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What's Happening....

How a Social Security Disability Hearing Works

If you've applied for Social Security Disability (SSDI) benefits and your initial application was denied, you should always request that your claim be reconsidered within 60 days.

If your SSDI Reconsideration claim is again denied, you have the right to request a hearing before

an Administrative Law Judge. At this point we strongly urge that you work with an attorney experienced in SSDI appeals to present the best case for your application.

Currently in L.A. it can take up to 18 months after your request for your hearing to take place (Social Security - Average Wait Time). Be sure to consult your attorney well in advance of the hearing date for adequate time to review your case with you.

What To Expect at Your Claim Hearing

The Administrative Law Judge will tell you when and where to go for your hearing. Don't worry - you won't have to go to a formal courtroom and there won't be a jury or audience. The hearing location will be one that is convenient for you like your local Social Security office.

You should make every effort to appear at the hearing! If you don't have a valid reason for not attending the hearing as scheduled, the judge may dismiss your hearing. Video-conferencing is available in most locations to make scheduling easier. You can invite your attorney, supportive family members or any witnesses that can help your case to attend.

The Administrative Law Judge will manage the proceedings and make a decision on your case. There may also be medical and vocational experts present who can answer questions about your medical condition and your job.

A court reporter may be present to record your hearing as part of the documentation of your case.
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....continued from page 1 **How a Social Security Disability Hearing....**

Answering Questions at Your Disability Hearing

- Listen carefully to the judge's questions and give direct answers.
- Don't give extra information - stick to the question.
- Be specific about your symptoms and how they limit your lifestyle and working ability.
- Be ready to describe your daily living and how it's been affected by your disability.
- Always be honest and don't exaggerate anything.

You can find more information about SSDI hearings at the Social Security Hearings and Appeals website.

From My Blog:

What is a Social Security Disability Freeze?

Due to your Social Security disability and retirement benefits being determined by an average of your historical earnings, having little or no income for a period of time can lower your monthly Social Security benefits when you need to use them. To decrease the impact of these little or no income periods on your overall benefits, the Social Security Administration (SSA) created a "disability freeze." A disability freeze is a period where the SSA won't consider your income when calculating your future benefits. Read the rest » <http://www.kentonslawoffice.com/blog/social-security-disability/what-social-security-disability-freeze/#more-1012>



History of Trains in California: A Colorful History

Although California attained statehood in 1850, our state was isolated on the Pacific Ocean until the First Transcontinental Railroad was completed. Before that magical golden spike was driven in Promontory Summit, Utah in 1869, anyone traveling to California had to go by ship, an arduous journey around the tip of South America that took 5-8 months. Overland routes were full of dangers from diseases to attacks by hostile Indians.

Further development of train transportation to California paralleled various economic development periods. The initial push for trans-continental trains was in response to the Gold Rush of 1849.



Train transport was the logical choice to help distribute California's agricultural bounty to the rest of the country and soon the Pacific Fruit Express was shipping produce in refrigerated cars.

By 1915 transporting oil in steel tank cars was big business and train engines were converted to run on oil instead of coal.

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....continued from page 2 **History of Trains in California: A Colorful....**

The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad, immortalized in Johnny Mercer and Harry Warren's 1944 song, chose Los Angeles as its western terminus in 1885, digging into the Southern Pacific Railroad transportation monopoly.

The San Diego electric railway, created in 1892, helped to urbanize San Diego as did the Pacific Electric Railway in Los Angeles and Orange Counties.

Rail tourism began in the 1870's but leisure travel by rail really kicked in 60 years later. Sadly, the "Golden Age" of railroading ended when automobile and air traffic became more popular and also cost-effective.

Today, Amtrak provides interstate train travel for our state and several intercity lines connect various regions.

If you or a loved one has been denied Worker's Compensation or Social Security Disability (SSDI) benefits, it's important to get an attorney experienced in these types of cases involved immediately. Call **800-438-7734** for your initial free consultation, either in our office or in the comfort of your own home. The Kenton Koszdin Law Office, Social Security attorney in Van Nuys, can help you navigate the application process for the best possible outcome for you and your family.

Recipe of the Month **Cider Roasted Squash**

This is a great side dish for the fall. Try it with grilled chicken or fish.

Ingredients

- 4 cups cubed peeled butternut squash
- 1 medium onion, cut into thin wedges
- 2 tablespoons apple cider
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1-1/2 teaspoons brown sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper
- 1/8 teaspoon ground nutmeg



Directions

1. Preheat oven to 450°. Place the squash and onion in a greased 13x9-in. baking dish. Combine cider, oil, brown sugar, salt, pepper and nutmeg; pour over squash mixture.
2. Cover and bake 35 minutes or until tender, stirring every 10 minutes. Yield: 4-6 servings.

Recipe courtesy of TasteofHome.com

How a Social Security Disability Hearing Works



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This newsletter is intended to educate the general public about probate, trusts, wills, and other issues. It is for information purpose only and should not be constructed as legal advice. Prior to acting on any information contained in this publication, you should consult with experienced, competent counsel regarding your specific situation.

What's Happening in VanNuys & Southern California

Oct 1

Dolly Parton
Hollywood Bowl
Los Angeles, CA
<http://losangeles.eventful.com/events/dolly-parton-/E0-001-092642339-1>

Oct 1

Taste of Italy
Los Angeles, CA
<http://italianhall.org/taste-of-italy-los-angeles/>

Oct (every Saturday)

Brick or Treat
Legoland
Carlsbad, Ca
<https://www.legoland.com/california/>

Oct 7-8

Marc Anthony
Microsoft Theater
Los Angeles, CA
<http://losangeles.eventful.com/events/marc-anthony-/E0-001-094346369-7>

Oct 15

Smoky Robinson
Saban Theatre
Beverly Hills, CA
<http://losangeles.eventful.com/events/smokey-robinson-/E0-001-092479333-9>

Oct 15

Monster Mash-Up! A Halloween Hit Parade
Long Beach Arena - Long Beach
Convention Center
Long Beach, CA
<http://losangeles.eventful.com/events/monster-mashup-halloween-hit-parade-/E0-001-093398809-0>

Oct 16

Gwen Stefani
LA Forum
Los Angeles, CA
<http://losangeles.eventful.com/events/gwen-stefani-truth-feels-like-tour-/E0-001-093426052-0>

Oct 31

Horror in the Hall: Halloween Organ
with Film
Walt Disney Concert Hall
Los Angeles, CA
<http://losangeles.eventful.com/events/horror-hall-halloween-organ-film-/E0-001-096100972-1>