



The annual NADE mid-year board meeting was held Feb 21-Feb 22nd in Baltimore. NADE executive board met with SSA and DCPS representatives.

Capitol Hill visits were March 25-30th, 2019

Upcoming Events:

April- National Donate Life Month

May 3rd-OKADE SWADE Conference

June 17-21: National Disability Professionals Week

August 18-21: National Training Conference, Atlanta GA

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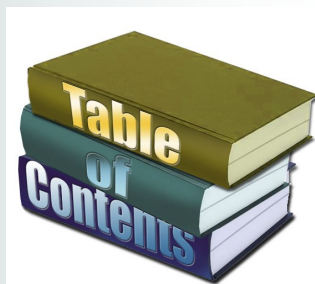
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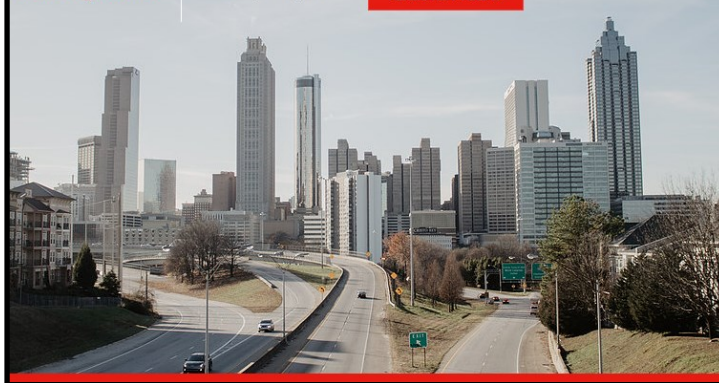
NADE 2019 CONFERENCE

Atlanta: GADEWay to the South

18-21 August 2019

Atlanta, Georgia

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NADE President's Message

Sharon Bland Brady, PhD



Dear NADE Family,

Since taking the Office of President of NADE after the National Training Conference in Fairfax, VA in August 2018, I immediately began my duties by overseeing the New Board Meeting held on the last day of the conference.

During the new board meeting, the board decided not to continue to fund the Communication Director and Membership Director positions for the mid-year board meeting.

As President elect, I worked very closely and participated on the Capitol Hill Visit with Jennifer Pounds, NADE Past President and Jeff Price, NADE Legislative Director, in May 2018.

NADE was invited to speak at the National Disability Forum in November 2018. I traveled to DC and represented NADE regarding the recon process. I worked very closely with Sara Winn (President Elect), and Jennifer Nottingham (New Legislative Director), on the Disability Forum on how to improve the Reconsideration Process, that took place in Washington, D.C.

This was very interesting and I learned a lot about Social Security Administration and the Disability Program. The different perspectives of the various panel members was very enlightening. The panel consisted of Representatives from the National Council on Disability, The National Disability Rights Network, and The National Organization of Social Security Claimant's Representatives. The main take away points from this National Forum was that customer service is very important and viable to the success and the survival of the DDS's. "Going the extra mile and making, that initial phone call to the claimant goes a long way in clarifying information that might have been missed at initial level. Making this phone call gives the examiner an opportunity to ask additional questions and find out about other impairments that was not listed on the application, which could show up at the end of the case or at a consultant examination. The second take away was that it is important that we make sure the attorney representative or third party representative is documented in the case and is sent all of communications that the claimant receives. The third take away was there is a perception that Recons are a "rubber stamp" of the initial claim, and DDS examiners do not look at the case with a fresh set of eyes. However, that is not the case. I recently was offered to speak on a different panel at the Social Security Advisory Board in Washington, D.C., regarding Reconsideration Process, but due to weather, I was only able to be on a teleconference with this group since this meeting, I have been invited to be a part of a Technical Expert Panel for SSA that will take place in Baltimore sometime in April 2019.

The Executive Board Members have had a chance to have two conference calls with John Owen, SSA's Associate Commissioner for the Office of Disability Determinations (ODD), and several members of his staff to discuss important issues, i.e. overtime, workload issues, hiring, budgets, reconsiderations, quality, to name a few.

