

Todd Finnerty, Psy.D.

Clinical Psychologist
Disability Claim Expert

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Licensure Licensed as a psychologist in Ohio #5979; October 2003

Education **Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology** – October 2002
*Forest Institute of Professional Psychology, Springfield, MO
*American Psychological Association accredited program

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology – May, 1998
*Niagara University, Niagara University, NY

Career Overview

* Dr. Finnerty has performed tens of thousands of medical records reviews on Social Security disability claims for the Ohio Division of Disability Determination since 2004.

*Dr. Finnerty conducts psychological evaluations related to impairment and workers compensation claims (ex: for the Ohio Industrial Commission).

*Dr. Finnerty performs file reviews on short-term and long-term disability insurance cases. He's performed hundreds of medical records peer reviews for disability insurance companies (ex: working through Professional Disability Associates).

*Dr. Finnerty is in active clinical practice providing cognitive behavioral therapy (particularly for insomnia)

Psychologist in Independent Practice 8/2004-Present

*Consults with organizations to provide medical records review consultation to insurance companies on short-term and long-term disability insurance claims

*Conducts workers compensation-related evaluations for the Ohio Industrial Commission

*Has consulted with KEPRO to review the medical records of military treatment facilities after the suicide of their service members to determine whether the standard of care was met during the treatment of that service member.

*Provides disability evaluations and independent medical opinions for veterans (and has worked with VES and QTC in the past contracting with the VA)

*Able to provide psychotherapy and psychological assessment (including validity testing)

*Able to use Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy and other evidence-based approaches

Psychological Consultant, Division of Disability Determination, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities, Columbus, OH

9/2004-Present: In-house consultant at the State of Ohio Disability Determination Service

*Advises the adjudicators of Social Security disability claims regarding the level of psychological disability of the applicant to assist in making disability determinations.

*Reviews the medical evidence involving mental impairments and summarizes the claimant's remaining functional capacities related to their ability to work.

*Trains claims adjudicators in the application of scientifically-supported procedures for evaluating Social Security disability claims

Awards & Recognition

*Dr. Finnerty was named the 2012 “*Disability Review Physician of the Year*,” National Association of Disability Examiners, Great Lakes Region

*Dr. Finnerty was named the 2010 “*Consultant of the Year*” by the Ohio Association of Disability Examiners

Featured Presentations Made

*Dr. Finnerty has made multiple presentations to other professionals during his career, including conducting many trainings related to the **DSM-5**.

*Dr. Finnerty has conducted numerous trainings for the Division of Disability Determination, including July 2015, “*Drugs and Disability: Evaluating Substance Use in Social Security Disability Claims.*”

***Invited Keynote Address:** New Hampshire Psychological Association, 2012, “*What Psychologists Can Expect in the Next Ten Years.*”

*Professional Disability Associates Spring 2017 Disability Education Conference; Portland, ME; Dr. Finnerty offered the psychological perspective on disability insurance claims in “*Fibromyalgia/ Chronic Fatigue (SEID).*”

Featured Continuing Education Relevant to Impairment and Assessment

**Use of the MMPI-3 in Forensic Settings*; Pearson, 2/16/2021.

***American Academy of Forensic Psychology** Courses including January 2020: *Assessing Allegations of Trauma in Forensic Contexts* and January 2020: *Psychological Evaluation of Causation and Damages in Personal Injury Cases.*

***Impairment Rating** Courses (home study) January and February 2020: (*Introduction to Impairment Rating; AMA Guides, 5th Edition, Common Errors; and AMA Guides; 5th Edition; Apportionment; Independent Medical Examinations and Workers Compensation*).

* **Professional Disability Associates Disability Education Conferences:** Attended multiple disability/impairment-related courses in 2015, 2016 and 2017 (24.5 total CE credits related to disability/impairment).

**Early Intervention to Prevent Disability & Opiate Dependence from Pain*, April 25, 2014; Ohio Psychological Association

**Feigning and the Control of Bias in Workers Compensation Cases*, April 25, 2014, Ohio Psychological Association

**Ohio BWC- Nuts and Bolts*, November 1, 2013, Ohio Psychological Association

**Ohio BWC Update*, March 16, 2013; Ohio Psychological Association

**Performing Psychological Evaluations on Injured Workers for the Industrial Commission*, March 16, 2013; Ohio Psychological Association

**Psychological Independent Medical Evaluations (IME's) in Disability Matters: Clinical and Legal Issues*, May 17, 2011; Lake Erie College

**Ohio BWC Issues and Directions*, November 10, 2010; Ohio Psychological Association

Featured Continuing Education Relevant to Giftedness/ IQ

***WISC-V Advanced Interpretation**; Pearson; 2/2020

***Giftedness and Gifted Education: Reconceptualizing the Role of Professional Psychology**; National Register 2/2020

* **Gifted Children and Adults—Neglected Areas of Practice**, National Register 2/2020

***Identifying Underserved Gifted Learners Through MTSS or Culturally Fair Assessments**; National Association of School Psychologists, 2/2020

Featured Continuing Education Related to Treatment

***Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Intensive Training** (19 hours of training) via PESI (John Ludgate, Ph.D.) April 2020.

