

## Are You Required to Hire a Social Security Disability Attorney When You Appeal for a Hearing?

Q: Is it required to have a social security disability attorney when you appeal for a hearing?

A: No, you are not required to have a social security disability attorney in order to appeal to have your disability case heard before an administrative judge. There are claimants whose cases did not have legal representation and were awarded benefits. That being said, the majority of cases that are awarded benefits after a hearing have been represented by a [social security disability attorney](#). A hearing is your last chance to present the background and evidence regarding your case. Once many claimants actually reach their hearing dates, they have been in the disability review process for years. You want to give your case the best chance you can at being awarded benefits, receive the most favorable onset date and do it all in the least amount of time possible. A social security disability attorney knows the disability review process well and understands what a judge needs to make a fair and quick judgment on your case. When you have an attorney on your side, you can feel confident that you have submitted everything properly, thoroughly and in a manner that will allow a judge to fairly make a decision.

Q: Do you have to hire a social security disability attorney that is based in your town?

A: No, you do not need to hire a social security disability attorney that is based in your town. Many attorneys drive all over the state and, in many cases, across state lines to meet with clients and represent their cases during hearings. In addition, a lot of communication can be accomplished via telephone and e-mail when it is not convenient or possible to meet in person. If you have concerns about geographic distance and how it may affect the success of your case, speak with any social security disability attorney you are considering hiring before you sign anything. Make sure you are both comfortable with the frequency of in person meetings and how communication will be handled.

### About the Author

Find more info regarding [social security benefits](#), visit [www.HillAndPonton.com](http://www.HillAndPonton.com).

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