I invited the following SSA components to speak at our Mid-year Board Meeting in February 20-23, 2019,: Grace Kim, Acting Deputy Commissioner of Operations, John Owen Associate Commissioner of ODD; Jim Julian SSA Deputy Associate Commissioner of OPD, along with Mary Quatroche, Senior Advisor to the Associate Commissioner, Deborah Harkin, Senior Policy Advisor in ODP; Honorable Office of Inspector Attorney General Gail Ennis and Derek Pulliam, Program Analyst for DCPS Implementation Team and Mary Lindauer, DCPS Deployment Manager. We learned a lot about the Disability Program, policies, procedures and development, the updates on the Cooperative Disability Investigative Unit, and the latest updates on DCPS.

President's Message ctd.....

The date for the Capitol Hill visits were March 24-30, 2019. Jennifer Nottingham the Legislative Director and Sara Winn the President Elect accompanied me on this opportunity.

We are all excited and let us all get ready to attend the NADE National Training Conference in Atlanta, Georgia on August 18-21, 2019 <https://www.nadeatl2019.com/>.

NADE is excited that the NADE National Training Conference for 2020 will be held in Helena, Montana and this is great news.

Finally, spring is here!!! NADE has been extremely busy since our National Conference in August 2018.

It has been an honor to serve as the NADE President and I will continue to strive to do my best for the duration of my tenure as the NADE President. I wanted to thank Tonya Scott, Jennifer Pounds, Jeff Price, Jennifer Nottingham and Sara Winn, for supporting me this year and guiding me through the process of being the NADE President.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sharon Bland-Brady

NADE President

Grace M Kim, Acting Deputy Commissioner of Operations (DCO) for SSA⁴
John E Owen, Office of Disability Determinations (ODD), Associate Commissioner (AC)



Pictured from left: Sara Winn, John Owen, Sharon Bland Brady, Grace Kim

The NADE Board was honored to welcome Grace Kim and John Owen to the 2019 Mid-year Board meeting. Ms. Kim brings over 29 years of SSA service and experience to her new role as the Acting Deputy Commissioner of Operations (DCO). Prior to her appointment as the Acting DCO, she held positions as the Chicago Deputy Regional Chief Counsel, San Francisco Regional Chief Counsel, and as the San Francisco Regional Commissioner. Mr. Owen has also dedicated many years to SSA and its disability program. Before joining SSA in 2007, Mr. Owen spent more than a decade with the Alaska DDS, where he began as a disability examiner trainee prior to moving into positions of increasing responsibility. Mr. Owen has served as the Associate Commissioner in the Office of Disability of Determinations (ODD) since 2016.

Ms. Kim and Mr. Owen provided insight and information on several topics important to the NADE community: 1) Medical Consultant pay schedules (salary vs paid-per-case); 2) IT Modernization Projects; 3) and, hiring, overtime and Reconsiderations.

DDS Medical Consultant and Psychological Consultant (MC/PC) pay schedules vary by state with some MCs/PCs compensated by salaries and others paid-by-case. Over the years, there have been questions about the different pay structures, whether SSA directs how states pay MC/PCs, and whether the variance in pay affects the accuracy of the determinations.

Each state is responsible for hiring or contracting and managing qualified staff. SSA does not mandate how states compensate MC/PCs. Regardless of the state pay structure, SSA has a number of policies in place explaining the roles and expectations of all MCs/PCs. SSA administers those policies and monitors compliance to ensure all claimants receive an accurate and timely decision. SSA also conducts periodic studies to compare the initial Quality Assurance accuracy rates of states that pay MC/PC salaries and those that paid-by-case. A study in FY 2018 demonstrated less than one percent different in the accuracy rates between states that paid MCs/PCs by salary compared to those that paid-by-case. SSA has no plans to mandate the states' pay structures.

IT Modernization is the broad term that encompasses a number of projects, tools and initiatives under development to modernize SSA systems.

A couple of products being developed with the Office of Hearing Operations (OHO) includes the Duplicative Identification Process (DIP) program. The DIP is a product that can easily identify duplicate information in a file, reducing the need of a decision maker to re-read duplicative evidence. Another tool being developed with OHO is the Insight tool. It is an analysis tool that reviews written decisions for policy compliance, and provides alerts to the decision writer when specific entries appear to be noncompliant with policy. This tool, like DIP, may be applicable in other offices in the future, such as the DDS, or Disability Hearing Officers (DHO).

