

Is It Best to Have a Social Security Lawyer for the Hearing Process of an Appeal?

Q: Why do I have to see a social security medical examiner after I apply for disability?

A: Many people who file for disability benefits through Social Security are asked to go through a consultation with one of their doctors. Your representative will refer to it as a consultative examination. A CE is requested by the disability examiner who handles your case. If you are currently undergoing a hearing on your case, the judge may also request it. The consultative exam most often serves one of two purposes. If your medical records are not very current, an exam will be helpful. If the details on your medical records are old, the disability examiner assigned to your file will not be able to make a sound decision. The second reason would be because your medical files are not complete. For example, you may not have a recent test that might be necessary to determine the status of your injury. A call for a consultative examination is not an indication that your case will not be approved. It is an indication, however, that more details on your medical condition are required in order to rule on your application. If one is requested, you will have to participate in the CE. If you have any questions or concerns about your particular CE, you may wish to contact a social security lawyer.

Q: Should I have a social security lawyer review my case before I appeal?

A: If your application for disability was denied, you should appeal and it is wise to hire a social security lawyer to help with the process. Many applications for social security disability benefits are denied. Just because a case is denied, does not mean it cannot win in appeal. Some applications are not approved because of incomplete data or missteps in the application process. A social security lawyer knows the hearing process well, will make sure your file has all the required information and that it is fairly reconsidered. Having a social security lawyer handle your appeal will not guarantee that you will win, but it will give you a better chance than if you handled the process on your own.

Q: Once I submit my application, do I need to follow up with social security?

A: You should check up on your case. Your social security lawyer (if applicable) can also check your application status. In some cases, paperwork can be misplaced. In other cases, notice of approval or denial of an application may never reach the applicant. There are many stages your application must go through to be reviewed. You could miss deadlines if you are not notified. It is always wise to check the status of your file from time to time. Get in touch with the representative handling your case (usually referred to as the "disability examiner.") On average, a decision on a case will be rendered within a few months. If it has been longer than that for you, contact your disability examiner. More related information [Veterans lawyers -- Florida social security lawyer](#) --

About the Author

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