# The Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA)

Robert B. Goss, P.C.



#### **CONTACT US**

TOLL FREE: 877-425-4VET (4838) LOCAL: 713-572-4VET (4838)

- What may be appealed
  - All questions of fact and law regarding claims for VA benefits, by veterans and their dependents or survivors
- Entitlement to service-connected disabilities
- Dependency and indemnity compensation for death relating to service-connected disability
- Non-service-connected pension's
- Vocational rehabilitation & education benefits
- Veteran's Health Administration issues (does not include medical determinations)



- When to initiate an appeal
  - Receive Statement of the Case / Supplemental Statement of the Case
  - 90-day letter (transfer to BVA from regional office)
- How to initiate an appeal
  - File VA9
- Where to file appeal
  - Veteran's Regional Office
- When to File
  - Within 60 days of SOC / 30 days of SSOC



- ▶ VA 9
  - Include necessary information to identify the issues on appeal and provide a summary of the arguments for each disability on appeal

Fortr Approved: CAAS No. 2000-0085 Respondent Burden: 1 Mour

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A. HOME (Include Area Code)	B. WORK (Ancholo	dem (Sule)	Charles & Secret Pout Office Rus. City. State & ZIP Code: 5100 Westheimer Road, Suite 115		
	(713) 5	572-4838	Houston, Texas 77056-5507		
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(Last Name, First Name, Middle Im	mari)				
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## BVA Appeals Types of Hearings

- Decision Review Officer
- Travel Board
- Video Conference
- Washington, DC
- Decision based on Brief or material in Claim File



- Hearing- Veteran Law Judge (VLJ)
  - Evidence can be submitted at the hearing
  - Witnesses may provide testimony and evidence
    - Veteran
    - Family members
    - Other persons with first-hand information
    - Medical Professionals
  - Record may be left open for 60 days



- Additional evidence 90 days or until the Board makes a decision, whichever comes first
- BVA may request an independent medical expert (IME) opinion
- AMC Appeals Management Center
- Advancement on the docket veteran is over
   75 years of age, illness, financial hardship



- Possible results
  - Remand to Regional Office
  - Grant the claim
  - Deny the claim
- Decision becomes final when VLJ signs the decision, and dispatches decision to the BVA's Dispatch Branch
- CAVC (120 days)



## Questions?

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