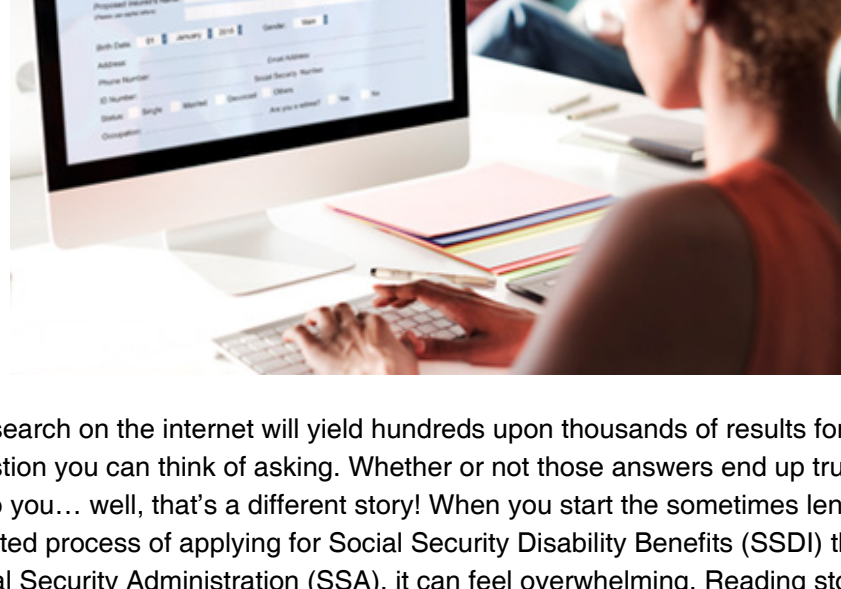




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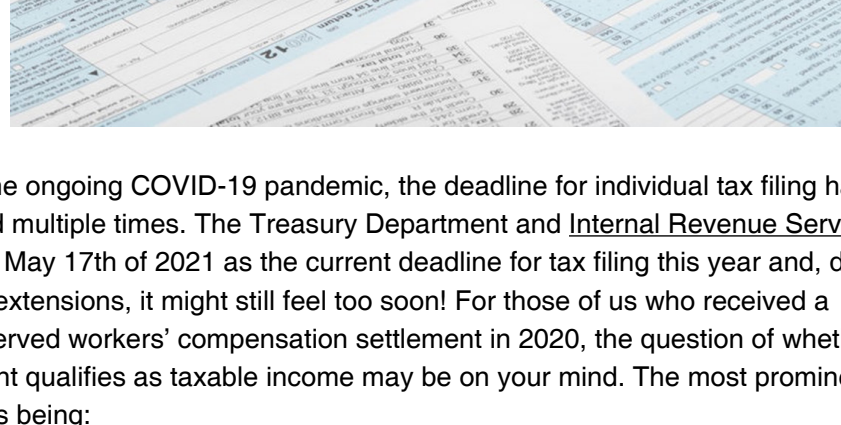
Busting 3 Major SSDI Myths



A quick search on the internet will yield hundreds upon thousands of results for nearly any question you can think of asking. Whether or not those answers end up truly being helpful to you... well, that's a different story! When you start the sometimes lengthy and complicated process of applying for Social Security Disability Benefits (SSDI) through the Social Security Administration (SSA), it can feel overwhelming. Reading stories about people's experiences can quickly lead to assumptions about how the process will be for you, but each case is unique to the person applying for benefits. Among these stories, many myths about the process have muddied up the truth. We looked at busting these 3 major SSDI myths to clear the waters.

- 1. If I get on SSDI and then try to start working again, my benefits will be stopped indefinitely.**
This isn't true. Once you've been awarded SSDI benefits, you can seek or continue holding a job. However, there are limitations as to what sort of work you can perform due to your disability and how much you can earn.
- 2. If I start earning too much at my job and my benefits are stopped, I will have to apply for benefits all over again when they're needed.**
Another falsehood. If you're receiving SSDI and your reported earnings are high enough to stop disbursing your benefits, you are still able to reinstate those benefits if your disability leads to a decrease in earnings again.
- 3. If I can't immediately identify my disability among the list of qualifying disabilities through the SSA, I shouldn't bother trying to apply.**
The list of qualifying disabilities available through the SSA is a helpful guideline and reference for those who need a general idea of whether or not they may qualify, but it isn't written in stone. Any physical or mental impairment that is severe enough to impact your life and earnings can be considered.

Workers' Comp Settlements: Are They Taxable?



Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the deadline for individual tax filing has been extended multiple times. The Treasury Department and Internal Revenue Service has declared May 17th of 2021 as the current deadline for tax filing this year and, despite the multiple extensions, it might still feel too soon! For those of us who received a well-deserved workers' compensation settlement in 2020, the question of whether that settlement qualifies as taxable income may be on your mind. The most prominent questions being:

Will my workers' compensation benefits increase or decrease my payout?