A tool being developed for disability adjudicators in the DDS and currently being piloted in the Iowa DDS is the IMAGEN (Intelligent Medical-Language Analysis GENeration) tool. IMAGEN is a tool to visualize, alert, summarize, search and more easily identify relevant clinical content in medical records. IMAGEN provides decisional guidance and enables disability adjudicators to leverage various machine learning technologies and predictive analytics to support data driven decisions. This program will eventually incorporate other Artificial Intelligence (AI) functions and have the ability to learn new information, adapt and evolve.

The IT Modernization initiative is also prioritizing the electronic receipt of evidence, which the agency refers to as “Electronic Evidence Acquisition” (EEA). By using processes that receipt and store evidence in electronic formats, such as Health IT and Electronic Records Express (ERE), we can maximize the opportunities to use the efficiencies of the tools being developed, such as DIP, IMAGEN and Insight.

Hiring, Overtime, and Reconsideration rollout was discussed at length. Appreciation was extended to the Acting Commissioner of Social Security, Nancy Berryhill, who made the decision to address hiring needs in the FY 2019 budget. DDSs across the country received 650 total hires. 250 of were allocated in the first quarter with an additional 400 in the third quarter. In addition, an additional 777 hires were allocated to the ten Prototype states in support of their increased workload adjudicating Reconsideration claims.

The FY2019 budget also included 526,500 hours of Overtime (OT) for the DDS to adjudicate all claim types. NADE extended thanks to ODD for the allocated front-line staff hires and OT.

The first stage of the Reinstating Reconsiderations was implemented in January 2019, in five Prototype states. One additional state is scheduled for implementation in April with the remaining four Prototype states scheduled to reinstate reconsiderations next fiscal year—moving the states back into national uniformity in the appeals process. In order to monitor the implementation and progress of the reinstatement process, workgroups were formed to specifically evaluate data, quality, and the impact of reinstating reconsiderations. To assist in the transition a desk guide was prepared by the Office of Disability Policy (ODP) and distributed to all DDSs in an effort to share best practices and to emphasize the importance of making an independent decision at the reconsideration level of appeal.

Respectfully submitted by,
 Marjorie E Garcia
 NADE Pacific Region Director

NADE Meets with the Honorable Gail S. Ennis, Inspector General for SSA

By: Thomas Gautier

During our February mid-year board meetings in Baltimore, the NADE Board had the privilege of hosting the recently sworn-in Inspector General for Social Security, Gail S. Ennis. Ms. Ennis was nominated to this position by President Donald Trump, and the Senate confirmed her nomination on January 2, 2019. She holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Juris Doctor from Brooklyn Law School. Previously, she worked in private legal practice for 20 years. Ms. Ennis becomes the fourth Senate-confirmed Inspector General for SSA, since the OIG was established in 1995.



Pictured from Left: Sara Winn, Gail Ennis Honorable OIG, Sharon Bland Brady, Phillip Hanvy, Andrew Cannarsa

The NADE Board was very receptive to Inspector General Ennis and congratulated her on her new role, and she was enthusiastic to continue the OIG's partnership with NADE. She started her remarks by thanking NADE for its support and said she has heard great things about the interaction between the OIG and NADE. She said she understands the OIG continues to depend on disability examiners to identify potential fraud cases, and she encouraged us to continue to report suspicious cases to our local CDI Unit.

The Inspector General presented a few questions to the NADE Board while at the meeting including: what her office should look at that doesn't see a lot of attention; what we feel is going well within the disability program; and where there might be room for improvement with the disability program. The Board provided a lot of feedback to the questions proposed, and the Inspector General said she would review the information with OIG leadership.

One board member stated she did not have a CDI Unit in their state, which prompted the Inspector General to offer some great information about planned CDI expansion. Plans are in place to add CDI Units in Idaho, Montana, and North Dakota in 2019 and, in Wyoming, Connecticut, Nevada, New Hampshire, and Nebraska in 2020.

The Inspector General also noted that the CDI restructuring pilot, which launched in January 2018, recently completed. The pilot was implemented so CDI Units could investigate the full range of disability fraud cases and prepare for future program expansion. The pilot provided the OIG good information about the state of the program, and the OIG is considering program changes that will make the CDI program sustainable for years to come.

