

MEMORANDUM

To: Social Security Advisory Board
From: Claire Green
Subject: Overview Memo for July 28, 2015 Board Meeting
Date: July 20, 2015

This month, we will be covering several different topics the Board is currently looking into:

The Board meeting will begin with a discussion with the Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC). The senior staff representatives include G. William Hoagland, Senior Vice President; David Hoppe, Senior Adviser; Shai Akabas, Associate Director of Economic Policy; and Brian Collins, Senior Policy Analyst. They will discuss the work they have been doing this past year on disability solvency options.

Following the BPC, the Board will meet with Dr. Ephraim Feig. Dr. Feig was the former Associate Chief Information Officer at SSA from 2010-2012. Dr. Feig's background is primarily in the technology field in private industry and he is currently the CEO of Topwhats, Inc. Dr. Feig wrote a document outlining his vision for the systems technology at SSA that he published shortly after leaving SSA. This document has been included in this month's briefing material.

After lunch, the Board will meet with Mr. Robert Klopp, who is SSA's Chief Technology Officer. Mr. Klopp also comes from the private sector. He is from Silicon Valley and has been with SSA only a few months. He will be briefing the Board on current projects and efforts to update SSA's systems.

We will end the day with Chief Actuary Steve Goss. Mr. Goss and his team at the actuary's office have indicated the Trustees Report will be released midweek. Once it is released, we will prepare a memo outlining any significant changes.

For those that can stay for a celebration, following the Board meeting, we will be celebrating Deputy Chief Actuary Alice Wade's retirement in August. We will be taking her to dinner at Station 4, a restaurant that is within walking distance from the SSAB office. Please let Anita or Caitlyn know if you can join us.

Meetings and Events

The following is a synopsis of some hearings, briefings, and events attended since our meeting in June:

- On June 25th, SSAB staff attended a meeting with Stacy Cloyd, Deputy Director of Government Affairs, and Barbara Silverstone, Executive Director of National Organization of Social Security Claimants' Representatives (NOSSCR). NOSSCR is an association of attorneys who provide legal representation to Social Security Disability and Supplemental Security Insurance claimants. Topics discussed during the meeting included: How the national organization operates, concurrent beneficiaries of SSI and SSDI, legal representation of disability claimants, barriers to claimant understanding of SSA policy, post-eligibility issues such as returning to work, the relative rarity of fraud cases as compared to errors resulting in overpayments, and the responsibilities of

administrative law judges. Ms. Cloyd advised simplicity in creating and proposing policy in order for it to be more accessible to claimants and simpler for SSA to administer.

- On July 15th, SSAB staff attended the National Disability Forum: *Transitioning SSI Childhood Beneficiaries to Successful Adulthood*. Following a welcome and opening remarks by Virginia Reno, a panel discussion took place. Molly Costanza (Social Science Research Analyst, ORDES, SSA) presented on the current landscape of the child SSI program. Marie Mann (Medical Officer, Mental & Child Health Bureau, Health Resources, and Services Administration) presented on the mission and goals of maternal and child health bureau and aspects of health as it pertains to transitioning with a disability. Janet LaBreck (Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services Administration) presented on Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA), cultural factors, financial factors, job readiness, and resources on the local, state, and federal level as important matters to consider for youth in transition. T.J. Sutcliffe (Director, Income and Housing Policy, The Arc) gave a broad overview of issues related to children transitioning on the SSI program, including family economic security, wrap-around services, work and education incentives, and concerns of youth and families as they transition into adulthood. Following the panel presentations, the audience engaged in Q&A and discussion with the panelists concerning implications for the program and policy.