First and foremost: workers' compensation benefits do not qualify as taxable income at the state or federal level, nor do lump-sum settlements from workers' compensation cases. Because it's not considered taxable income, it can't negatively or positively impact your payout.

What if I don't receive a W-2 for the tax year because I was receiving benefits the entire time?

Don't panic! You won't receive any documents regarding your benefits. Workers' compensation benefits, or income, is not necessary to include when filing your taxes. If you still feel unsure about this part, our attorneys can help you out.

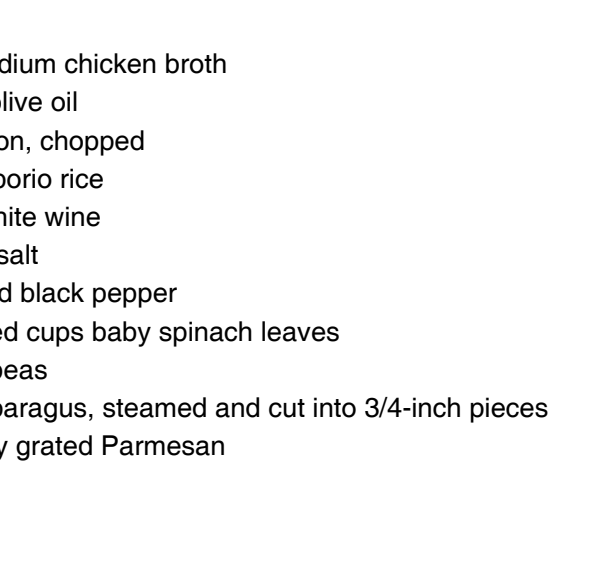
How else might my benefits impact my tax filing process and return?

Though the income received as workers' compensation benefits or settlements isn't considered taxable income, this may not apply to any other types of benefits you received at the same time. For example, if you were awarded SSDI in addition to workers' compensation benefits, you might receive documentation for the taxable SSDI income.

If you've been injured on the job and your employer doesn't carry workers' compensation, or if you need to file a personal injury claim, don't wait before seeking help from an experienced attorney. Our team at Heller, Maas, Moro, and Magill, Attorneys at Law in Ohio are here to help. From workers' compensation to social security disability, VA benefits, and personal injury - our highly skilled team is here to help. Contact us today at (330) 792-6611 for your initial free consultation from the comfort of your home.



Recipe of the Month Garden Risotto



Enjoy the fresh flavors of spring with this vegetable packed risotto. This is a perfect dish for your next meatless Monday!

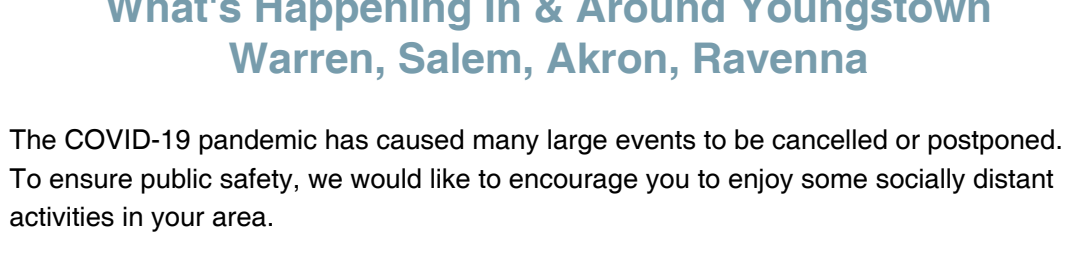
Ingredients

- 6 cups low-sodium chicken broth
- 2 teaspoons olive oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 1/2 cups Arborio rice
- 1/2 cup dry white wine
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 3 lightly packed cups baby spinach leaves
- 1 cup frozen peas
- 1/2 pound asparagus, steamed and cut into 3/4-inch pieces
- 1/4 cup freshly grated Parmesan

Directions

- Bring the broth to a simmer in a medium saucepan. Heat the oil in a heavy saucepan over moderately low heat and cook the onion, stirring occasionally, until soft, 3 to 5 minutes. Add the rice and cook, stirring constantly, 1 minute. Add wine and simmer, stirring constantly, until absorbed, about 1 minute. Add 3/4 cup of the hot broth, the salt and a few grinds of fresh pepper and simmer, stirring constantly, until broth is absorbed. Continuesimmering and adding hot broth, about 3/4 cup at a time, stirring constantly and allowing the broth to be absorbed before adding more, until rice is almost tender and creamy, about 18 minutes.
- Add the spinach and peas and cook until the spinach is wilted. Add the asparagus and cook just until the vegetables are hot. Stir in the Parmesan and more broth if the risotto seems too thick. Serve in soup plates.

Recipe courtesy of *Ellie Krieger*



What's Happening In & Around Youngstown Warren, Salem, Akron, Ravenna

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused many large events to be cancelled or postponed. To ensure public safety, we would like to encourage you to enjoy some socially distant activities in your area.

