Cooperative Disability Investigations Program

Preventing and Detecting Fraud

The Cooperative Disability Investigations (CDI) program is a critical anti-fraud initiative that combats fraud within the Social Security Administration’s (SSA) disability programs. A CDI unit consists of an Office of the Inspector General (OIG) special agent who leads the unit, and personnel from SSA, State disability determinations services, and state or local law enforcement partners.

CDI units primarily investigate allegations of fraud before benefits are paid, and supports continuing disability reviews by providing evidence for determinations. Stopping an improper payment before it occurs, or as soon as it is suspected, is in the best interest of SSA, OIG, and taxpayers.

CDI Coverage

There are currently 49 units, covering 47 states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and all U.S. territories. By October 1, 2022, the CDI program will provide nationwide coverage as required by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015.
Investigative Outcomes

The CDI unit investigates the fraud allegation and documents their findings in a report. The report is used as additional documentation or evidence in making a disability determination. If the CDI investigation reveals fraudulent activity, the case might also be presented to federal and state prosecutors for consideration of prosecution, or SSA might impose administrative sanctions.

Program Results

The CDI program generates significant cost savings for federal and state programs. During fiscal year 2021, the CDI program reported more than $86 million in projected savings to SSA's disability programs, and approximately $76.5 million to non-SSA programs, such as Medicare, Medicaid, housing assistance, and nutrition assistance programs. Since inception in 1997, CDI investigations have contributed to a projected savings to taxpayers of more than $7.7 billion.

How Do I Report Fraud?

Reporting is easy, safe, and secure. You can reach us by internet, mail, facsimile, or telephone.

Online: https://oig.ssa.gov

U.S. Mailing Address:

Social Security Administration Fraud Hotline
Office of the Inspector General
P.O. Box 17785
Baltimore, Md 21235

Fax: 410-597-0118

Telephone: 1-800-269-0271 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays

TTY: 1-866-501-2101 for the deaf or hard of hearing