

Medical Exams for Disability

[The following is by Joe Flynn in response to retirees who are on disability retirement and are asking why they are required to complete a questionnaire]

The affidavit (questionnaire) being sent to all disability retirees is based on a Municipal Code requirement. The questionnaires were supposed to go out yearly but seldom did. Some of the reviews of SDCERS practices and a City Report had suggested that these reviews be conducted annually. That process is now underway. Completing the affidavit (questionnaire) is a legal requirement, and necessary for continued disability payment.

Each disability retiree is required to complete a questionnaire on their medical status, and their work history since taking a disability retirement. Based on information contained in those questionnaires, some disability retirees have been required to take a medical exam. The purpose of that exam is to determine if the condition which justified the disability retirement is still in effect. If there are questions about the continued disability retirement, the case may be set for a hearing to determine if the disability retirement is still justified.

The exam is intended to verify whether the disabling condition which justified the original disability retirement is still present.

If you have received the questionnaire from SDCERS, it should contain the background information. If you have not yet received the questionnaire, you could contact SDCERS and ask for background information on this process.

I hope this answers your questions.

Joe Flynn, former Retiree Rep.