The NADE Board discussed several other topics of interest with the Inspector General. On DCPS, the Inspector General said the OIG continues to monitor system development, and an audit report to review future system costs should be issued soon. She also discussed the reinstatement of the reconsideration step, along with Health IT. As the OIG continues to review data relevant to these two issues, it will try to determine how beneficial each of these items are to the disability program.

NADE would like to thank Inspector General Ennis for taking time to meet with us, and we look forward to ongoing communication with the OIG.



What is the mission of the SSA Office of Disability Policy?

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By: Billie Thomas, Southwest Region Director



Pictured from Left: Sara Winn, Sharon Bland Brady, Jim Julian, Deborah Harkin, Mary Quatroche

It was an honor to have Jim Julian, SSA Deputy Associate Commissioner, along with Mary Quatroche, Senior Advisor to the Associate Commissioner, and Deborah Harkin, Senior Policy Advisor from the Office of Disability Policy (ODP) present at our February 21, 2019 NADE mid-year board meeting. Melissa Spencer has retired and Jim Julian is now the Deputy Associate Commissioner of ODP.

The panel brought a wealth of knowledge about disability policy and implications. They spoke on latest developments and implementation of policy and procedures. Updates were shared on the vocational modernization and revising Failure to Cooperate policies.

The Office of Retirement and Disability Policy (ORDP) continues to evaluate how SSA does business, while exploring and implementing policy changes that increase the accuracy by which the agency issues benefits, while also implementing ways to increase the efficiency of the agency's day-to-day work.

ORDP is pursuing technological changes and transformational opportunities that improve the way we do business and provide balance across workloads.

These efforts help to ensure that we focus on quality, accuracy, and timeliness in support of optimizing the administration of SSA's services, but also help to ensure that the public understands our policies.

Occupational Information System

The Bureau of Labor Statistics is collecting updated occupational requirements data through the Occupational Requirements Survey.

SSA is using this data, along with data from other occupational sources, to develop a new Occupational Information System (OIS) to replace the Dictionary of Occupational Titles (DOT) in disability adjudication.

BLS recently published summarized ORS data collected over the past three years

SSA is analyzing the data to determine policy implications.

Disability Modernization

This is an initiative to update our vocational regulations to reflect changes in medical and vocational practice, technology, and the work force.

SSA is in the early stages of studying cases to learn the impact of potential Vocational Rules Modernization (VRM) policy updates.

The agency will use this information to develop and publish a notice of proposed rulemaking.

Failure to Cooperate (FTC)

In 2016, ODP convened a cross component workgroup, including representatives from the DDSs and OHO, to recommend policy changes to address issues such as special handling instructions, how and when to follow up with claimants, as well as third party contact information.

The group has worked collaboratively to develop a revised policy—undertaking several clearance rounds and revisions based on comments.

We hope to release final revisions to the FTC policy in the near future.

The agency is reviewing and incorporating public comments for proposed revisions to the musculoskeletal listings.

Medical Listings

The agency is developing a combined NPRM for cardiovascular, digestive, and skin to reflect current medical practices and treatment.

The agency is reviewing and incorporating public comments for proposed revisions to the musculoskeletal listings

The NADE board appreciates Jim Julian, Mary Quatroche, and Deborah Harkin for their presence to have direct communication with NADE board members and inform us on developments of ODP.

DCPS Update

By: Sara Winn

NADE had the honor of having Derek Pulliam, Program Analyst for DCPS Implementation Team and Mary Lindauer, DCPS Deployment Manager to present the latest advances in DCPS at the mid-year board meeting. Disability Case Processing System (DCPS) is an agile, user-friendly processing system that SSA is transitioning to all DDS offices in the future. The DCPS roll out began initially in 2016, has gradually expanded. Most all types of cases can be processed in DCPS, except for Child Initial CDR's and Child Recon CDRS, which are currently scheduled to be completed in 2019. Several states are already using DCPS which are: Maine, Delaware, Ohio, Virginia, Rhode Island, Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, Washington, Washington DC, Missouri, Vermont, Louisiana, Wyoming, New Jersey, Kansas and Mississippi. Additional states will be implemented throughout the summer of 2019. Mary and Derek showed the board some of the updates with processing CDR's and the increased functionality of DCPS. DCPS allows the user to search by name, case number, or SSN. They showed us how to add vendors and send requests for medical evidence and forms. The demo included how to order CE's and how to identify the information about a CE. Users have the ability to edit allegations and addresses from the main screen. DCPS allows the user to view all information at once with the feature of **"at a glance"**. The case activity tab will show every action taken on the case and who took the action.

