

# Informational Briefing

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# Overview

- Assists **ex-POWs and Special Operations Veterans** with **Veterans Administration** benefits. Delivers comprehensive understanding of the Veterans Administration processes and systems to ensure fair and thorough evaluation.

## **Services we provide:**

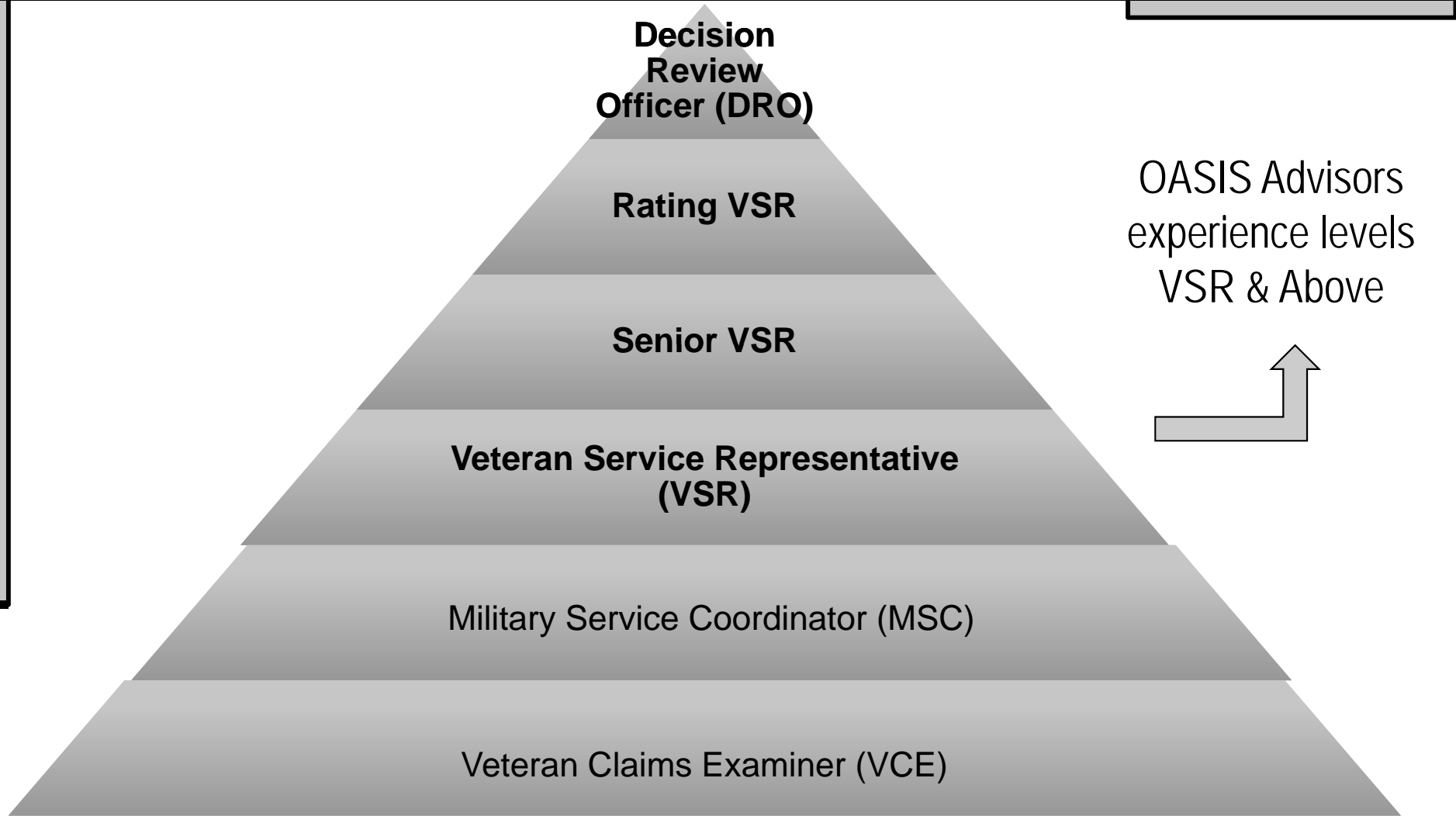
1. Advice and assistance to **current and former SOF** members, ex-POW's, and their **dependents** with VA claims/appeals.
2. Representation with appellate actions.
3. Advice and assistance with claims for Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC).
4. Informational briefings for Active duty Special Operations, Fraternal, and Veterans Organizations.

