About These Forms

- 1. In General. This and the other pleading forms available from the www.uscourts.gov website illustrate some types of information that are useful to have in complaints and some other pleadings. The forms do not try to cover every type of case. They are limited to types of cases often filed in federal courts by those who represent themselves or who may not have much experience in federal courts.
- 2. Not Legal Advice. No form provides legal advice. No form substitutes for having or consulting a lawyer. If you are not a lawyer and are suing or have been sued, it is best to have or consult a lawyer if possible.
- **3.** No Guarantee. Following a form does not guarantee that any pleading is legally or factually correct or sufficient.
- 4. Variations Possible. A form may call for more or less information than a particular court requires. The fact that a form asks for certain information does not mean that every court or a particular court requires it. And if the form does not ask for certain information, a particular court might still require it. Consult the rules and caselaw that govern in the court where you are filing the pleading.
- 5. Examples Only. The forms do not try to address or cover all the different types of claims or defenses, or how specific facts might affect a particular claim or defense. Some of the forms, such as the form for a generic complaint, apply to different types of cases. Others apply only to specific types of cases. Be careful to use the form that fits your case and the type of pleading you want to file. Be careful to change the information the form asks for to fit the facts and circumstances of your case.
- 6. No Guidance on Timing or Parties. The forms do not give any guidance on when certain kinds of pleadings or claims or defenses have to be raised, or who has to be sued. Some pleadings, claims, or defenses have to be raised at a certain point in the case or within a certain period of time. And there are limits on who can be named as a party in a case and when they have to be added. Lawyers and people representing themselves must know the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the caselaw setting out these and other requirements. The current Federal Rules of Civil Procedure are available, for free, at www.uscourts.gov.
- 7. **Privacy Requirements.** Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 5.2 addresses the privacy and security concerns over public access to electronic court files. Under this rule, papers filed with the court should not contain anyone's full social-security number or full birth date; the name of a person known to be a minor; or a complete financial-account number. A filing may include only the last four digits of a social-security number and taxpayer identification number; the year of someone's birth; a minor's initials; and the last four digits of a financial-account number.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

(Write the full name of each plaintiff who is filing this complaint. If the names of all the plaintiffs cannot fit in the space above, please write "see attached" in the space and attach an additional page with the full list of names.)

-against-

(Write the full name of the current Commissioner of the Social Security Administration. Do not include addresses here.) Complaint for Review of a Social Security Disability or Supplemental Security Income Decision

Case No.

(to be filled in by the Clerk's Office)

NOTICE

Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 5.2 addresses the privacy and security concerns resulting from public access to electronic court files. Under this rule, papers filed with the court should *not* contain: an individual's full social security number or full birth date; the full name of a person known to be a minor; or a complete financial account number. A filing may include *only*: the last four digits of a social security number; the year of an individual's birth; a minor's initials; and the last four digits of a financial account number.

Except as noted in this form, plaintiff need not send exhibits, affidavits, grievance or witness statements, or any other materials to the Clerk's Office with this complaint.

In order for your complaint to be filed, it must be accompanied by the filing fee or an application to proceed in *forma pauperis*.

I. The Parties to This Complaint

A. The Plaintiff(s)

Provide the information below for each plaintiff named in the complaint. Attach additional pages if needed.

Name	
Street Address	
City and County	
State and Zip Code	
Telephone Number	
Last Four Digits of	
Your Social Security	Number

(DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR FULL SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER)

B. The Defendant

Provide the information below for the defendant named in the complaint. Attach additional pages if needed.

Name

(The current Commissioner of the Social Security Administration)

Street Address	
City and County	
State and Zip Code	
	(The proper address is the regional Office of the Social
	Security Administration General Counsel.)
Telephone Number	

II. Basis for Jurisdiction

This is an action seeking court review of a decision of the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration. Jurisdiction for such proceedings can be based on two statutes. If this complaint seeks review of a decision regarding Disability Insurance Benefits under Title II of the Social Security Act, jurisdiction is proper under 42 U.S.C. § 405(g). If this complaint seeks review of a decision regarding Supplemental Security Income under Title XVI of the Social Security Act, jurisdiction is proper under 42 U.S.C. § 1383(c)(3). Please check the type of claim you are filing.

Claim Type		For Clerk's Office Use Only
	Disability Insurance Benefits Claim (Title II)	COA: 42:0405id NOS: 864
	Supplemental Security Income Claim (Title XVI)	COA: 42:1383 NOS: 863/864
	Child Disability Claim	COA: 42:0405wc NOS: 863
	Widow or Widower Claim	COA: 42:0405ww NOS: 863

An appeal from a decision of the Commissioner must be filed within 60 days of the date on which you received notice that the Commissioner's decision became final. When did you receive notice that the Commissioner's decision was final? (*This is likely the date on* which you received notice from the Social Security Appeals Council that your appeal was denied.)