There is a DCPS group that is comprised of users from the DDS, Regional offices, SSA, and NCDDD who call themselves Community of Practice (CoP). There is a primary point of contact per site that is implemented. This group holds bi-weekly and monthly system demos and teleconferences. These meetings help to prioritize user needs based on feedback from the meetings. One area of concentration for the group is helping to support decentralized sites. Currently they are looking to identify MicroStrategy DDS experts who can define and develop a training strategy. NADE appreciates Derek and Mary sharing the DCPS progress with the board and look forward to continued enhancement of the product.



Pictured from left: Mary Lindauer, Sharon Bland Brady, Derek Pulliam

National Disability Forum on Enhancing the Reconsideration Process

By Jennifer Nottingham



Dr Sharon Bland Brady at the SSA Forum

The Disability Redesign Prototype began testing several initiatives in 1997. By October 1999, there were ten Disability Determination Services (DDS) sites that were testing the Disability Redesign Prototype, which included, the Single Decision Maker (SDM), and reconsideration elimination. Later, there were other DDS offices tested the SDM but did still had the reconsideration step of the appeals process. The Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 led to the phasing out of SDM in all DDS locations. Even though SDM no longer existed, the Prototype continued.

With the elimination of SDM, it became obvious that there needs to be a unified process in the DDS offices. NADE has advocated for a unified process and supported the reinstatement of the reconsideration appeals process to all DDS offices. SSA created a schedule to roll out the reconsideration process to the prototype sites. With the reinstitution of the reconsideration process, many stakeholders began asking questions about the effectiveness of the reconsideration process. On July 25, 2018 the Ways and Means, Social Security subcommittee held a hearing on Examining Changes to Social Security's Disability Appeals Process. NADE's president at the time, Jennifer Pounds did testify at the hearing.

The topic of reconsiderations has continued to be a hot topic. SSA hosted a National Disability Forum with a panel to discuss the topic of "Enhancing the Reconsideration Process" on November, 28, 2018. NADE was asked to participate on the panel. NADE president, Dr. Sharon Bland-Brady was a panelist and was able to give a perspective from the Disability Determination Services (DDS). Also on the panel were representatives from the National Council on Disability, The National Disability Rights Network, The National Organization of Social Security Claimant's Representatives, The National Council of Disability Determination Directors and the National Association of Disability Representatives.

Questions were asked of the panel about what would improve or enhance the reconsideration process, as well as the initial process. Prior to the forum, NADE members were able to submit input to help answer questions at the forum. Common themes that came up were challenges in getting cooperation from the claimant and their authorized representative, challenges obtaining medical records, concerns with the quality of application and appeal form completion. NADE did suggest that there should be additional training and review on reconsideration claims for DDS offices reinstating the reconsideration process. Additional training and adequate staffing for field offices to have quality application and appeal forms completed.

During the forum, a theme that came up is that the DDS is not able to obtain all the records and may rely too much on a consultative examination. NADE was able to address the challenges in obtaining medical records, and that quality of medical records can be a significant issue. Other panelists brought up concerns that there is a perception that SSA and the DDS are trying to deny everyone. There was allusion to the reconsideration process being a rubber stamp at the DDS. NADE was able to address that most disability examiners and medical consultants do not treat reconsiderations as a rubber stamp. The DDS does treat reconsiderations as a fresh new look and a way to obtain updated and additional evidence. NADE was privileged for the opportunity to attend the disability forum.



NADE's Strategic Plan

By Terri Klubertanz, Strategic Plan Chair

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NADE's strategic plan is a guidepost for our organization to help us meet the mission and purpose as outlined in Article II of the Preamble to NADE's constitution. The plan has been produced via a disciplined effort to identify fundamental decisions and actions that shape and guide what our organization is, who it serves, what it does, and why it does it. The plan focuses on both present objectives as well as future goals with the purpose of building and strengthening our organization, while maintaining NADE's essential purpose.