# Who we are

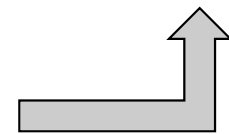
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- Started by SOF veterans in 2007
- Retired/former Veterans Administration (VA) claims specialists
- Volunteer medical professionals
- Over 250 Years of VA or SOF experience
- In one word: Experts
- All are Volunteers ... no staff.

# VBA Claims Hierarchy



OASIS Advisors  
experience levels  
VSR & Above



# More on O.A.S.I.S

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- ❑ Non-profit 501(c)(19)
- ❑ Single Mission – VA Claims/Appeals
- ❑ Focus on ex-POWs and current/former SOF personnel (because of using only volunteers) and the dependents/survivors

# How we do it

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- Inform and educate
- Advise and assist
- Fix bad decisions

# Inform and educate

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- Explain & educate on VA & service programs to active duty organizations
- Provide informational seminars on VA programs & processes to fraternal organizations

# Advise and Assist

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- **One on one** to Individual SOF veterans
  
- Advice/assist with individual claims
  - Thorough analysis
  - Address specific issues
  - Medical support
  
- Provide representation for appeals filed with the Board of Veterans Affairs (BVA).



# Fix Bad Decisions

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- Technical experts
  - Title 38 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)
  - VA system
- Medical expertise
  - Medical opinions
- VA is a complex and hard to navigate organization. Even with the best staff and best intentions errors or omissions are inevitable. We fix those.

# 2010 Results

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- >300 Initial claims
  - 100% awarded minimum of 50% disability (means they keep their retired pay & have free VA medical benefits)
- >400 Appeals
  - 200 below 50% ... 100% success to 50% or more!
  - 200 were at 50% or more ... 85% success in raising it by minimum of 10%

# 2010 Results (continued)

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- Discovered errors in 25% of the 400 appeals
  - Average retroactive award of \$17,500 per case
  - Total retroactive award of \$300,000!
- Project Neptune (thanks to Navy SEAL Warrior Fund)

# Case Study #1 (Advise and Assist)

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- SF CW 3, 26 years active duty, 3 weeks from retirement
- Army lost complete medical records
- Contacted OASIS and was advised to do the following
  - Statement of medical history and current medical status from Group Surgeon to establish baseline while on active duty.
  - Obtained bone scan to document arthritic issues in one procedure.

# Case Study #1: Results

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## ■ Outcome

- 60 percent compensation award from VA
  - \$12,768 per year and \$319,200 over 25 years
- Concurrent receipt of VA compensation and retirement pay.
- Free healthcare from VA
- Education benefits
- State benefits

# Case Study #2

## (Fix Bad Decisions)

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- **SFC (Ret) Mizuho Bobroskie**
  - Filed claim with VA in 2003
  - All issues except tinnitus and hearing loss denied that same year
  - Total compensation 10%
  - Died in April, 2007
  - Spouse in jeopardy of losing house, daughter needing assistance with college
  - Review of claim folder and targeted medical opinion by OASIS results in

# Case Study #2: Results

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- Service connected death
- Dependents Indemnity Compensation (DIC) for spouse at \$1030 per month
- Dependants Education Assistance (Chapt. 35 benefits) for daughter at \$850 per month while attending college or age 23

# 3 other short case studies

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- SGM in New Mexico
- PJ
- Ish





**Taking care of our own**

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# QUESTIONS?

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**Help Us Help Them**

