## VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION WEEKLY UPDATE

Week Ending — 06/17/2022

# **Health Policy**

#### Meetings

- June 14: Deputy Director for Health Policy, Tiffany Ellett, attended the monthly IVF working Group meeting with multiple VSO representatives to discuss upcoming legislation and possible issues for veterans attached to the Dobbs V. Jackson Women's Health Organization case at the Supreme Court.
- June 15: Health Policy Coordinators, Kenny Harman and Josh Hastings, met with PNC Conley to discuss suicide prevention pamphlets and upcoming convention information.
- June 15: Deputy Director for Health Policy, Tiffany Ellett, met with stakeholders from Columbia, South Carolina VA Medical Center to discuss logistics for System Worth Saving visit.
- June 17: Deputy Director for Health Policy, Tiffany Ellett, attended the weekly American Legion and project ATLAS ribbon-cutting ceremony huddle with VA for updates on the ceremony planned for July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

# **Veterans Benefits and Claims Services**

#### Meetings

- June 9: Biweekly Department Service Officer School planning meeting with Bergmann & Moore, LLC.
- June 13: Weekly Veterans Service Organization meeting on Veterans Benefits Administration claims, appeals and legislative concerns.
- June 14: Monthly Board of Veterans' Appeals meeting with Veterans Service Organizations.
- June 16: VBA quarterly meeting with VSOs and advocates.

### Accreditations

•	Applications received from TAL Departments	15
•	Certifications submitted by TAL Washington Office	15
•	Certifications received from VA's Office of General Counsel	13

## The American Legion Board of Veterans' Appeals (BVA) Unit

•	AMA appeals pending (125+ days)	31
•	Informal Hearing Presentations (IHPs) prepared	348
•	Memos generated	3
•	Phone inquiries	256
٠	Internal quality reviews	3
•	Individual training	1 hour
٠	Team training	5 hours
•	Hearings	2
•	Board dispositions	186
	<ul> <li>Appeals granted</li> </ul>	76 (40.9%)
	• Remanded	79 (42.5%)
	• Denied	22 (11.8%)
	• Other	9 (4.8%)
Se	nior Veterans Disability Claims Specialists	
•	Compensation & Pension Claims	17
•	Other Issues	7
•	Contacts	24
Pe	nsion & Debt Management	
•	New Claims (all types)	31
•	Supporting Submissions	118
٠	Sensitive Claims	4
•	Rating Reviews/Audits	41

### Katie Purswell

Director Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Division (202) 861-2700 End of VA&R weekly update – 06/17/2022