



Social Security

Why You Should
Have Your
Hearing By Video
Teleconference

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If you are participating in a hearing before an administrative law judge, Social Security can make the process more convenient for you, through video teleconferencing (VTC) technology.

What is VTC?

VTC allows you and other hearing participants to see and hear each other clearly on color monitors. The judge remains in his or her office, and you go to a site that may be more convenient to where you live. A technician is there to make sure the teleconferencing equipment is connected and working properly.

How is a hearing by VTC different?

Except for the equipment, a hearing by VTC is no different from a hearing at which you appear in person. The judge can see and speak with you and anyone who comes to the hearing with you, such as your representative or witnesses. You can see the judge and anyone who is with the judge, or anyone at another video hearing site, such as a medical or vocational expert. Transmission of the hearing is secure, and your

privacy is protected. We do not videotape hearings, but we do make audio recordings, as we do for all hearings.

What are the advantages of a hearing by VTC?

Often an appearance by VTC can be scheduled faster than an in-person appearance. That means less waiting time. In addition, a VTC location may be closer to your home. That might make it easier for you to have witnesses or other people accompany you.

How is a hearing by VTC scheduled ?

Prior to scheduling your hearing, we will notify you that we may schedule you to appear by VTC, and provide you the opportunity to object to appearing by video. If you have questions after you receive acknowledgment of your request for a hearing, please contact your hearing office.



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