

Legal Insider



FROM THE DESK OF CHARLES D. HANKEY

Holiday Help is Available for Indiana Residents in Need

This time of year should be full of happiness, joy and peace. Unfortunately, some of us are dealing with financial difficulties which makes the holidays a difficult time. There are many services throughout the state that provide assistance, giving people the holiday they hope for.

United Christmas Services is an organization through United Way. They assist families in need during the holiday season. In order to be considered for assistance, you must be referred to the program through a partner organization. If you are working with an organization that is assisting you in your daily life, ask them about referring you. The family referral service deadline is November 26, 2014. They service Marion, Hendricks, Boone, Morgan, Johnson and Hamilton counties.



Indiana Salvation Army is a great resource for low income families, the unemployed and less fortunate. They can assist you with food, utility bill payments and rent assistance. They also provide Holiday and Christmas Assistance. All aid is according to special and specific needs. If you need gifts for your child, contact your local Salvation Army office.

There are many resources out there that offer assistance throughout the year and most certainly during the holidays. Another option is to contact 211, Connect to Help, for additional resources. Local churches and your local Trustee's Office are other great options. Be sure and do this soon. Most of these organizations have cut off dates for assistance.

May you all have Happy Holidays!

OBJECTION TO APPEARING BY VIDEO TELECONFERENCING

We have received many questions about SSA Form HA-55: Objection to Appearing by Video Teleconferencing (also known as a VTC Objection Form). If you are waiting on a hearing date, you either have already received this form or will be receiving it soon.

By not completing this form, you are consenting to a video teleconference hearing (which is when the judge appears via video) as opposed to an in-person hearing. There are many cons associated with having your judge appear via video.



According to the Administrative Law Judge disposition date provided by Social Security, non-local judges who appear via video typically have a lower approval rating. Judges who appear via video will also not fully be able to evaluate you. For example, they will not be able to see you walk into the hearing room and may not be able to properly see your cane or walker. It is because of this that we are advising our clients to object to a video hearing.

That being said, there are some cases where a video hearing may be appropriate depending upon where you are located. Please do not complete the form yourself. It is important that upon receiving the document you contact your case administrator immediately.



Fall is upon us and the cold chill is filling the air. This is the time of year that we reflect on the past year. Some of us have gone through some difficult times and yet we can find things to be grateful for. In that spirit, we asked some of the team members here at the Hankey Law Office what they were thankful for. Here's hoping that you have plenty to be thankful for this year too.

Kim, Case Administrator

I am thankful to have a wonderful job helping those who need guidance and assistance in order to obtain benefits they have worked so hard for. It is a blessing and a great experience to be able to help those in need of assistance. We tend to take things for granted but this has been a humbling experience for me and I would not change it for anything. These holidays, I will enjoy seeing all of my family and friends and being surrounded by love – that's what makes it special to me. (Ok, the food too!)

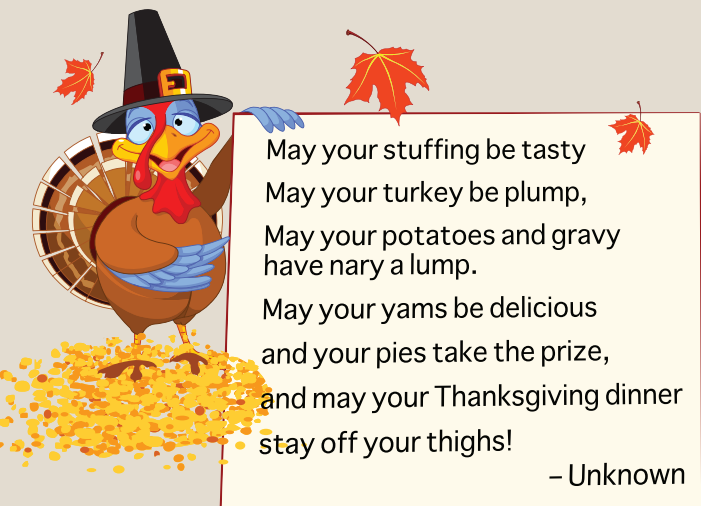
I hope each and every one of you are able to be with family and/or friends as we celebrate the holidays and give thanks to all around that have touched your lives.

