

# APPLYING FOR DISABILITY

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DREAM IT.  
HOPE IT.

**National Ataxia Foundation**

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Hosted by the Southeast Region

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# PRESENTER DISCLOSURES

- Jon Rodis
- Kathleen L. Kane
- The following personal financial relationships with commercial interests relevant to this presentation existed during the past 12 months:
  - No relationships to disclose or list



# MAKING THE FINAL DECISION TO FILE FOR DISABILITY

- ❖ **Health Considerations**
- ❖ **Financial Considerations**
- ❖ **Emotional Considerations**





# CURRENT EMPLOYMENT DISABILITY PLANS

- ❖ Employee Handbook
- ❖ How to deal with insurance policy(ies)
- ❖ Breaking down your employer's disability Plan



# PREPARATION FOR FILING

- ❖ Keeping a daily journal
- ❖ Preparing your physicians for your filing



# SSDI OR SSI

- Two major programs provide disability benefits:
- Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
- You must earn sufficient credits based on taxable work to be “insured”
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Payments made determined by financial need, and are payable to adults or children who are disabled or blind, have limited income and resources, and meet the living arrangement requirements

# THE FILING PROCESS

In Person or Online?







# OUR SUGGESTED CHECKLIST

- ❖ Filling Out the SSI and SSDI Forms
- ❖ State Funding / Programs
- ❖ Support Letter (after first denial)
- ❖ Doctor's Support
- ❖ (Condition) Research
- ❖ (Condition) Doctor's Evaluation
- ❖ Medical Records
- ❖ Approved Cases in State
- ❖ Daily Journal (with all listings)

**EARLY APPROVAL IS POSSIBLE!!!!**



# LISTING OF IMPAIRMENTS

- ❖ 11.14 Peripheral neuropathies, with disorganization of motor function as described in 11.04B, in spite of prescribed treatment.
- ❖ 11.04B states: Significant and persistent disorganization of motor function in two extremities, resulting in sustained disturbance of gross and dexterous movements, or gait and station (see 11.00C).
- ❖ 11.00C states: Persistent disorganization of motor function in the form of paresis or paralysis, tremor or other involuntary movements, ataxia and sensory disturbances (any or all of which may be due to cerebral cerebellar, brain stem, spinal cord, or peripheral nerve dysfunction) which occur singly or in various combination, frequently provides the sole or partial basis for decision in cases of neurological impairment. The assessment of impairment depends on the degree of interference with locomotion and/or interference with the use of fingers, hands, and arms.



# RESIDUAL FUNCTIONAL CAPACITY

- An individual's residual functional capacity is his or her ability to do physical and mental work activities on a sustained basis despite limitations from his or her impairments.
- All of the impairments must be considered, including impairments that are not severe.

# STAGES OF APPEALS

- ❖ Reconsideration
- ❖ Hearing
- ❖ Appeals Counsel
- ❖ U.S. District Court





# ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

- Preparation
- Witnesses
- Medical Experts
- Vocational Experts

# QUESTIONS





THANK YOU FOR LISTENING!!!!!!

Jonathan Rodis  
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Kathleen Kane, Esq.



**THIS IS A NEW BEGINNING!!!!**

