Social Security Administration

§ 404.1700 Introduction.
You may appoint someone to represent you in any of your dealings with us. This subpart explains, among other things—
(a) Who may be your representative and what his or her qualifications must be;
(b) How you appoint a representative;
(c) The payment of fees to a representative;
(d) Our rules that representatives must follow; and
(e) What happens to a representative who breaks the rules.

§ 404.1703 Definitions.

As used in this subpart—
Entity means any business, firm, or other association, including but not limited to partnerships, corporations, for-profit organizations, and not-for-profit organizations.
Legal guardian or court-appointed representative means a court-appointed person, committee, or conservator who is responsible for taking care of and managing the property and rights of an individual who is considered incapable of managing his or her own affairs.
Past-due benefits means the total amount of benefits under title II of the Act that has accumulated to all beneficiaries because of a favorable administrative or judicial determination or decision, up to but not including the month the determination or decision is made. For purposes of calculating fees for representation, we determine past-due benefits before any applicable reduction under section 1127 of the Act (for receipt of benefits for the same period under title XVI). Past-due benefits do not include:
(1) Continued benefits paid pursuant to §404.1597a of this part; or
(2) Interim benefits paid pursuant to section 223(h) of the Act.