



## Vietnam Veterans of America

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*A Not-For-Profit Veterans Service Organization Chartered by the United States Congress*

### **Vietnam Veterans of America National Board of Directors Meeting January 14-15, 2022 Approved by Board**

President Jack McManus to order the meeting of Vietnam Veterans of America National Board of Directors on Friday January 14, 2022, at 9:10 am, at the Double Tree by Hilton in Silver Spring, MD. Director Gumersindo Gomez delivered the opening prayer which was followed by a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Meeks conducted the roll call of the National Board of Directors. Present were:

Jack McManus, President	Gumersindo Gomez	John Margowski
Tom Burke, Vice President	Sharon Hobbs*	Charlie Montgomery
Bill Meeks, Secretary	Charlie Hobbs	Felix Peterson
Linda Schwartz, Treasurer	Skip Hochreich	John Riling
Dottie Barickman	Dennis Howland	Dick Southern
Sam Brick, Jr.	Francisco Ivarra	Dan Stenvold
Spence Davis	Richard Lindbeck	Sandie Wilson

*\* AVVA President is a non-voting member of the National Board of Directors*

Absent: Dennis Andras (excused), Rossie Nance (excused), Ted Wilkinson (excused) & At Large Director (vacant)

Secretary Meeks conducted roll call of the State Council Presidents. Present were:

Alabama	Present	Nebraska	Present
Alaska	Present	Nevada	Absent
Arizona	Present	New Hampshire	Absent
Arkansas	Present	New Jersey	Present
California	Present	New Mexico	Absent
Colorado	Absent	New York	Present
Connecticut	Absent	North Carolina	Present
Delaware	Absent	North Dakota	Present
Florida	Present	Ohio	Absent
Georgia	Present	Oklahoma	Present

Idaho	Absent		Oregon	Present
Illinois	Present		Pennsylvania	Present
Indiana	Absent		Puerto Rico	Absent
Iowa	Present		Rhode Island	Present
Kansas	Present		South Carolina	Present
Kentucky	Present		South Dakota	Present
Louisiana	Present		Tennessee	Present
Maryland	Present		Texas	Present
Massachusetts	Present		Utah	Present
Michigan	Present		Vermont	Absent
Minnesota	Absent		Virginia	Present
Mississippi	Present		Washington	Present
Missouri	Present		West Virginia	Present
Montana	Present		Wisconsin	Present



**Affidavit of Jack McManus, National President, Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.**

Jack McManus, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I am the National President of Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. (VVA). The purpose of this affidavit is to comply with the requirements of Article I, Section 4.G. of the VVA Constitution which authorizes VVA's President to submit a question to the VVA Board of Directors for a vote in between Board meetings when he determines that the matter requires the Board's immediate attention.

2. On January 3, 2022, the National Board of Directors was presented with the following motions:

**Motion 1: To approve the 2021-2023 Committee Chair appointments presented by President McManus.**

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chair</b>
Credentials	Richard Lindbeck
Economic Opportunities	Dennis Andras
Elections	Scott DeArman
Finance	Dottie Barickman
Government Affairs	Felix "Pete" Peterson
Membership Affairs	Dick Southern
Nat'l Disciplinary	Butch "Al" Huber
POW/MIA	Grant Coates

PTSD & Substance Abuse	Dr. Tom Hall
Public Affairs	Dennis Howland
Resolutions	John Margowski
Rules	Joe Jennings
Veterans Against Drugs	Dave Simmons
Veterans Incarcerated	Dominic Yezzo
Women Veterans	Kate O'Hare-Palmer

· **Agent Orange/Dioxin – Constitution – Homeless Veterans – Leadership Conf/Conv – Minority Affairs – Veterans Benefits & Veterans Healthcare approved 11/6/21 BOD Meeting.**

**Motion 2: To approve the 2021-2023 appointments presented by President McManus.**

<b>Appointment</b>	<b>Name</b>
National Chaplain	Fr. Philip Salois
Chapel of 4 Chaplain	Dennis Beauregard
Veterans Health Council	Col. Artie Shelton, MD.