- [Annual Dandelion May Fest \(Dover\)](#)
- [Reggae Fest Cleveland \(Twinsburg\)](#)
- [Midway Drive-In Theater \(Ravenna\)](#)
- [Dyngus Day \(Cleveland\)](#)
- [Wilbeth Road Trailhead \(Akron\)](#)
- [Mill Creek Park \(Canfield\)](#)
- [Akron Zoo \(Akron\)](#)

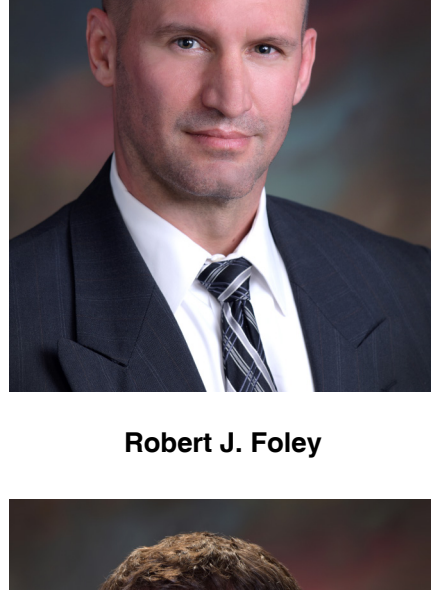
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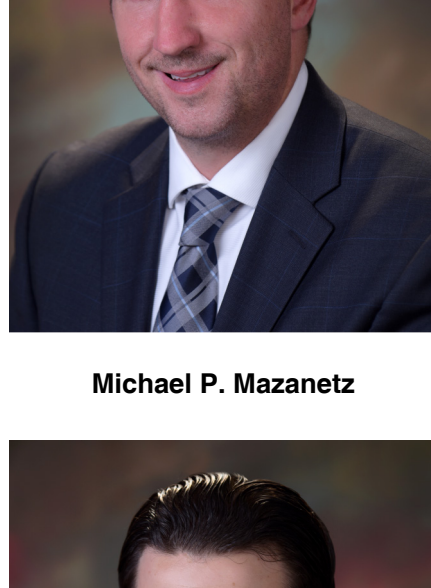
Meet Our Attorneys



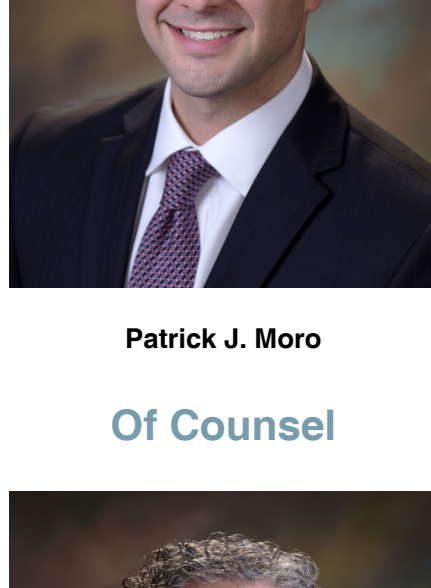
Joseph A. Moro



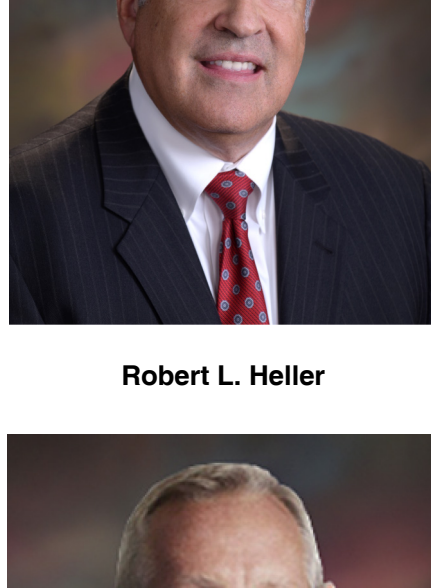
Richard L. Magill



Robert J. Foley

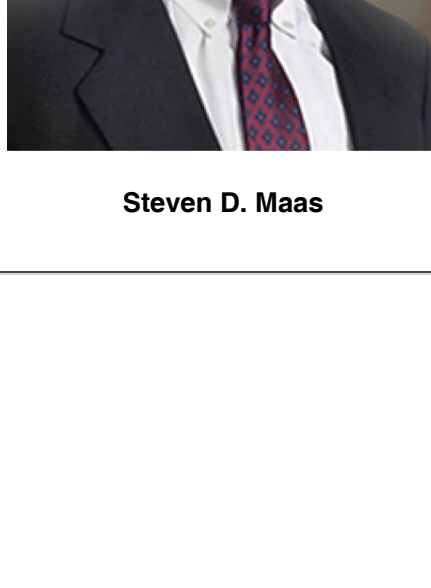


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