NADE's strategic plan is reviewed on an annual basis and updated as needed. Within the strategic plan, there are five strategic goals outlined that support NADE's mission and purpose. The strategic goals define how the ends (goals) will be achieved by the means (resources).

What are the Strategic goals in NADE's plan?

- Professionalism;
- Legislative, Regulatory and Judicial Monitoring and Advocacy;
- Organizational Continuity and Service to Members;
- Membership, Fraternity and Recognition;
- Chapter Development and Services.

Within each of these five strategic goals, various objectives and work plans have been established to help the organization meet our mission and measure our progress.

It is hard to accomplish things without a plan and the NADE Board looks to its members to help them in determining how NADE is doing in meeting its strategic goals.

The Strategic Plan committee is seeking member input on our strategic plan. Please take time to review NADE's strategic plan which is posted on NADE's website. Provide any feedback or comments you have to your Chapter President, who will see that it gets forwarded to your Regional director and then on to our committee for consideration. In your comments, we would appreciate hearing from you specifics as to how the strategic plan could be improved to best meet NADE's mission and purpose.

Specific feedback in the following areas would be most helpful:

- How is NADE doing in meeting its goals? Please be specific in your feedback.
- Are there particular strategies and goals that NADE should be focused on more than others? Which ones and why?
- Is there a strategy that you feel doesn't reflect our current environment? Which ones and why?
- Are there strategies NOT in the plan that you feel should be included? Which ones and why?
- Are there strategies currently in the plan that you feel should be excluded? Which ones and why?

Our committee is looking forward to hearing from NADE members on the Strategic Plan. To facilitate full consideration of your thoughts and ideas, the committee would like to have any feedback by June 30, 2019.

Thank you.



HOLIDAY COMMUNITY DRIVES

SoDADE The South Dakota chapter hosted a homeless clothing drive this winter for the homeless.



From left to right: Lucinda Remme, Sandra Axiotis, Lisa Yax, Doreen Dawson, Victoria Mc Gawley, Brad Sidel, Holly Barkley, Dalen Moore, and Crystal Bach.

NEVADA NADE adopts families for Christmas!

By Laurie Blakely

This holiday season Nevada NADE adopted needy families in our local areas. In Las Vegas, a family was adopted through the Nevada Childhood Cancer Foundation. Employees in Las Vegas bought gifts and made financial donations for a family of five with a three year old girl fighting Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia (pictured below). The Carson City NADE members organized the adoption of a combined family consisting of 3 adults and 7 children (all girls!). The generosity of the Carson City employees was overwhelming! The girls not only got the bare necessities that filled their wish lists, but additional fun things as well.



2019 NADE Awards Criteria

1)Each chapter is responsible for selecting and nominating their own members on the approved forms. (See attachment)

2)Nominations must be submitted by **June 3, 2019**, to Tena Fleming, NADE Awards Chair. These should be emailed to Tena.Fleming@SSA.GOV
Please be sure to type the address exactly as shown. Award nominations must be submitted electronically.

3)The nomination form should be typed and should explain in detail how the nominee exemplified the specific criteria of each award. It is preferred that only the nominee's identifying information be listed on the nomination form while an additional page(s) is submitted to include the narrative for the nomination.

4)**Please avoid referring to the member or chapter by name or any geographical identifying information in the nomination narrative.** This could result in disqualification of the nomination. Attach the nomination form with the name of the award and the nominee to the written narrative contained on an additional page(s).

5)Each chapter is limited to one nomination per award.

Thank you for your assistance with the NADE awards program. If anyone has any questions, please contact **Tena Fleming at (205) 989-2383 or 1 800 292-8106 ext. 383 or by email Tena.Fleming@SSA.Gov**

The Frank Barclay Award

This award is presented annually in recognition of an individual who has shown exceptional ability to motivate and challenge or to develop or promote programs which motivate and challenge others toward personal and professional growth/human resource development.

Criteria for Eligibility:

(a) The recipient must be a member of NADE.

