

Exhibit 1

Department Of Veterans Affairs
Evidence Intake Center
P.O. Box 4444
Janesville, WI, 53547-4444



5769 1 MA 0.485 0000005769/0001/0002 15 044P6006

VETERANS LEGAL ADVOCACY GROUP
HAROLD HOFFMAN
2776 S ARLINGTON MILL DRIVE
ARLINGTON VA 22206-3402



Regional Office
(1-800-827-1000)

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

8810 Rio San Diego Drive
San Diego CA 92108

In Reply Refer To:

Dear Ms. [REDACTED]

We have received the Change in Marital Status you provided on February 2, 2022. Since you remarried after the age of 57, you are entitled to continue receiving benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs per Public Law 108-183.

OUR DECISION ON YOUR CLAIM

We have carefully looked at the evidence we received and your VA claim file and found that there will be no change to your VA monthly benefit. Your monthly benefit rate will remain the same.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

You don't have to do anything. If you think our decision is wrong, however, you may file an appeal by telling us you disagree. Please see the enclosure--VA Form 0998--regarding your right to appeal.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

You should tell us right away if any of the following happens:

- you move.
- you gain or lose a dependent.
- you enter the reserves in a drilling status.
- you enter on active duty.

If You Have Questions

If you have any questions, call us toll-free by dialing 1-800-827-1000. Our TDD number from the hearing impaired is 1-800-829-4833. If you call, please have this letter with you.

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Exhibit 2

Thu, Feb 24, 6:35 PM (12 days ago)

to me

Hi

We left you a message yesterday. Did you get [REDACTED] latest decision from the VA in the mail?

We didn't even know these were on appeal?

Hope you are well.

Thanks



VetLAG <vetlag@gmail.com>

Tue, Mar 1, 11:55 AM (7 days ago)

to [REDACTED]

No, I didn't get it.

--

Harold H. Hoffman III

Veterans Legal Advocacy Group, P.C.

2776 S Arlington Mill Drive, Suite 804 | Arlington, VA 22206

Direct: 202-677-0303 | Fax: 877-208-6601

haroldhoffman@vetlag.org

www.vetlag.org | 1-877-VETLAG-2



Tue, Mar 1, 1:08 PM (7 days ago)

to me

That's because they sent your copy to us

Not by mistake

I will priority mail you a copy

Glad to hear from you



VetLAG <vetlag@gmail.com>

Tue, Mar 1, 1:34 PM (7 days ago)

Dont priority mail it. Just scan and email or mail it regular. No need to rush it. We only

Exhibit 3

Harold Hoffman <haroldhoffman@vetlag.org>

Fri, Mar 4, 8:08 PM (4 days ago)

to Meghan

What was the Board contacting us about - something about documents we sent them?

--

Harold H. Hoffman III

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Meghan Gentile

Mon, Mar 7, 7:18 PM (4 hours ago)

to me

Yes - very strange conversation with a BVA employee today. She was very nice but very confused about mail she said the BVA received from VetLAG recently. But she read it out loud to me and it was clearly not sent from us. It was mail sent from VA to our clients with exhibits listing other peoples' (not our clients') names and SSNs. And at one point she asked if we had a client named "Evan Snipes" because based on one of the mailings he was the veteran, not the attorney. She was aware of the address petition but thought this was not related. However she said these letters contained returned mail from years ago (2019, 2020) so they would definitely be part of the wrong address documents the petition contemplated. It was left unresolved because there was nothing I could identify we could do or had done related to these documents. The BVA employee said she would "send it all back to the Board" and see what they could make of it.

Meghan Gentile

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Exhibit 4



[Redacted]

Mar 4, 2022, 3:41 PM (4 days ago)

to me

Not only is this just a mailing issue but VA also just released MY \$16k fee to [Redacted] this week...despite that address and Tax ID not being active for 1 yr, 3 months

[Redacted]

Partner

[Redacted]

[CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE](#)

Exhibit 5


Mon, Feb 21, 4:44
PM

to me

Advocates STILL having mail issues after the recent mailing instructions cchanged again...

I sent the email as instructed to update the VBA Corporate Database on 1/14/22. I never received a response or ticket number. It's been 25 business days and I am still receiving mail at my old address. CaseFlow still has my old address. I sent a follow-up email forwarding my first email to YourIT@va.gov and vbaco_RFIA@va.gov today. It wouldn't surprise me if it's slow because we all flooded them with these requests so I'm not really annoyed yet, but still, it would be nice to at least receive confirmation."

Exhibit 6



Fri, Mar 4, 4:49 PM (4
days ago)

to me

Hi Harold,



After I sent the second email I received a response from vbaco_RFIA folks who suggested I call the YourIT folks. So I did and spoke with someone who was very kind and helpful and had absolutely no idea what I was talking about or trying to accomplish. She was kind enough to send me her direct email so I forwarded all my emails and that sheet with the instructions from the VA to her. She did give me a ticket number over the phone.

But as we sit here today, I have never received any follow-up emails from YourIT. And aside from the email telling me to call YourIT I have not received any additional confirmation from the VBACO folks. I have no idea how to check the status of the address change and no confirmation that an update is complete. All I can do is wait a couple weeks for the system to work and if it's not, complain to someone again.

It's literally like throwing your information into a dark room and hoping that someone actually is in the room, that they see your information, that they process your information, and process it correctly. To be fair, I could reach out to the yourIT and VBACO folks for an update and I have not done that yet.

Good luck.

Best Regards,



Attorney at Law



Exhibit 7

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1752 4 MB 1.491 0000001752/0001/0015 13 04IMR033

MEGHAN GENTILE

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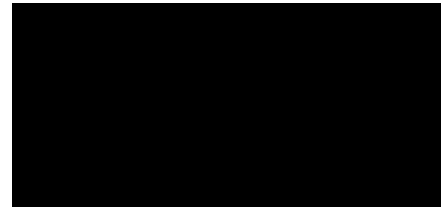
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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

February 23, 2022

MEGHAN K GENTILE
2776 S ARLINGTON MILL DRIVE
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ARLINGTON, VA 22206



To Whom It May Concern:

Summary of the Case

You and your client properly filed a valid direct-pay fee agreement with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), requesting direct payment of 20% of the award of past-due benefits for fees.

In a Rating Decision dated September 21, 2021, benefits were awarded for the following issue(s): increased evaluation of cluster headaches, service connection for residuals of traumatic brain injury with neurocognitive disorder. The amount of past-due benefits, which is computed from the effective date of the award through the date of the decision, is \$67,525.07. The amount withheld for fees is \$13,505.01, which is 20% of past due benefits.

Requirements for Direct Payment of Fees

On or after February 19, 2019, agents or attorneys may generally charge for representation provided to claimants or appellants pursuing certain reviews of decisions by agencies of original jurisdiction. These reviews may include supplemental claims, higher-level reviews, notices of disagreement (NODs), or clear and unmistakable errors. For the provisions relating to the payment of fees, see 38 U.S.C. 5904 and 38 CFR 14.636.

Before February 19, 2019, fees were only payable for representation after an NOD was filed with respect to a decision.

For NODs filed on or before June 19, 2007, agents and attorneys could charge only for services provided after both of the following additional conditions have been met:

- The Board of Veterans' Appeals (BVA) promulgated a final decision, and
- The attorney or agent was retained not later than one year following the date of that BVA decision. This condition will be met with respect to all successor attorneys or agents acting in the continuous prosecution of the same matter if the predecessor was hired

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