

Why Does Social Security Only Want to Communicate With Social Security Lawyer?

Q: Will SSI benefits stop if you start working again?

A: Supplemental Security Income benefits are based on financial need. If you become employed again, your earnings may reduce or discontinue your SSI benefits. If you earn more than the amount Social Security deems as Substantial Gainful Activity, your SSI benefits may be in jeopardy. The pretax monthly limit this past year was set at just below \$1000. It is important that you report all your earnings to Social Security. You will have to pay back any over payments from Social Security. If you have the desire and ability to work in any capacity, you should not hesitate to pursue that. Purposefully keeping your hours low for the sole purpose of continuing SSI benefits can be considered fraudulent. If you have any reservations about returning to work because of loss of SSI benefits, you may wish to contact a social security lawyer.

Q: Should you be concerned if Social Security prefers to communicate with your social security lawyer instead of you?

A: Once representation is hired, Social Security prefers to handle all transactions regarding your case via your social security lawyer. You should not be concerned if this is the case. The social security lawyer you hired is your advocate and works only on your behalf. Communicating with both you and your social security lawyer can result in miscommunication. You and your attorney are a team. You should be in frequent contact with your social security lawyer regarding your case. That is why you hired representation.

Q: Can an individual be awarded benefits through the VA and SSDI?

A: Yes, a veteran can receive disability benefits through both the VA and Social Security. If a veteran was injured on or after October 2001, he can have his claim go through an accelerated review process with Social Security. The expedited process is supposed to occur automatically, but it is a good idea to remind the representative handling your claim or to mention it on your initial application. If you have hired representation, your social security lawyer will know to make sure your case is expedited.

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