(b) The recipient must be assigned to job duties specifically directed toward human resource development and perform these duties on a substantial but not necessarily full-time basis. Examples of potential nominees include, but not limited to, a training officer, a Quality Circle facilitator or an administrator of personnel programs.

(c) The recipient must have notable accomplishments in the area of human resource development, consistent with policies and objectives of our professional organization.

President's Award

(NADE Chapter of the Year)

This award is to be given annually and presented by the NADE President in recognition of an outstanding Chapter.

Criteria for Eligibility:

- a) Any organized NADE Chapter which has demonstrated outstanding achievement by innovation of programs for improving medical and other professional community relationships. Such activities as panel presentations, speeches, publication of bulletins, newsletters, circulars, or other efforts to improve the quality of medical reporting or reporting of vocational assessments, or the use of other professional information which can be utilized for the factual and effective documentation of disability determinations.
- (b) Any chapter activities which have enhanced working relationships among its professional communities.

Lewis Buckingham Award

This professional award is to honor and recognize a leader of the National Association of Disability Examiners at the National level. **This award is generally regarded as the highest individual award presented by NADE for service to the national organization.**

Criteria for Eligibility

- (a) This person must consistently have shown outstanding achievement by the use of initiative and humanitarian efforts to further advance the professionalism and goals of the National Association of Disability Examiners.
- (b) The recipient must have contributed at least ten (10) years of continuous service to the organization.
- (c) The recipient should have held national office.

The Earl B. Thomas Award

(DDS Administrator/Agency Director of the Year)

This award is to be presented annually on a continuing basis in the name of a charter member of NADE totally committed to and actively supportive of all for which it stands. It is made in recognition of an administrator of a disability agency for constant contributions to the Social Security disability program that far exceed the responsibility or the position and who is actively supportive of the advancement of NADE.

Criteria for Eligibility:

- (a) The recipient must be a member of NADE.
- (b) The recipient must be the administrator of a State or Federal agency or be the top administrator of a Regional or Satellite DDS and have been so for five years.
- (c) The recipient must have contributed significantly to the program in ways consistent with the policies of NADE, beyond the normal administrative duties of his/her position.
- (d) The recipient must be an active supporter of NADE.

The Charles O. Blalock Award

The Charles O. Blalock Award is a service award to be presented annually and on a continuing basis in the name of the founder of NADE. It is presented in recognition of an individual who has made extended efforts and major contributions toward the organizational advancement of NADE. **This award is generally regarded as the second highest individual award presented by NADE for service to the national organization.**

Criteria for Eligibility:

- (a)The recipient may be any professional member of the National Association of Disability Examiners who is employed full or part-time.
- (b)The recipient shall have provided outstanding leadership in the development and substantial expansion of his/her Chapter, Regional, and/or the National Organization.
- (c)The recipient shall have shown consistent efforts over a period of at least three years toward the organizational advancement of NADE.

The NADE Award

(Disability Professional of the Year)

This award is to honor and recognize the DISABILITY PROFESSIONAL of the year who has made outstanding contributions not, only to the service of the claimant in accordance with his/her expertise but has contributed substantially of his/her time and talent to promote harmonious and more effective working relationships among his/her immediate professional community. The award shall be presented annually at the National Conference.

Criteria for Eligibility:

- a) Anyone who is professionally identified as a DISABILITY PROFESSIONAL, employed full or part-time.
- b) Any NADE member engaged as a professional in any capacity, i.e., Medical Consultant, Adjudicator, Vocational Evaluation Consultant, Supervisor, etc.
- c) Anyone who has consistently shown outstanding achievement by the use of initiative and humanitarian efforts and ability to effectively assist in the Social Security disability process.

The John Gordon Award **(Supervisor of the Year)**

This award is presented in the name of John R. Gordon and is made to honor and recognize superior performance of a supervisor.

Criteria for Eligibility

- (a) Any supervisor who is professionally identified as a NADE member.
- (b) Any supervisor who by his/her initiative and resourcefulness promotes cohesiveness in his/her work group.
- (c) Any supervisor who provides further incentive for personal growth and professionalism among the individuals he/she supervises.
- (d) Any supervisor who acts in his/her executive capacity in the promotion and maintenance of morale.
- (e) Any supervisor who exceeds the requirements of his/her role in facilitating the work loads of his/her Agency.

