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September 2015

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All about Social Security Numbers

When President Roosevelt signed the Social Security
Act into law in 1935 – 80 years ago – all workers needed an identification number so earnings could be tracked. Many numeric and alphanumeric schemes were considered before a committee settled on the nine digits that we still use today.



The nine-digit Social Security number (SSN) is composed of three parts:

- The first three digits are the area number and represent the applicant's geographic area.
- The second two digits are the group numbers historically used to break the numbers into a convenient size for paper processing.



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

WORKERS'
COMPENSATION
BLOG

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What's Happening...

 The last four digits are serial numbers within each group beginning with "0001."

Today parents of newborns can apply for their child's SSN before leaving the hospital.

When to Disclose your Social Security Number

Use of the SSN has expanded considerably beyond its original purpose to track wages. In fact, it is universally accepted in the U.S. as the primary means of identifying and gathering information about an individual for both government and private purposes.

Certain government agencies such as tax authorities, welfare offices and state motor vehicle departments can require your SSN.

Generally, you are not required to give private businesses like banks and insurance companies your SSN, but you may not get that credit card. Also, beginning in 2015 your health insurance company must report certain information including your SSN to the IRS in conjunction with the Affordable Care Act.

When to Avoid Disclosing your Social Security Number

Statistics show that in 38% of identity theft cases, the victim's SSN was used to gain access to money and other assets. Generally don't reveal your SSN to

- Requests via email or official looking mail.
- Phone requests. Call the company back and ask for

the security department.

- Medical offices. Leave the form blank.
- Public schools. Confirm your address with a utility bill.
- Enrollment in children's sports or activities. A copy of a birth certificate should suffice.
- Retail establishments. Frequent shopper privileges don't depend on a SSN.

Try to use another identifier if possible like a driver's license number. Do everything you can to protect your SSN and remember to shred all documents in which it appears.

From My Blog

Why You Should Apply for Disability Benefits

There are two reasons why you might want to consider applying for disability benefits: the monthly cash benefits to help you replace your lost wages and the potential medical benefits. Recipients of Social Security Disability (SSD) can receive Medicare after two years, and those receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) can receive Medicaid right away. Many applicants do not file for disability benefits as much for the monthly payments as for the medical care coverage. Read

more

California Presidents – Diverse and Intriguing

California boasts three U.S. presidents as part of our history. Although only President Richard Nixon was born in our state, Presidents Herbert Hoover and Ronald Reagan have also been affiliated with California because of their residences and professional careers.



Herbert Clark Hoover – 31st President

Although born in Iowa, Hoover attended Stanford University and became a geologist. Hoover's overseas humanitarian work during World War I gave him visibility in political circles and he served as U.S. Secretary of Commerce and then president from 1929–1933. Hoover died in 1964 and is buried in West Branch, Iowa at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum. His former Stanford residence, a national Historic Landmark, is the official residence of the president of Stanford University.

Richard Milhous Nixon - 37th President

Nixon was born in Yorba Linda and attended Whittier College. After practicing law in California, he served as both a U.S. Representative and Senator before becoming Vice President under President Dwight Eisenhower in 1953. After losing the race for California governor in 1962, Nixon became president in 1968 but resigned in 1974. Nixon died in 1994 and is buried on the grounds of the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum in Yorba Linda.

Ronald Wilson Reagan – 40th President

Reagan was born in Tampico, Illinois and moved to Hollywood shortly after finishing college in Illinois. Within a short time he became a film star but his career was interrupted by a call to active duty in the Army in 1942. After World War II he resumed his film and television career. Reagan was California's governor from 1967-1975 and then president from 1981-1989. In retirement the family lived in Bel Air, Los Angeles. Reagan is buried at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley.

If you or a loved one has been denied Worker's Compensation or Social Security Disability (SSDI) benefits, it's important to get an attorney experienced in these types of cases involved immediately. **Call 800-438-7734** for your initial free consultation, either in our office or in the comfort of your own home. The Kenton Koszdin Law Office, <u>Social Security attorney in Van Nuys</u>, can help you navigate the application process for the best possible outcome for you and your family.



Recipe of the Month:

Slow Cooker Chicken Pot Pie Stew



Ingredients

- 4 large skinless, boneless chicken breast halves, cut into cubes
- 10 medium red potatoes, quartered
- 1 (8 ounce) package baby carrots

- 1 cup chopped celery
- 2 (26 ounce) cans condensed cream of chicken soup
- 6 cubes chicken boullion
- 2 teaspoons garlic salt
- 1 teaspoon celery salt
- 1 tablespoon ground black pepper
- 1 (16 ounce) bag frozen mixed vegetables

Directions:

- 1. Combine the chicken, potatoes, carrots, celery, chicken soup, chicken bouillon, garlic salt, celery salt, and black pepper in a slow cooker; cook on High for 5 hours.
- 2. Stir the frozen mixed vegetables into the slow cooker, and cook 1 hour more

What's Happening in Southern California in October 2015

Oct. 1 - 4, 2015

Blueprints to Freedom La Jolla Playhouse, San Diego

Oct. 2 – 3, 2015
La Mesa Oktoberfest

La Mesa Village

Oct. 3, 2015

The Bluegrass Situation

Oct. 8 - 11, 2015

Fall Music Festival

Joshua Tree Lake Campground,

JoshuaTree

Oct. 10, 2015

Beer Art & Music Festival

18th St. Arts Complex, Santa Monica

Oct. 13 - 22, 2015 Greek Theatre, Griffith Park, LA Screamfest Horror Film Festival Oct. 3, 2015 8840 Wilshire Blvd. Beverly Hills Opera at the Beach Santa Monica Pier, Santa Monica Oct. 16 – 31, 2015 Gem Faire Oct.3, 2015 OC Fair & Event Center, Costa Mesa Oktoberfest 5k, 10k, 15k, Half Marathon Oct. 24, 2015 Long Beach path, 5400 E. Ocean Blvd, Dia de los Muertos Long Beach Hollywood Forever Cemetery, Hollywood Oct. 3 - 4, 2015 **Brewery ArtWalk** The Brewery, LA Oct. 24, 2015 KCRW Masquerade Ball Oct. 3 - 4, 2015 Park Plaza, Koreatown, LA Vegan Oktoberfest Center Studios, LA Oct. 24, 2015 LFestival: Feria Cultural Oct. 4, 2015 LatinoAmericana Dolphin Dash 5k, 10k, 15k, Half OC Fair & Event Center, Costa Mesa Marathon 2000 Ocean Ave. Santa Monica Oct. 25, 2015 The Fantastic, 5k, 10k, 15k, Half Oct. 7 – 8, 2015 Marathon Beirut – concert 2000 Ocean Ave. Santa Monica The Hollywood Palladium, Hollywood Oct. 7 - 11, 2015 Oct. 30, 2015 Indie Festival UNICEF Black & White Masquerade Convention Center, Long Beach Ball Hollywood Forever Cemetery,

Hollywood

Oct. 30 - 31, 2015

Oct. 7 – 18, 2015

The Phantom of the Opera Civic Theatre, San Diego

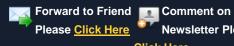
Halloween Costume Party Couture nightclub, LA



<u>Here</u>



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