· **AVVA Special Advisor & Sergeant-at-Arms approved 11/6/21 BOD Meeting.**

**Motion 3: To approve the 2021-2023 Special Advisor appointments presented by President McManus.**

AVVA Special Advisor	Sharon Hobbs
Strategic advisor to the President/Board for Health	Marsha Four
Veterans Services	Marc McCabe

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Motion 1</b>	<b>Motion 2</b>	<b>Motion 3</b>
Jack McManus	-	-	-
Thomas Burke	Y	Y	Y
Bill Meeks, Jr	Y	Y	Y
Linda Schwartz	NR	NR	NR
Dennis Andras	NR	NR	NR
Dottie Barickman	Y	Y	Y
Sam Brick	Y	Y	Y
Spence Davis	Y	Y	Y
Gumersindo Gomez	Y	Y	Y
Charlie Hobbs	Y	Y	Y
Skip Hochreich	Y	Y	Y
Dennis Howland	Y	Y	Y
Francisco Ivarra	Y	Y	Y
Richard Lindbeck	Y	Y	Y
John Margowski	Y	Y	Y
Charlie Montgomery	Y	Y	Y
Rossie Nance	Y	Y	Y

Pete Peterson, Jr.	NR	NR	NR
John Riling III	Y	Y	Y
Dick Southern	Y	Y	Y
Dan Stenvold	Y	Y	Y
Kerwin Stone	Y	Y	Y
Ted Wilkinson	Y	Y	Y
Sandie Wilson	Y	Y	Y

Results	Motion 1	Motion 2	Motion 3
Yes	20	20	20
No	0	0	0
Abstention			
Non Vote			
No Response	3	3	3
<b>Total</b>	20	20	20

### ***J.McManus***

#### **Preliminary Business**

Secretary Meeks submitted the following motions with a second from Vice President Burke:

#### **Motion 2**

**To appoint Michael Swift as the VVA Parliamentarian:  
Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 19**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Vacant: 1**

#### **Motion 3**

**To seat the Region 2 Alternate Director Ned Foote, the Region 3 Alternate Director Jack Mattingly**

**and the Region 7 Alternate Director Terry Courville:  
Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 19**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Vacant: 1**

#### **Motion 4**

**To accept the BOD Meeting Minutes from November 2, 2021:  
Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 22**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Vacant: 1**

**Motion 5**

**To accept the BOD Meeting Minutes from November 6, 2021:  
Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 22**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Vacant: 1**

**Special Order – Election of Director At Large on the National Board of Directors**

President McManus stated the following: *“Nominations are open for at-large director.”*

President McManus stated: *“If there are no objections the election will be by ballot.”*

The Chair appoints Leslie DeLong and tellers to conduct the elections. The tellers distributed the ballots.

President McManus stated: *“Are there any nominations?”*

The following nominations were submitted by Board Members:

Ned Foote
Bill Gracia
John McGinty
Gene Crego
Terry Nolan
Greg Dickerson
Gary Levin
Dave Simmons
Bob Beecher
Charles Stapleton
Leslie DeLong
Scott DeArman

President McManus stated: *“There being no further nominations, nominations are closed.”*

The tellers collected the ballots from the Board Member, then retired to hallway to tabulate the votes and

President McManus continued with the meeting business while the votes were being tabulated.

## **Officer Reports**

President McManus gave a verbal report and spoke about Veterans Day 2022.

Director Hobbs made a motion with a second from \_\_\_\_\_:

### **Motion 6**

**To move our October 2022 BOD meeting to the week of November 9-13, 2022:**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 22**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Vacant: 1**

### **Special Order – Election of Director At Large on the National Board of Directors (con't)**

The tellers completed the count, the tellers' Chair Leslie DeLong reported that no nominee received

a total of twelve (12) votes to be elected to the board. The tellers distributed the ballots again then collected

the ballots and retired to the hallway to tabulate the votes.

The meeting business continued while the votes were being tabulated.

Vice President Burke gave a verbal report.

Secretary Meeks gave a verbal report.

