Informational Briefing

O.A.S.I.S

OPERATIONAL ADVOCATES SUPPORTING INJURED SOLDIERS

Help Us Help Them
Overview

 Assist 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

- 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

- Decision Review Officer (DRO)
- Rating VSR
- Senior VSR
- Veteran Service Representative (VSR)
- Military Service Coordinator (MSC)
- Veteran Claims Examiner (VCE)

OASIS Advisors experience levels VSR & Above

Help Us Help Them
More on O.A.S.I.S

- 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

Help Us Help Them
How we do it

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

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

- 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

- 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

- >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)

- 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)

- 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

- **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)

- 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

- 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

- SGM in New Mexico
- PJ
- Ish
Taking care of our own
QUESTIONS?
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Presented by

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