Please attach a copy of the Commissioner's final decision, and a copy of the notice you received that your appeal was denied from the Social Security Appeals Council.

III. Statement of Claim

Federal courts may overturn decisions by the Commissioner of Social Security only if the decision was not supported by substantial evidence in the record or was based on legal error. Why should this court overturn the Commissioner's decision? *(Check all that apply)*

	why the Commissioner's factual findings are not supported by ial evidence in the record.)
The Cor	missioner's decision was based on legal error.

(Identify all legal errors.)

IV. Relief

State what you want the court to do *(check all that apply)*:

- □ Issue a summons directing the defendant to appear before the court.
- □ Order the defendant to submit a certified copy of the transcript and record, including evidence upon which the findings and decision are based.
- ☐ Modify the defendant's decision and grant monthly maximum insurance benefits to the plaintiff, retroactive to the date of initial disability.
- ☐ In the alternative, remand to the defendant for reconsideration of the evidence.
- Grant any further relief as may be just and proper under the circumstances of this case.

V. Certification and Closing

Under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11, by signing below, I certify to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief that this complaint: (1) is not being presented for an improper purpose, such as to harass, cause unnecessary delay, or needlessly increase the

4

cost of litigation; (2) is supported by existing law or by a nonfrivolous argument for extending, modifying, or reversing existing law; (3) the factual contentions have evidentiary support or, if specifically so identified, will likely have evidentiary support after a reasonable opportunity for further investigation or discovery; and (4) the complaint otherwise complies with the requirements of Rule 11.

A. For Parties Without an Attorney

B.

I agree to provide the Clerk's Office with any changes to my address where caserelated papers may be served. I understand that my failure to keep a current address on file with the Clerk's Office may result in the dismissal of my case.

Date of signing:	, 20
Signature of Plaintiff Printed Name of Plaintiff	
For Attorneys	
Date of signing:	, 20
Signature of Attorney	
Printed Name of Attorney	
Bar Number	
Name of Law Firm	
Address	
Telephone Number	
E-mail Address	

AO 240 (Rev. 07/10) Application to Proceed in District Court Without Prepaying Fees or Costs (Short Form)

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Plaintiff/Petitioner) v.) Ci

Defendant/Respondent

Civil Action No.

APPLICATION TO PROCEED IN DISTRICT COURT WITHOUT PREPAYING FEES OR COSTS (Short Form)

I am a plaintiff or petitioner in this case and declare that I am unable to pay the costs of these proceedings and that I am entitled to the relief requested.

In support of this application, I answer the following questions under penalty of perjury:

1. If incarcerated. I am being held at:

If employed there, or have an account in the institution, I have attached to this document a statement certified by the appropriate institutional officer showing all receipts, expenditures, and balances during the last six months for any institutional account in my name. I am also submitting a similar statement from any other institution where I was incarcerated during the last six months.

2. If not incarcerated. If I am employed, my employer's name and address are:

My gross pay or wages are: \$______, and my take-home pay or wages are: \$______ per (specify pay period)

3. Other Income. In the past 12 months, I have received income from the following sources (check all that apply):

(a) Business, profession, or other self-employment	Yes	🗖 No
(b) Rent payments, interest, or dividends	Yes	🗆 No
(c) Pension, annuity, or life insurance payments	Yes	🗖 No
(d) Disability, or worker's compensation payments	🗖 Yes	🗆 No
(e) Gifts, or inheritances	🗇 Yes	🗖 No
(f) Any other sources	Yes	🗆 No

If you answered "Yes" to any question above, describe below or on separate pages each source of money and state the amount that you received and what you expect to receive in the future.

4. Amount of money that I have in cash or in a checking or savings account: \$______.

5. Any automobile, real estate, stock, bond, security, trust, jewelry, art work, or other financial instrument or thing of value that I own, including any item of value held in someone else's name (describe the property and its approximate value):

6. Any housing, transportation, utilities, or loan payments, or other regular monthly expenses (describe and provide the amount of the monthly expense):

7. Names (or, if under 18, initials only) of all persons who are dependent on me for support, my relationship with each person, and how much I contribute to their support:

8. Any debts or financial obligations (describe the amounts owed and to whom they are payable):

Declaration: I declare under penalty of perjury that the above information is true and understand that a false statement may result in a dismissal of my claims.