### **Special Order – Election of Director At Large on the National Board of Directors (con't)**

The tellers completed the count, the tellers' Chair Leslie DeLong reported Ned Foote received a total of fifteen (15) votes and was elected to the board. President McManus seated elected At Large

Director Ned Foote.

Director Lindbeck made a motion with a second from Director Hobbs:

### **Motion 7**

**To destroy completed ballots of the Special Election collected on 1/14/22:**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 23**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 0**

Treasurer Schwartz gave a verbal report.

### **AVVA President**

The AVVA board took two week off during the holidays to be with family and friends; we are all here in Silver Spring and ready to begin preparing for our future. The convention proved to be one of an unprecedented outcome. Project Friendship was once again successful and for the first time in AVVA's history, VVA dual members have been given the right to vote at the AVVA chapter level on all matters including elections. I hope this change will encourage all of the VVA members to join us. We were together in the beginning as VVA members until 1999; now as we near the end, let's all be together once again. However, this time VVA members are invited to join us.

The current Board met for the first time while in Greensboro; we have met online twice since leaving the convention. We held our second board meeting in November and a new board orientation (and review for our returning members) was held the first week in January 2022. The Paper Safe has been, and continues to be, our most successful program. We have just received another order of 10,000. I thank all of you who have patiently waited. Lack of funding, and then unavailable paper delay hampered us from printing sooner. The Paper Safe is available to all veterans and their families just for the asking. Contact Nancy Switzer [switzer3@frontiernet.net](mailto:switzer3@frontiernet.net)

Once again it is time for at-large, state, and chapter elections. January through June in even-numbered years has been designated our election season. The election policy can be found on our website, [www.avva.org](http://www.avva.org). The process is a simple one however, it's also an important one that must be followed. Regional Directors are standing by to assist states and chapters with the procedure.

I have been in conversation with Jim Knott, CEO of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF). He has invited AVVA to participate in the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Wall celebrations this upcoming year. We are honored to be included; our role is not clear yet; however, we are anticipating a time of reflection and celebration.

A special "thank you" to all VVA members who support us with your membership. On behalf of the Associates of

Vietnam Veterans of America, I congratulate all of you on your election or re-election. I am excited to be working with the VVA Board and membership again.



