


Kim Hildred, Chair  
Nancy J. Altman  
Jagadeesh Gokhale  
Bob Joondeph

Claire Green, Staff Director



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## Public Board Meeting Minutes September 23 – 24, 2021

**Day One** September 23, 2021

**Location:** Meeting held virtually on Zoom

**Time:** 10:00 am – 3:15 pm EST

**Board Members:** **Bob Joondeph**, Chair  
**Nancy Altman**, Member  
**Jagadeesh Gokhale**, Member  
**Kim Hildred**, Member

**Board Staff:** **Claire Green**, Staff Director  
**Diane Brandt**, Research Director  
**Bethel Dejene**, Management Officer  
**Sunny Bick**, Management Analyst  
**Cheri Cannon**, General Counsel  
**Pamela Crawford**, Senior Advisor  
**Conway Reinders**, Lead Policy Analyst  
**Jenn Rigger**, Senior Advisor  
**Omar Shalabi**, Policy Analyst  
**Emma Tatem**, Lead Policy Analyst

### Day One

10:00 am – 3:15 pm **Public Session on the State Agencies' Role in Social Security Disability Determinations**

10 – 11:30 am **Disability Determination Administrative Regulations**

*The Social Security disability evaluation process involves shared responsibility between the Social Security Administration (SSA) and state Disability*

*Determination Services (DDS) agencies. Two former SSA executives will discuss the [regulations](#) outlining the roles and responsibilities of SSA and the state agencies.*

## Participants

**Art Spencer**, former Associate Commissioner, Office of Disability Programs, SSA

**Melissa Spencer**, former Deputy Associate Commissioner, Office of Disability Policy, SSA

**Bob Joondeph**, Chair, Social Security Advisory Board  
(moderator)

Recorded presentation:

<https://vimeo.com/616027635>

11:30 – 12:15 pm

### Executive Session

1:15 – 3:15 pm

### DDS Directors in Discussion

Four DDS Directors, representing state agencies of various sizes, organizational structures serving populations with different demographic and socioeconomic characteristics- will discuss current challenges in their states and state agencies across the country. They will recount their experiences during COVID-19 and discuss claim development, including medical evidence and consultative examinations, workload management, systems technology, and interagency communication with SSA.

## Participants

**Leon Scales**, President, National Council of Disability Determination Directors (NCDDD); Director, Virginia Disability Determination Service Center (DDS)

**Jacki Russell**, Incoming President, NCDDD; Director, North Carolina DDS

**Ian Harlow**, Board Member, NCDDD; Director, Pennsylvania DDS

**Mary Wolfe**, Member, NCDDD; Administrator, Texas  
DDS

**Bob Joondeph**, Chair, Social Security Advisory Board  
(*moderator*)

Recorded presentation: [01:23:37](#)

## Day Two

10 am – 3 pm

### Executive Session

I certify the public meeting minutes' accuracy for the Social Security  
Advisory Board's September 23-24, 2021, meeting.



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Bob Joondeph

November 19, 2021  
Date