

February Newsletter

This month we focus on safe driving, disabilities, and veterans

Applying for Veterans Benefits

Men and women who have served in any branch of the US military and who were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable may be eligible for a variety of benefits from the US Veterans' Association. These [veterans' benefits](#) can range from education and training, to home loan, life insurance, burial, and disability pensions. The staff at the Coye Law Firm has a personal interest in assisting veterans in receiving these benefits. Of course, the first thing to do is apply.

When you're [applying for any kind of veterans' benefits](#) you may want to take some time to educate yourself at the Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents, and Survivors book available on the [website](#) of the US Department of Veterans Affairs about the different types of benefits available. This online book is broken down so that each chapter discusses one category of possible benefits and will allow you to become familiar with the resources available so that you can expedite your application process.



There are several applications depending on which type of benefits you are applying for, but specifically to apply to receive benefits for disabilities an individual now suffers due to an injury or illness sustained while on active military duty, the application itself is available either in hard copy form, or [online](#). Online it is known as the "VONAPP," which is short for the "Veterans Online Application." When you sit to complete the application, make sure that you allow yourself ample time, double check that you've completed all the pertinent fields, and have as much specific information about your military service available to you as possible such as start and separation dates, places of military service, dates and places of treatment, information on spouse or dependents, etc.



If you have questions about your rights or the process of applying for veterans' benefits, or have been denied your application and are interested in appealing the decision, please [contact our staff](#)

Check out our new Coye Law Disability Center blog!

[The Coye Law Disability Center](#) is our website focused specifically to the needs of people throughout central Florida who are struggling with disabilities and are looking for helpful, valuable information. Recently, we launched a blog for this site that posts several days per week discussing answers to some of the most common questions we are asked about various disability benefits and the application process. You can visit [our blog](#) to read about the disability issues that are important to you and your loved ones.

Some of the topics that we've covered recently include:

- [Benefits available to disabled people](#)
- [Why working "under the table" or "off the books" can hurt your disability claim](#)
- [Why does Social Security take takes out of my paycheck?](#)
- [Why should I hire an attorney for my disability claim?](#)
- [Survivors benefits for widows, widowers, and children](#)

And many more!

[Like us on Facebook](#), follow us on [Twitter](#), or include us in your circles on [Google+](#) to get updated in your newsfeed every time we post a new blog, and keep up with all our latest helpful posts on disabilities.



The Coye Law Firm's Disability department. Find out more about each staff member on our [staff members' profile pages](#).

[Attorneys](#) [Case Managers](#) [Interns](#)

Coye Law Firm mobile site now available!



Now while you're out and about on-the-go you can use your smart phone or other mobile device to pull up the mobile version of [coylaw.com](#) or [coylawdisabilitycenter.com](#) anytime! Simply go to [coylaw.com](#) or [coylawdisabilitycenter.com](#) on your smart phone for quick access to call our office, fill out a simple contact form, as well information about our locations. Get instantly linked to our locations via Google Maps to find directions to the location nearest you. Compatible with any type of smart phone, access to our information is now at your fingertips 24/7!

Unpaid Child Support can lead to the loss of your driver's license

When a couple splits up it can be difficult on the both of them. A major life change, it involves making adjustments to everything in both their lives. This situation can be made even more complicated if the couple are parents to one or more children.

Generally, one huge part of the [divorce](#) process is deciding issues of [custody](#), living arrangements, and [child support](#). Although the ideal situation would be for each parent to be able to split responsibilities exactly evenly, this is not always the case. In most divorces, one parent has a greater income than the other or a more beneficial living situation for the children. In these situations, one parent will often be ordered by the court to pay child support to the other for the welfare and well being of the child.

In Florida, if a parent falls far enough behind on their court-ordered child support payments, the [Florida Department of Revenue](#) (which oversees child support enforcement) can take actions against the delinquent parent to encourage them to catch up with those late payments. One of these actions is to order the DMV to suspend the delinquent parent's [driver's license](#).

This can create a potentially disastrous situation for the delinquent parent: without a driver's license the parent who is already behind on child support payments is in danger of falling further behind if they can't get to work. Or, if they are caught driving under a suspended license the parent risks jail time. So what can be done?

A parent falling behind on child support doesn't mean that parent is a "dead beat," but it does mean that the issue can spiral downward very quickly. If you're in a situation like this, it is critical that you meet with a family law attorney right away so the attorney can petition to modify the child support amount immediately. If this is not done soon, it may be extremely difficult to lower the amount at a later date.



Doing what's best for your children is sometimes difficult, but when impediments such as the loss of a driver's license make the situation more difficult, seeking the assistance of knowledgeable legal representation is often the best action you can take.

Devices for safe driving

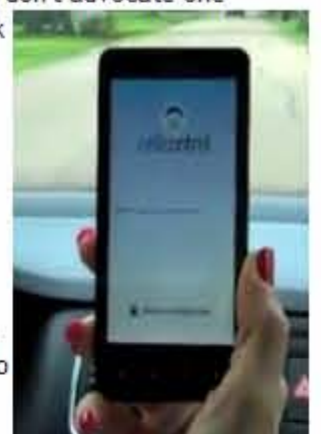
If you are the parent of a teenager, imagine knowing that your child can't make or receive distracting phone calls while they're on the road. Or, if you're a business owner who sends employees out in business-owned vehicles, imagine never having to worry about those employees safe driving habits. All over the market there are reports of [new devices](#) popping up that will prevent drivers from making or receiving cell phone calls once the vehicle is on and in operation.

These devices work by inhibiting the cell phone signal so that the driver of the phone is shown a temporary message while the car is in motion. For most of the devices available there is an emergency option so that the driver can unlock the phone and dial 911 or other approved numbers (such as the parent's phone number or the business office number) in the event that the driver needs to be able to get in contact with someone while the car is in motion or if the key can't be removed from the ignition. Additionally, these devices also redirect incoming calls to voicemail automatically and generally auto-respond to incoming text messages with a message stating that the person is driving and will get in touch once they have stopped. This allows the text-sender the option to call and leave information on the voicemail if it is pressing, and at least to know that the other person isn't ignoring them, he or she is simply otherwise engaged.

All in all, there are several different systems to choose from and if you're a parent, a business owner, or otherwise believe that one of these systems may be appropriate for you, you have many options and can begin doing some research to find out which system is best for you. Although we don't advocate one system over another (as each has its own benefits depending on your needs), here are four of systems currently available for your quick reference.

- [Key2Safe Driving](#)
- [Cell Control](#)
- [PhoneGuard](#)
- [Drive Assist](#)

If you, or a member of your family or business is the victim of an auto accident, our personal injury attorneys can help process insurance claims and ensure that medical care is appropriately handled. Please give us a call with any questions or to discuss your case. Or, if you have feedback on any of these systems (or another that your family or business currently uses) [send us an email](#). We'd love to hear how these devices for safe driving have made a difference in your life!



The Coye Law Firm continues to represent consumers and employees in their claims for [personal injury](#), [workers compensation](#), and [Social Security disability](#) benefits. Call our offices today at [800-648-4941](#) to speak with someone who can evaluate your situation and determine if we can help you with your claim.

To learn more about our firm & practice areas, visit [coylaw.com](#) or [coylawdisabilitycenter.com](#)

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