Lynne, Case Administrator & Paralegal

I am thankful and blessed for God and my family.

Martha, Billing Manager

I am thankful...that Jesus died to save me. For every breath God has given me. For my beating heart, for legs that walk, eyes that see, and ears that hear. For arms that work and hands that not only grasp and type but also play the violin and piano. For a voice that sings, for forgiveness – I have been unfairly forgiven... so I can do the same.



Jacob, Intake Specialist

My family, friends, coworkers, clients... and Doctor Who.

Sabrina, Receptionist

I'm thankful for my faith because it has helped carry me through this year.

Carolyn, Case Administrator & Marketing Coordinator

I am thankful for my family and friends and for their constant love and support. I am thankful for The Hankey Law Office, my coworkers and our clients.

Malinda, Litigation Paralegal

My family

Beth, Office Manager

I'm thankful for my two boys, they light up my life! I'm also thankful for my co-workers. They bring a smile to my face every day!

Jamie, Case Administrator & Appeals Department

My family. I come from a large family and we are all very close.

Anna, Case Readiness Manager

I am thankful for my daughters, grandson and my health.

Shannon, Appeals Specialist

I'm thankful for my husband and wonderful children, my church, my job and my health.

Leanne, Litigation Paralegal

I'm thankful for the well-being and health of my friends and family. Also, for chocolate and blue raspberry Jolly Ranchers.

Megan, Marketing Director

I am thankful for my amazing husband, Brandon. I wake up every day knowing that I am married to my best friend. Thank you God for blessing me with him. I am also thankful for my health and my job at the Hankey Law Office.

Lesley, Paralegal

I'm thankful for family, friends and good health.

SPOTLIGHT: WESTMINSTER NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES



The Hankey Law Office has been long time donors to the Westminster Neighborhood Services, Inc. WNSI serves over 1,800 families in a year. Their programs provide food and clothing to the Indianapolis near Eastside inner-city area. This area of the city has 43% of the families at or below the poverty level while the Indiana average is 15.6%.

These donations assist Westminster in providing a safe and nurturing place for children, meals to the hungry and help people combat the daily struggles of poverty. The Hankey Law Office is grateful to assist such an outstanding organization!

WHAT IS A CASE ADMINISTRATOR?

When you become a client at the Hankey Law Office you are provided a Case Administrator (CA). We train our CAs in Social Security Disability law so that they can provide you with the best assistance possible.

Under the direction of your attorney, your CA is here to assist you with all of your questions and concerns during the life of your claim. Your CA can assist you in changing your address, updating your medical information, adding new prescription medications to your file, explaining documents, explaining the process, etc.

At times, your Case Administrator may change due to staff changes or client satisfaction. If you have questions about who your case administrator is, please do not hesitate to contact our office at 317-634-8565.

RECIPE: Pine Bark

Ingredients:

35 saltine crackers
1 cup butter
1 cup packed light brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
5 (4-ounce) milk chocolate bars,
broken into pieces



Instructions:

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. Line a 15 by 10 by 1-inch jelly roll pan with tin foil. Lightly spray foil with a non-stick cooking spray.

Place saltine crackers, salty side up, in prepared pan. In a saucepan, boil butter and sugar for 2 to 3 minutes, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and stir in vanilla extract. Pour mixture over crackers and bake for 4 to 6 minutes.

Remove from oven, top with candy bars, and spread evenly as chocolate begins to melt. Cool slightly and transfer onto waxed paper. Allow to cool completely.

CLIP & SAVE: Helpful Contacts

Charles D. Hankey Law Office P.C.