Date:

Applicant's signature

Printed name

JS 44 (Rev. 04/21)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. *(SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)*

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS	locket sheet. (SEE INSTRUC	CHONS ON NEXT PAGE C	JF THIS FO	DEFENDAN	NTS		(n)- (.			
	of First Listed Plaintiff XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF C. Address, and Telephone Numbe			County of Resid NOTE: IN LAN THE TR Attorneys (If Kn	ND CON RACT O	(IN U.S. P.	LAINTIFF CASES O	,	OF	
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X" in	One Box Only)	III. CIT	IZENSHIP O	F PR	INCIPA	L PARTIES	Place an "X" in	One Box fo	or Plaintiff
1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government)	Not a Party)		For Diversity Cases C a of This State	Only) PTF	DEF	Incorporated or Pr of Business In T		Defendant) PTF	DEF
2 U.S. Government Defendant	4 Diversity (Indicate Citizensh	ip of Parties in Item III)	Citizer	of Another State	2	2	Incorporated and H of Business In A		5	5
				or Subject of a eign Country	3		Foreign Nation		6	6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT		nly) DRTS	FOI	RFEITURE/PENAL			for: <u>Nature of S</u> KRUPTCY		scription STATUT	
110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	PERSONAL INJURY 310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle 9 Forduct Liability 360 Other Personal Injury 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS 440 Other Civil Rights 441 Voting 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other 448 Education	PERSONAL INJURY PERSONAL INJURY 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPER' 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITION Habeas Corpus: 463 Alien Detainee 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence 530 General 535 Detath Penalty Other: 540 Mandamus & Othe 550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement	Y 625 690 TY 710 720 740 751 NS 790 791	LABOR LABOR Fair Labor Standards Act Labor/Management Relations Railway Labor Act Family and Medical Leave Act Other Labor Litigatio Employee Retirement Income Security Act IMMIGRATION Naturalization Applic Other Immigration Actions	e 881	422 App 423 Witi 28 30 Pate 820 Cop 830 Pate 830 Pate 830 Pate 830 Pate 840 Trata 861 HIA 862 Blac 863 DIW 864 STII 865 RSI 870 Tax or I 871 IRS	eal 28 USC 158 hdrawal USC 157 LLECTUAL CRTY RIGHTS wyrights ent ent wnt - Abbreviated v Drug Application	375 False (376 Qui Ta 3776 Qui Ta 3729() 400 State F 410 Antitri 430 Banks 450 Comm 460 Deport 470 Racket Corrup 480 Consu (15 U) 485 Teleph Protec 490 Cable/ 850 Securit 893 Conter 893 Enviro 893 Enviro 895 Freedo Act 899 Admin Act/Re	Claims Act im (31 USC a)) ecapportion ist and Bankin erce tation to Organiza to Organiza to Organiza to Organiza to Organiza to Organiza Stat TV ises/Commonge Statutory A litural Acts nmental M m of Inform sistrative Pr view or Af v Decision	c ament ng nced and tions 1692) mer odities/ actions fatters mation rocedure opeal of
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VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	DN Brief description of ca	- 10 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		o not cite jurisdictiona	al statuto		versity): HECK YES only	if demanded in	Complei	nt:
COMPLAINT:	UNDER RULE 2	IS A CLASS ACTION 3, F.R.Cv.P.		MACHINE J			URY DEMAND:	Yes	No	
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	(See instructions):	JUDGE				DOCK	ET NUMBER			
DATE		SIGNATURE OF ATT	ORNEY OF	RECORD						
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY RECEIPT # AM	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDG	ЭЕ		MAG. JUE	DGE		

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- I.(a) Plaintiffs-Defendants. Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".

II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.Cv.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.

United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here. United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)

- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If there are multiple nature of suit codes associated with the case, pick the nature of suit code that is most applicable. Click here for: <u>Nature of Suit Code Descriptions</u>.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date. Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation – Transfer. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407.

Multidistrict Litigation – Direct File. (8) Check this box when a multidistrict case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NOT AN ORIGIN CODE 7.** Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statute.

- VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity. Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service.
- VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P. Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction. Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

))
 Plaintiff(s))
v.)
))
)
)
 Defendant(s)	;

Civil Action No.

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION

To: (Defendant's name and address)

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you are the United States or a United States agency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address are:

If you fail to respond, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

CLERK OF COURT

Date: _____

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

Civil Action No.

PROOF OF SERVICE

(This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 (l))

1	ed the summons on the individual at		• •
		on (date)	; or
□ I left the summor	ns at the individual's residence or us	•	
		of suitable age and discretion v	
on (date)	, and mailed a copy to the	he individual's last known addre	ess; or
□ I served the sum	nons on (name of individual)		, who
designated by law t	o accept service of process on beha	lf of (name of organization)	
		on (date)	; or
□ I returned the sur	nmons unexecuted because		; (
Other (specify):			
My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a tota	ll of \$ 0.00
I declare under pena	Ity of perjury that this information	is true.	
		Server's signature	
		Printed name and title	

Server's address

٤,

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc: