The American Legion

For God and Country

bulletin

National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission
1608 K Street, N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20006
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The American Legion Helping Veterans during the Government Shutdown

The VA has announced that the government shutdown will affect many of their operations but The American Legion will continue to assist Veterans, Surviving Spouses, and Dependents during the shutdown.

The VA may have to close their doors to veterans wishing to visit but that doesn't mean claimants won't be able to reach The American Legion! The American Legion will continue to work cases to perfection and communicate with callers over the phone.

Starting on Tuesday, October 8, 2013, if the government shutdown continues, all VA Regional Offices will close their doors to the public. Only claims processing of on-going cases and electron claims will continue. The VA computer system will remain running. Mail will be delivered to the building but will not be distributed inside the building. New incoming paper claims will be date stamped and stacked until normal operations can resume.

Worried about your case that's certified to the Board Veterans Appeals in Washington DC? The American Legion Appeals Representatives will continue to represent appellants by writing briefs and presenting cases at Board hearings, with the average of 70 percent of the RO denials overturned with favorable outcomes for the Veteran. Hearings will continue through the month of October. In November The American Legion will continue working cases with or without VA employees.

The American Legion Representatives at the Pension Management Centers, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, Insurance, Benefits Delivered at Discharge, and Military Evaluation Board/Physical Evaluation Board Representatives will continue to work on thousands of claims throughout the government shutdown.

Each file is a Veteran, Surviving Spouse, or Dependent and they will be ready for the VBA when they return to work.

Currently, recipients of VA payments will receive their benefits but if the government shutdown is prolonged, there is a possibility that compensation and pension payments could be delayed. The American Legion will continue to keep abreast of the news of the government shutdown and how it affects the many Veterans we serve!

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Verna L Jones

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Rehabilitation Commission