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Mr. Edwin Crosby

to protect a veteran's disability benefits from seizure where the veteran invokes that provision to avoid an otherwise valid order of child support." The Court explained that, "while it may be true that [veterans' disability compensation payments] are exempt from garnishment or attachment while in the hands of [VA], we are not persuaded that once these funds are delivered to the veteran a state court cannot require that veteran to use them to satisfy an order of child support." *Id.* at 635. This means that state courts are free to consider the availability of VA benefits in determining the amount of a Veteran's child support obligation and, in fact, may set a support award in an amount that would necessarily require that part of the award be paid out of those benefits once they are received by the Veteran. Although *Rose* concerned only child support payments, state courts have treated alimony payments similarly.

I hope this information is helpful to you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard J. Hipolit".

Richard J. Hipolit
Assistant General Counsel