



## SOCIAL SECURITY

Office of Disability Adjudication and Review

March 27, 2012

The Honorable Michael F. Bennet  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Bennet:

Commissioner Astrue has asked me to respond to your February 27, 2012 letter regarding video hearings for claimants in the Durango, Colorado area. As the senior agency official responsible for disability adjudication and review, I share your concerns about our claimants in southwestern Colorado. I am grateful that you and your staff have considered options for improving service to those claimants.

I am pleased to inform you that we are renovating space in our Durango Field Office to create a video hearing room. We anticipate that this room will be ready for use in the next few months.

While we work on that space, area claimants have several options for hearings. Claimants may opt for an in-person hearing at the permanent remote site in Grand Junction, Colorado, which is 169 miles from Durango. Claimants may also elect to have a video hearing at the Farmington, New Mexico Field Office. Claimants who have representatives participating in our Representative Video Project (RVP) may elect to have a video hearing at their representative's office. Representatives not currently participating in RVP may send an email to [odar.hq.Video.Project@ssa.gov](mailto:odar.hq.Video.Project@ssa.gov) to request additional information on how to sign up for RVP.

I hope you find this information helpful. If you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me, or your staff may contact our Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs at (202) 358-6030.

Sincerely,



Glenn Sklar  
Deputy Commissioner