*Completed the CBTIweb.org **Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia (CBT-I)** training 4/2020; 6.75 hours of training

***2015 Principles and Practice of CBT-I: Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia**; Donn Posner, Ph.D.; Michael Perlis, Ph.D. and Jason Ellis, Ph.D. online 4/2020; 22.5 hours of training

Disaster Experience & Training

American Red Cross Disaster Mental Health Volunteer:

Hurricane Katrina, Mississippi Gulf Coast (9/9/05-9/22/05): Provided mental health services to Red Cross clients and staff in shelters as well as communities directly hit by a hurricane. Assisted in the transition of shelter residents from closing shelters in to new shelters and conducted staff mediation associated with this. Assisted individuals with problem-solving despite their limited resources and was the sole mental health provider for as many as three shelters at some points in time. Acquired first-hand knowledge of the problems experienced by individuals with mental and physical disabilities during a large-scale disaster.

Red Cross and other Disaster-Related Courses:

**Foundations of Disaster Mental Health*: ARC, Summit Co., OH- 4/29/06

**Joining Forces 2007: Disaster Preparedness, Response & Recovery*; multidisciplinary conference: 5/30-31/07 Columbus, OH

**The New American Red Cross: How Changes in the Mental Health Function Can Strengthen Your American Red Cross Chapter's Disaster Readiness Programs*: 10/2005, OPA annual convention

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Professional Development Series Certificate (earned 2006):

Principles of Emergency Management; IS-235 Emergency Planning; IS-242 Effective Communication; IS 241 Decision Making and Problem Solving; IS 240 Leadership and Influence; IS 244 Developing and Managing Volunteers; IS 139 Exercise Design.

Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Amateur Radio License: W8FIN
(General class)

Trained SKYWARN Weather Spotter: Most recent training “National Weather Service Wilmington, Ohio Online Basic Weather Spotter Class 2/19/2021”

Additional Past Career Experience and Activities

PsychContinuingEd.com, LLC; 2010-2017

*President and co-founder of a sponsor of continuing education approved by the American Psychological Association.

Independent Consulting Psychologist to Castle Nursing Homes, Millersburg, OH

8/2004-12/2005

- *Provided Psychotherapy and Psychological Assessments in 3 long-term care facilities
- *Member of the Behavior Management Committee
- *Treated patients with severe illness and injury (both physical and psychological)
- *Worked with patients that experienced psychosis, dementia as well as traumatic brain injuries in a nursing home environment as well as specialized settings including a TBI unit and a facility for residents with behavioral challenges
- *Treated patients adjusting to physical illnesses, injuries and cognitive decline

Psychologist, Summit Psychological Associates, Inc., Canton, OH

11/2003-7/30/2004

- *Psychotherapy and Psychological evaluation of children, teens, adults & older adults
- *Provided services in a managed care environment (capitated system) & with EAP's
- *Approved hospitalizations for a health insurance company; answered crisis calls
- *Utilized a documentation system based on SOQIC standards
- *Performed peer reviews of other clinicians' documentation for quality improvement
- *Provided clinical supervision in an APA-accredited predoctoral internship program

Predoctoral and Postdoctoral Internships, Human Development and Counseling Associates, inc.; Canton, OH. 7/13/2001-7/31/2003

- *Provided individual, marital, and family therapy with children, adolescents and adults
- *Evaluated and treated children with learning disabilities & disruptive behavior disorders
- *Counseled children and families involved with family services to assist with meeting case plans
- *Conducted sexual and physical abuse evaluations of children and teens for the Stark County Department of Job and Family Services
- *Functioned as both a fact & expert witness on behalf of the Stark Co Department of Job and Family Services and the D.A.'s office in cases involving the sexual and/or physical abuse of children and teenagers.

Practica:

Forest Human Services Center, Springfield, MO, 9/1999-6/2001

- *Provided individual, marital, family, and group therapy as well as psychological testing
- *Participated in the development of and facilitated dual-diagnosis substance abuse groups

Attica Correctional Facility, Attica, NY, 9/1997-12/1997

- *Co-facilitated community preparation groups, psychoeducational groups, substance abuse groups and process groups for the pre-release program of a men's' maximum security prison

Other past jobs and volunteer experience: Dr. Finnerty was the tutor coordinator at the Niagara University Learning Center and volunteered as a literacy and math tutor at Albion Correctional Facility. His jobs in the remote past also included working as a ride operator at an amusement park; working as a carpenter's assistant including roofing; working in a factory (a copper wire mill); painting; maintenance work; and dishwashing.

Recent Publication: *Supplementing Your Income with Medical Records File Reviews and Independent Medical Examinations (IME's), 3rd Edition: A Directory of Referral Sources for Reviews and IME's*

Recent Expert Testimony/ Depositions:

- Swygard v. Prudential Insurance Company of America et al (2:2017cv00401)

Volunteer Activities & Professional Associations:

National Association of Disability Examiners (NADE)

*Dr. Finnerty helped craft NADE's recommendations to the Social Security Administration. He was the primary drafter of NADE's recommendations to the Social Security Administration on SSA's rules related to evaluating substance use under SSA's disability programs. In addition, Dr. Finnerty made public comments which helped influence how the Social Security Administration evaluates intellectual disability and other disorders.

Member of the **Ohio Psychological Association (OPA) Board of Directors** 2012-2015

*Dr. Finnerty served as the American Psychological Association (APA) Public Education Campaign Coordinator for Ohio: 2012 through 2015

Member of the **Medical Amateur Radio Council**

Member of the **Society of Behavioral Sleep Medicine**

Member of the **American Academy of Sleep Medicine**