**CSCP Chairman** - Chairman Brick gave a verbal report.

**HGDP** – Q. Butcher gave a verbal report on status.

**Veterans Benefits Department** – G. Nembhard gave written report in the Appendix.

**Government Affairs Department** – S. Hodge gave a verbal report.

**1<sup>st</sup> Consent Calendar** – Secretary Meeks made a motion with a second from Vice President Burke:

## **Motion 8**

### **To approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Consent Calendar:**

1. To appoint Adolph Gardner, Terry Nolan, Jill Mishkel and Ben Humphries for reappointment to the Elections Committee;
2. To appoint John Margowski - Vice Chair - Members: Ned Foote, Marc McCabe, Felix "Pete" Peterson, Dick Southern, Gary Estermyer, Gumersindo Gomez, Greg Pauline, Randy Schriver, Vern Peterson, Tim Susengill as committee members; Greg Nembhard, Felicia Mullaney, Alex Ghezzi and Claire Corsey as VVA Staff Advisors; and Sharon Hobbs, AVVA Special Advisor to the Veterans Benefits Committee;
3. To appoint Bill Garcia - Francisco Ivarra – Dave Simmons – Virgie Hibbler – Joe Jennings – Pete Peterson Rossie Nance – Charles Odom as committee members and VVA Staff Advisor Nina Schloffel to the Minority Affairs Committee;
4. To appoint Larry Frazee – Richard Lindbeck – Charlie Montgomery – Bob Pace – John Weiss – Ted Wilkinson – John Margowski – John Riling – Carlton Rhodes – Jerry Corrigan – Sam Brick – Ken Rogge – James Fleming as committee members and Bill Meeks, Special Advisor and Teresa Rangel AVVA Special Advisor and Alphie Williams – Priscilla Wiley VVA Staff Liaisons to the Membership Affairs Committee;
5. To appoint Patty Dumin, Vice Chair – Ted Wilkinson – Herb Worthington – Rodney Farley – Carton Rhodes – Adolph Gardner – Ray Bates – Wayne Reynolds – Terry Courville – Charlie Montgomery – JD Soileos – Dennis Andras – Allen Manuel as members and Elaine Simmons – Patsy Chin – Felicea Catapano – Betty Pike – Margaret Wojciechowicz – Kaye Gardner and Diane Nicholson as AVVA Advisors and Kathy Andres as AVVA Special Advisors and Ms. Mara Boggs and U.S. Senator Joe Manchin as Special Advisors and Deborah Williams as VVA Staff Liaison to the Veterans Against Drugs Committee;
6. To appoint Jack McManus, Special Advisor – Marc McCabe – Mike Demske – Rossie Nance – John Hargens – Richard Lindbeck – Gerry Wright as committee members and John Weiss – Tom Owen – Paul Sutton – Jim Doyle – Maynard Kaderlik – John Rossie – Wes Carter – Robert Cummings – Ken Holybee - John Wells – Frank Arminio – Mike Jaret as Special Advisors and Kathy Andras – Nancy Switzer as AVVA Special Advisors and Mokie Porter as VVA Staff Liaisons to the Agent Orange/Dioxin Committee;
7. To appoint Pete Peterson as committee member and Sharon Hobbs as AVVA Special Advisor and Wes Guidry – Mokie Porter VVA Staff Advisors to the Leadership/Convention Planning Committee;
8. To appoint Grant Coates – Dan Stenvold – Ned Foote as members and Wes Guidry – Mokie Porter as VVA Staff Liaisons to the Awards Sub-committee;
9. To appoint Skip Hochreich, Vice-Chair – Terry Courville – Pattie Dumin – Dennis Howland – Ted Wilkinson as committee members and Mokie Porter as VVA Staff Liaison to VI Program and Kaye Gardner as AVVA Special Advisor and Susie Stephens as POW/MIA Families Liaison and Gary Jones – Sharon Hodge as Special Advisors to the POW/MIA Committee;



10. To appoint Marc Goldschmitt, Vice Chair – Larry Carter – Pete Peterson – Victor Klingelhofer – Rick Weidman – Joe Wynn as members and Jenifer Ellis as AVVA Special Advisor for the Economic Opportunities Committee;
11. To appoint Ken Holybee – Beverly Stewart – Barry Rice – Grant Coates – Shelby Pinkerton – Jack Dean – Fred Barks – Gerry Corrigan as members of the Constitution Committee;
12. To appoint Gene Crego, Vice Chair – Dr. Tom Hall – Sandy Miller – Kate O’Hare Palmer – Roland Mayhew – Michael Patrick Quilty – Sandi Wilson – William Bill Garcia as members and Marsha Four & Dr. Linda Schwartz Special Advisors to the President to the Veterans Health Care Committee;
13. To appoint Sandy Miller – Marsha Four – Dr. Tom Hall – Gene Crego – Frank Arminio – Chuck Beyers – Lee Jackson and John McGinty as members and Beverly Stewart – Linda Blankenship – Jennifer Wilson – Patti Ehline - Cheryl Van Syckle and Dr. Linda Schwartz as Special Advisors and AVVA Special Liaison TBA and Sharon Hodge as VVA Staff Liaisons to the Women Veteran Committee;
14. To appoint Charlie Hobbs – Fred Barks – Joe Kristek – Craig Tonjes – Leslie DeLong – Grant Coates – Jim Blount – Beverly Stewart – Charlie Montgomery – Wayne Reynolds – Dan Stenvold and Tom Burke as members to the National Disciplinary Committee;
15. To appoint Kate O’Hare Palmer – Dan Stenvold – Charlie Stapelton – Sandy Miller – Richard Brundage – John McGinty – Rick Weidman – Ken Rose as members to the PTSD/SA VVA National Committee;
16. To appoint Sandy Miller, Vice Chair – Dennis Howland – Sam Brick – Kate O’Hare-Palmer – Dominick Yezzo – Gumersindo Gomez – Dottie Barickman – Dennis Andras – Dr. Tom Hall – Dave Simmons – Grant Coates – Sandie Wilson – John Riling, III – Chuck Beyers – Dennis Howland – Dick Southern – Dr. Tom Hall and AVVA Special Advisor – Sharon Hobbs – VVA Staff Advisors Logan Legates – Dr. Artie Shelton to the Government Affairs Committee;
17. To appoint Dr. Tom Hall, Vice Chair – Kate O’hare-Palmer – John McGinty – Joe McIntyre – Jerry Blum as members to the Homeless Veterans Committee;
18. To appoint Larry Frazee – Gary Neuman – Michael Bousher – John McGinty – Tom Haberkorn – Allen Manuel – Dave Simmons Joe Jennings as members and Hope Summers AVVA Advisor to the Veterans Incarcerated in the Justice System Committee;
19. To appoint Barry Rice – Dan Stenvold – Alan Cook – Francisco Ivarra – Sandy Miller as members of the Finance Committee.

