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## Government Benefits and Employment Claims

If you receive government benefits, it is important to tell your attorney. In some cases, if you receive a settlement or a judgment it can affect the amount or existence of your benefits. **This office does not practice in the area of government benefits – if this relates to your situation – you should consult with an attorney who does.** Here is some basic information:

- **Social Security Disability Income (SSDI)** – These benefits are based on work history and medical condition. Receipt of a settlement or judgment does not change your work history or medical condition and thus will not negatively effect your SSDI
- **Medicare** - These benefits are based on work history and medical condition. Receipt of a settlement or judgment does not change your work history or medical condition and thus will not negatively effect your Medicare.
- **Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** – a cash benefit based on current economic need to assist the aged, blind or disabled. These are based on current assets and income. Receipt of a settlement or judgment will most likely have a negative effect on your SSI.
- **Medicaid** - a medical benefit based on current economic need to assist the aged, blind or disabled. These are based on current assets and income. Receipt of a settlement or judgment could create a lapse or termination of your Medicaid benefits.
- **SNAP, FoodShare, Food Assistance** – a food purchasing benefit for low income families. These are based on current assets and income. Receipt of a settlement or judgment could create a lapse or termination of your food assistance benefits.
- **Subsidized Housing (HUD/Section 8)** – a housing assistance benefit that is based on current assets and income. Receipt of a settlement or judgment could create a lapse or termination of your housing assistance benefit.
- **Unemployment Benefits** – These benefits are based on employment status. A settlement or judgment will not affect receipt of these benefits. However, your judgment or settlement may be reduced by the amount of unemployment benefits you have received during the applicable time period.