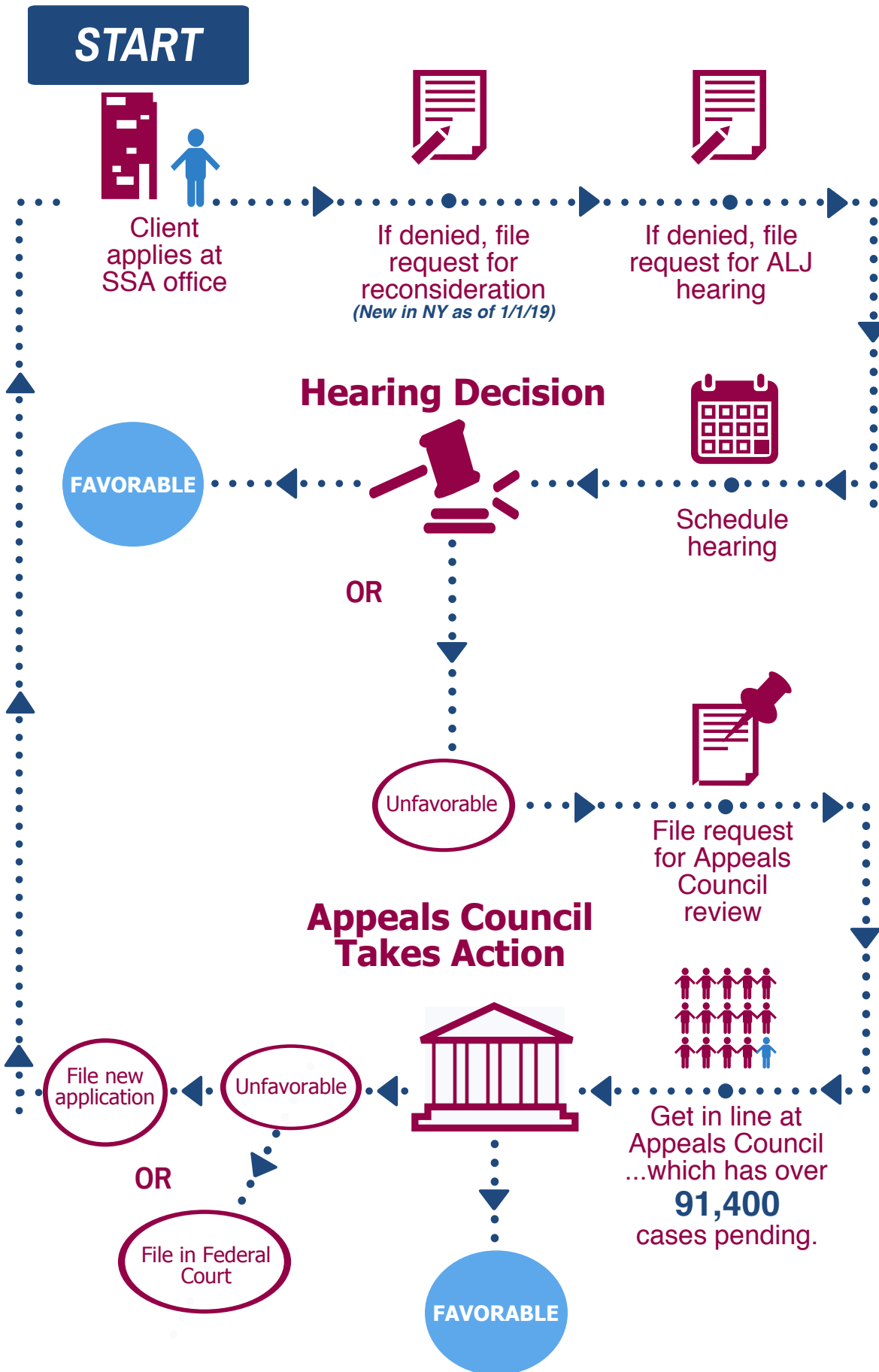


# DAP Anatomy:

## Dissecting a Social Security Appeal Case



**Timeline of an Appeal**

- Receiving decision on initial application may take **3 - 5 months**
- Recon must be filed within **60 days**. A decision may take **3+ months**
- ALJ hearing request must be filed within **60 days**
- Scheduling a hearing may take **17 - 23 months**
- If hearing adjourned for ANY reason, scheduling a new hearing may take **2 - 3 months**
- Hearing decision made in **2 - 6 months**
- Retro benefits notice received in **2 - 6 months**

**Getting a hearing decision could take 3+ YEARS**

**If unfavorable decision...**

- Appeals Council review must be filed within **60 days**
- Appeals Council action may take **1 year +**

**If filing in Federal Court...**

- Federal Court decision may take **18 - 36 months**

**Total time for the appeals process could be 5 YEARS**