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 22**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 1**

President McManus recessed until Saturday morning at 9am

**Saturday, January 15, 2011**

Board meeting reconvenes – Pinnacle Grand Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor - President Jack McManus calls to order the meeting of Vietnam Veterans of America National Board of Directors.

Secretary Meeks conducted the roll call of the National Board of Directors. Present were:

Jack McManus, President	Spence Davis	John Margowski
Tom Burke, Vice President	Gumersindo Gomez	Jack Mattingly
Bill Meeks, Secretary	Sharon Hobbs*	Charlie Montgomery
Linda Schwartz, Treasurer	Charlie Hobbs	Felix Peterson
Dottie Barickman	Skip Hochreich	John Riling
Sam Brick, Jr.	Dennis Howland	Dick Southern
Terry Courville	Francisco Ivarra	Dan Stenvold
Ned Foote	Richard Lindbeck	Sandie Wilson

*\* AVVA President is a non-voting member of the National Board of Directors*

Absent: Ted Wilkinson (excused)

Secretary Meeks conducted roll call of the State Council Presidents. Present were:

Alabama	Present		Nebraska	Present
Alaska	Present		Nevada	Absent
Arizona	Present		New Hampshire	Absent
Arkansas	Present		New Jersey	Present
California	Present		New Mexico	Absent
Colorado	Absent		New York	Present
Connecticut	Absent		North Carolina	Present
Delaware	Absent		North Dakota	Present
Florida	Present		Ohio	Absent
Georgia	Present		Oklahoma	Present
Idaho	Absent		Oregon	Present
Illinois	Present		Pennsylvania	Present
Indiana	Absent		Puerto Rico	Excused
Iowa	Present		Rhode Island	Present
Kansas	Present		South Carolina	Present
Kentucky	Present		South Dakota	Present
Louisiana	Present		Tennessee	Present
Maryland	Present		Texas	Present
Massachusetts	Present		Utah	Present
Michigan	Present		Vermont	Absent
Minnesota	Absent		Virginia	Present
Mississippi	Present		Washington	Present
Missouri	Present		West Virginia	Excused
Montana	Absent		Wisconsin	Present

President McManus swore in Ned Foote as an At Large Director on the BOD.

**Communication Department** – M. Porter gave a verbal report.

**Veterans Health Council** – Dr A. Shelton gave a verbal report.

**VAVS Report** – K. Rose gave a verbal report.

**Finance Committee Report** – D. Barickman has a written report in the Appendix and made the following motions;

**Motion 9**

**To accept and sign the Mullins CPA agreement to Audit the annual “The Statement of Financial Position as of February 28, 2022,**

**For \$30K, for FY 2023:**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 22**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 1**

**Motion 10**

**To to accept “Contracting Policy” change in Section 4, A, 1 to remove the words “Chief Financial Officer” and replace it with “Treasurer”.:**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 22**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 1**

