Not published

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS

No. 20-2108

LILLA K. STEPHENS,

PETITIONER,

V.

ROBERT L. WILKIE, SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS,

RESPONDENT.

Before ALLEN, Judge.

ORDER

Note: Pursuant to U.S. Vet. App. R. 30(a), this action may not be cited as precedent.

Lilla Stephens filed a petition for extraordinary relief. She asked the Court to order the Secretary to act on a Notice of Disagreement she submitted on July 28, 2016, with respect to an August 10, 2015, rating decision denying service connection for a mental health disorder. At the time she filed her petition, VA had taken no action on the NOD. In addition, petitioner reported that she submitted requests for a status update on her claim on August 7, 2019, and October 21, 2019, and has received no response.

On March 26, 2020, the Court ordered the Secretary to respond to the petition. He did so on April 27, 2020, urging that we dismiss the petition as moot. The Secretary's response does not fully comply with the Court's order. The Court specifically directed the Secretary to "address petitioner's contention that the VA has failed to respond to the requests for information concerning the status of his claims." He did not do so. So, it is

ORDERED that the Secretary shall submit a supplemental response to the Court's March 26, 2020, order that specifically explains why VA did not respond to petitioner's requests for information about the status of his claim. The Secretary must submit this response no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 1, 2020.

DATED: April 28, 2020 BY THE COURT:

MICHAEL P. ALLEN

Judge

Copies to:

Colin E. Kemmerly, Esq.

VA General Counsel (027)