The Marty Blum Award **(Rookie of the Year)**

This award is given annually to honor and recognize a disability professional who has made a significant contribution on a local, regional and/or national level to the National Association of Disability Examiners

Criteria for Eligibility

- (a) The recipient must have been a member of NADE for less than two years at the time of nomination, regardless of the number of years of service in a DDS.
- (b) The recipient must have made a significant contribution to their local, regional, and/or national level of NADE.

Medical Consultant Award

The Medical Consultant Award is to honor and recognize a Medical Consultant who has made outstanding contributions not only to the service of the claimant in accordance with his/her expertise, but has contributed substantially of his/her time and talent to promote harmonious and more effective working relationships among their immediate professional community. The award shall be presented annually at the National Conference.

Criteria for Eligibility:

- A) Any NADE member who is professionally identified as a MEDICAL CONSULTANT, employed full or part-time.
- B) The recipient must have contributed significantly to the program in ways consistent with the policies of NADE, and who exceeds the requirements of their role in facilitating the workloads of the State Agency(s), and who, by his/her initiative and resourcefulness, promotes cohesiveness in the DDS State Agency work groups.
- (c) And, who has consistently shown outstanding achievement, by the use of initiative and humanitarian efforts and ability to effectively assist in the Social Security disability process (i.e. providing articles, training, lectures to fellow disability professionals).

DIRECTORS AWARD
(Support Staff Professional of the Year)

This award is to honor and recognize an outstanding member of the support staff who demonstrates work performance efficiency and characteristics which contribute to the efficient operation of the unit and the morale of coworkers. The recipient shall:

- a) Be any clerical or paraprofessional employee who is employed either full or part-time and is a member of NADE.
- (b) Have shown outstanding leadership and work performance among his/her peer group.

NADE AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

Instructions: Please type or print legibly.

DO NOT refer to the nominee's name, chapter or geographical location in the narrative. It is preferred that the narrative be provided on an additional page(s). This "Nomination Form" page will be separated from the narrative before any voting by the Awards Committee. Any nominations that refer to the claimant by name or chapter in the narrative may be disqualified.

Award Name: _____

Nominee Name: _____

NADE Member since:

DDS Employee since:

Current Job Title: _____

Chapter Activities (include elected and appointed positions held with dates and other participation and service to the local chapter)

Regional Activities (include regional elected and appointed positions held with dates and other participation and service to region)

National Activities (include national elected and appointed positions held with dates and other participation and service at the national level)

Leadership (include specific examples of the impact of the nominee's contributions to the advancement of NADE during the span of their membership)



TO ORDER NADE MERCHANDISE, CONTACT:

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Fax: 405.419.2760
cynthia.thompson@ssa.gov

NADE MERCHANDISE



DELUXE LAPTOP BRIEFCASE
\$35.00



CARRYING CASE \$20.00



INSULATED COOLER BAG \$7.50



PENCILS 2/\$1.00



ABSORBENT STONEWARE
COASTERS \$7.50



LAPEL PINS
\$6.00 EACH



CAPS \$12.00



NADE LANYARDS \$6.00



NADE TRAVEL MUG
\$11.00



EXECUTIVE PORTFOLIO
WITH PAD AND PEN \$25.00

All proceeds to benefit NADE/Non-Dues Revenue
<http://www.nade.org/join-nade/nade-merchandise/>

CORPORATE MEMBERS

Visit <http://www.nade.org/about-nade/nade-corporate-members/> for information about becoming a corporate member.



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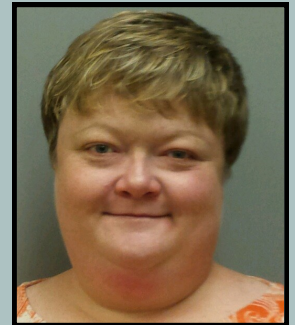
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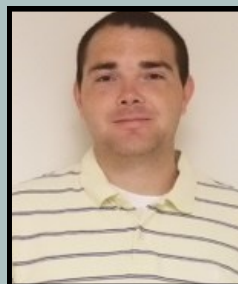
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