**Committee – MOTIONS ONLY**

Minority Affairs – no motions

Veterans Against Drugs – no motions

POW/MIA – G. Coates made the following motion;

**Motion 11**

**To appoint Leslie DeLong, Chuck Renevier and Jaycee Newman to the Committee at no cost to National.:**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 22**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 1**

Membership Affairs – D. Southern made the following motion;

**Motion 12**

**To add Wayne Reynolds and Randy Shrioen to the  
Committee at no cost to National.:  
Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 22**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 1**

Homeless Veterans – S. Miller made the following motions;

**Motion 13**

**To appoint Liz Cannon to the Committee at no cost to National.:  
Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 22**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 1**

**Motion 14**

**To move the Homeless Veterans Committee meeting to Tier III.:  
Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 22**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 1**

Public Affairs – D. Howland made the following motions;

**Motion 15**

**To appoint the following special advisors to the Public Affairs Committee; Betty Pike,  
Dan Stenvold, Marsha Four, Linda Schwartz, Ken Rose and Wes Guidry:  
Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 22**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 1**

**Motion 16**

**To appoint the following as members to the Public Affairs Committee; Charles Stapleton,  
Roland Mayhew, John McGinty, Dave Simmons, Jaycee Newman,  
Chuck Renevier, Greg Pauline, Tom Brown and Grant Coates and  
Staff Advisor Mokie Porter and AVVA Advisor Region 9 Director  
Kelly Frederickson:  
Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 22**  
**No: 0**  
**Non Vote: 1**  
**Not Present: 1**

**Motion 17**

**To ask the VVA President to communicate with Congress, TAPS, the VA and Pentagon,  
The organizations' opposition to changing or diluting the meaning and purpose of the Gold  
Star to families of military men & women lost in combat or war, and support  
Leaving the Gold Star Award Policy as it was originally developed and  
intended:**

**Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 22**  
**No: 0**  
**Non Vote: 1**  
**Not Present: 1**

2021 National Convention Planning Committee – No motions;  
PTSD and Substance Abuse – C. Wade (Committee) made a motion;

**Motion 18**

**To contact VA to get Vet Centers off suspended status & re-opened for  
Veterans' meetings that are "in person" – is this the reason for the  
Upswing in Veteran's suicides:  
Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 22**  
**No: 0**  
**Non Vote: 1**  
**Not Present: 1**

Veterans Benefits – J. Riling made a motion;

**Motion 19**

**To add Joe Jennings & Gerald Corrigan to the Veterans Benefits Committee  
at no cost to National:  
Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 22**  
**No: 0**  
**Non Vote: 1**  
**Not Present: 1**

Women Veterans – No motions;  
Veterans Health Care – No motions;  
Government Affairs – P. Peterson made a motion;

**Motion 20**

**To add Dottie Barickman to the Government Affairs Committee  
at no cost to National:  
Without objection motion passed.**

**Yes: 22**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 1**

Agent Orange/Dioxin - No motions;  
Constitution – No motions;  
Resolutions – No motions;  
Economic Opportunities – No motions;  
Veterans Incarcerated and In The Justice System – No motions.

### **Unfinished Business**

**Panel of Inquiry Report & Attachments – VetVOA 12/6/22** – Director Margowski stated the panel was assembled by Board motion on 11/06/2022. The panel met for the next 3 months via Ring, E-Mail and phone calls. We met 6 times-pre meetings, 3 times for interviews and 2 times post meetings.

The Report of Panel of Inquiry into Veterans' Voice of America Inc. (VetVOA), was prepared by, at that time, Board member Kerwin Stone. That document was included in your Board packet. We received a late notice advising us that (VetVOA) incorporation was not paid for by VVA. The panel activities and actions were recorded by VVA General Counsel Patricia A. Harris.

We selected people to be interviewed and scheduled dates and times to accomplish this task during December. We asked if additional people should be interviewed. The consensus was those who were chosen were sufficient to accomplish our mission. Besides the interviews conducted, we reviewed Veterans Voice of America incorporation documents, and their Board of Directors E-Mails and meeting minutes. We also reviewed E-Mails between all VVA Board Officers and also between them and Veterans Voice of America.

