

FARMER & WRIGHT, PLLC ATTORNEYS

Re: Case Status

Dear Client,

We wanted to provide you an update on your Social Security Disability (SSD) claim. Farmer & Wright has submitted your initial application for SSD, which is the first step in the process of obtaining disability.

Since the application was submitted, we are now just waiting for the Social Security Administration (SSA) to decide on the initial application. This step in the process can take approximately 3-6 months. While we wish we could speed up the process, no law firm has that ability to do so due to the collection of your medical and employment records. You can check the status of your disability claim online at the SSA website (ssa.gov).

Social Security may do one or both of the following things: (1) They will be contacting you via phone to verify the information on the application. They will attempt to call you three times. Please return this call to ensure there is not a delay in your filing. (2) If they are unable to get a hold of you, Social Security will be mailing you the application to review, sign, and send back to them. Please do this immediately, so there are no delays in your filing.

SSA will send you the following forms to fill out:

- o Activities of Daily Living
- o Function Report
- o Pain Report
- Work History

Since we can not describe your pain and how it impacts your day to day, you will have to fill these forms out yourself. We will be happy to assist you with these forms. Email us at VIP@farmerwright.com to request an appointment.

Unfortunately, the odds of winning at the first level are relatively low – but that's where Farmer & Wright helps. If denied, we then file an appeal. We will let you know as soon as we receive notice of approval or denial.

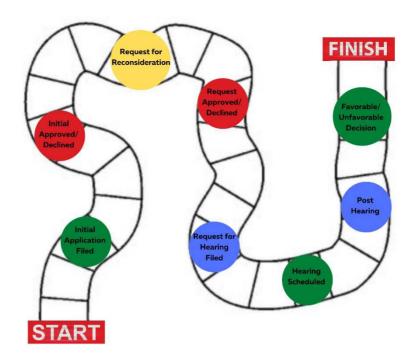
Please continue to update Farmer & Wright of your medical treatment on our <u>Disability Treatment</u> <u>Hotline at 844-369-9776</u>

Farmer & Wright, PLLC

Case Update: Initial Application Filed

The Social Security Process is anything but simple. It involves several steps.

The Initial Level: Filing an initial application is where your case for benefits disability begins. This step in the process can take approximately months. Social Security requests all of your medical records and reviews your case determination. Unfortunately, the odds of winning at the first level are relatively low - but that's where we come in. If denied, we then file the appeal to the "reconsideration level."



The Reconsideration Level: At

this level, the administration reviews your case and requests any medical updates. This step also takes approximately 3-6 months. The odds of winning at the reconsideration level are still very low. Do not get discouraged. If denied at reconsideration, we can then appeal the decision to an Administrative Law Judge.

<u>The Hearing Level:</u> this step is where we can present your case before a Judge and explain why you are disabled. This point in the process is where we have the most success in obtaining disability benefits for people. The current approximate wait time to get a hearing before a Social Security Administrative Law Judge is between 18-24 months.

8 Things You Can Do To Help Your Disability Claim

- If you need medical treatment or a doctor recommended medical treatment, please **GET IT.**
- Attend all of your medical appointments, including therapy.
- Make sure to request your doctor or medical professional to fully update your medical file about the medical issues you are having (i.e., pain, new issues, recurring issues, etc.)
- Take all prescribed medication
- Follow doctor's orders and request
- If you need assistance with mental health, request a referral to a specialist
- If you have chronic migraines, seizures, etc., make sure you document it to the best you can. (Write it on your calendar at home.)
- Update the Disability Hotline at 844-369-9776 after every doctor's appointment.

After you have obtained any medical treatment, please call Farmer & Wright Disability Treatment Hotline at 844-369-9776 to report all your treatment.

This is preferred way to report your medical treatment.