanarelli, Esq. to Present at the 2017 Elder Law College

Donald D. Vanarelli, Esq. (<http://VanarelliLaw.com/>) will present at the 2017 Elder Law College given by the New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education on December 14, 2017 at the Crowne Plaza, located at 690 Route 46 East, Fairfield, New Jersey.

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Top 10 New Jersey Elder Law and Special Needs Cases in 2016 – 2017

The 19th Annual Elder and Disability Law Symposium was held on November 9, 2017 at the New Jersey Law Center in New Brunswick, NJ. As in past years, I presented the case law update at the opening plenary session. This year I summarized 40 elder and disability law cases decided from September 2016

through August 2017.

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Can Special Needs Trusts Reimburse Family Members for Travel Expenses?

Families of people with special needs often face unusually high travel expenses. Family members may be able to be reimbursed for these expenses from a special needs trust, depending on the type of trust.

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How Does the SSA Calculate Cost of Living Increases?

Next year, recipients of SSDI, SSI or other Social Security programs will see a 2 percent raise in benefits, the largest increase in six years. But how did the Social Security Administration (SSA) arrive at this number?

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House Tax Plan Could Deal Blow to Families with High Medical Expenses

The tax plan put forward by the Republican-led House of Representatives would eliminate the medical expense deduction, potentially dealing a financial blow to those paying for costly care.

[FULL STORY](#)



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