Lockerbie Square, 434 East New York Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202
Office: 317-634-8565 | Toll Free: 800-520-3633 | Fax: 317-634-9818
www.hankeylaw.com

Contact us if:

- You moved to a new address or changed your phone number
- You received a denial letter
- You went to see a new doctor
- You have been admitted to the hospital
- Your doctor has diagnosed you with a new medical condition
- You had a new test/MRI/X-ray

Additional Resources

Information Referral Network – 317-926-HELP

Crisis Line – 317-251-7575

Center Township Trustees (can assist with rent, utilities, takes applications for Food Stamps, TANF, and Medicaid)

863 Massachusetts Avenue – 317-633-3610

Healthy Indiana Plan: low cost insurance for Indiana Families – 877-438-4479 | www.hip.in.gov

RX for Indiana: assistance with prescription drug cost – 877-793-0765 | www.rxforindiana.org

Advantage Program: health care program for uninsured, low-income Marion County residents – 317-221-2000 | www.hhcorp.org/adv.htm

Div. of Disability & Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) – 800-545-7763
www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/4938.htm

Damien Center: help for those afflicted by HIV/AIDS – 317-632-0123 | 800-213-1163 | www.damien.org

Indiana Free Clinic Information: low cost or free health care for low-income or uninsured – www.freeclinicdirectory.org/indiana_care.html

Housing Help:

Indianapolis Resource Center for Independent Living – 317-926-1660

Colonial Park (chronic homeless program) – 317-353-6784

Indianapolis Public Housing Agency (section 8) – 317-261-7200

Barton Center (sleeping rooms - \$278, 2 bedrooms \$500-613) – 317-423-2575

You can apply for Social Security disability benefits by calling 1-800-772-1213, online at www.ssa.gov, or in person at your local office

Indianapolis Area Local Social Security Office Addresses*:

West Side: 6745 Network Place – 866-218-2309

Downtown: 575 N. Pennsylvania, Suite 685 – 866-931-7057

East Side: 5515 N. Post Rd. – 866-220-7899

*If you live outside of the Indianapolis area, please ask a Case Administrator for the address and phone number to your local social security office.

WE'LL COME TO YOU

At the Hankey Law Office, we know many of our clients may not be in a position to visit us in our office to begin the intake process. Instead, Jacob, our full-time Field Intake Specialist, can come to you.



To set up an appointment, please call Carolyn at (317) 554-5906.

CHARLES D. HANKEY LAW OFFICE P.C.



WITH 80 YEARS OF COMBINED EXPERIENCE, BOTH IN AND OUT OF THE COURTROOM, THE LEGAL PROFESSIONALS OF THE CHARLES D. HANKEY LAW OFFICE CAN RESOLVE CASES INVOLVING:

- DISABILITY CLAIMS (SSD/SSI)
- LONG TERM DISABILITY
- SHORT TERM DISABILITY
- WORKER'S COMPENSATION
- EMPLOYMENT LAW
- WORKPLACE DISCRIMINATION
- WAGE & HOUR ISSUES
- PERSONAL INJURY
- CAR ACCIDENTS
- TRUCK ACCIDENTS
- MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENTS
- BICYCLE ACCIDENTS
- RAILROAD CROSSING/
TRAIN ACCIDENTS
- AIRPLANE ACCIDENTS
- HIGHWAY DEFECTS
- WORKERS' COMPENSATION
- PREMISES LIABILITY
- PRODUCT LIABILITY
- BRAIN/HEAD INJURIES
- SPINAL INJURIES
- DOG BITES /ANIMAL ATTACKS
- CHILD INJURIES
- CONSTRUCTION ACCIDENTS
- BURN INJURIES
- DROWNING

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GET CONNECTED ONLINE

We make it easy for you to stay connected with the Hankey Law Office online. You can like us on Facebook, follow our tweets, meet us on Google +, and watch our videos on YouTube.



Like Hankey Law on Facebook

- Learn about our attorneys and staff
- Get updated on changes in law that affect your case
- Participate in fun online Giveaways
- Stay connected with others going through the same thing as you



Visit us at www.hankeylaw.com.

Past results afford no guarantee of future results. Every case is different and must be judged on its own merits. The contents of this newsletter do not constitute legal advice.

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