In all, the report with attachments came to 628 pages. These documents will be posted on the VVA Web Page.

In conclusion, we found no indication of improper use of VVA funds. The intent and purpose behind the forming of VetVOA were honorable. The rest of our findings and recommendations are contained in the final report prepared by Kerwin, which is contained in your packet.

Director Margowski made the following motion with a second from Director Lindbeck:

### **Motion 21**

**That Vietnam Veterans of America, INC. (VVA) Board of Directors (BOD) accept the  
Board Report of the Panel of Inquiry into the genesis, purposes, sequence of  
Events that lead to the creation of the Veterans Voice of America, Inc.  
(VetVOA) as an adjunct organization of VVA:**

President McManus recognized Director Hobbs who made a motion with a second from Director Brick:

**Motion 21a**

**To postpone the acceptance of the report until the 2022 April BOD meeting:**

President McManus ordered a Roll Call vote of the Board Members

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Jack McManus	-	-
Tom Burke		X
Bill Meeks		X
Linda Schwartz		X
Terry Courville	X	
Dottie Barickman	X	
Sam Brick	X	
Spence Davis	X	
Ned Foote		X
Gumersindo Gomez		X
Charlie Hobbs	X	
Skip Hochreich		X
Dennis Howland	X	
Francisco Ivarra		X
Richard Lindbeck	X	
John Margowski		X
Jack Mattingly		X
Charlie Montgomery	X	
Pete Peterson		X
John Riling		X
Dick Southern		X
Dan Stenvold		X
Sandie Wilson		X
Ted Wilkinson	NP	NP

**Yes: 8**

**No: 14**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 1**

**Motion failed**

Return to Director Margowski's first motion with a second from Director Lindbeck:

**Motion 21**

**That Vietnam Veterans of America, INC. (VVA) Board of Directors (BOD) accept the Board Report of the Panel of Inquiry into the genesis, purposes, sequence of Events that lead to the creation of the Veterans Voice of America, Inc. (VetVOA) as an adjunct organization of VVA:**

**Yes: 21**

**No: 1**  
**Non Vote: 1**  
**Not Present: 1**  
Motion passed.

**Motion 22**

VVA BOD directs the negotiation of a MOU between VVA and VetVOA to explore a plan to utilize VetVOA, a 501c3 organization to potentially continue VVA's legal obligation under National Benefits Program to represent Veterans and family members throughout the life of any disability claims and/or appeals. The MOU will delineate the expectations, responsibilities and relationship between the parties. The parties will also negotiate a MOU between VVA and VetVOA regarding the use of the VVA logo by VetVOA. The MOU must be approved by the Benefits Committee, reviewed by the Legal Counsel and the Finance Committee before the MOU is presented to the VVA BOD for their vote regarding approval or disapproval:\*

*\*There was no motion sheet turned in to postpone Motion 22, thus Secretary Meeks composed Motion 22a from his memory of the intent of the motion with a second from Vice President Burke:*

**Motion 22a**

That Vietnam Veterans of America, INC. (VVA) Board of Directors postpone the negotiation of a MOU between VVA and VetVOA until April BOD meeting thus allowing the board members time to read the Board Report of the Panel of Inquiry (600+pages):

**Yes: 22**  
**No: 0**  
**Non Vote: 1**  
**Not Present: 1**  
Without objection motion passed.

**New Business**

**Chapter Charter Revocation Chapter 639 (MN)** – Secretary Meeks submitted a motion with a second from Vice President Burke:

**Motion 23**

To revoke the charter of Chapter 639 (MN) as a voluntary closure requested by the MN State Council:

**Yes: 22**  
**No: 0**  
**Non Vote: 1**  
**Not Present: 1**  
Without objection motion passed.

**Alternate Regional Directors** – Secretary Meeks submitted a motion with a second from



Vice President Burke:

**Motion 24**

**To approve the appointment of Alternate Regional Directors:**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Name</b>
1	Justin Latini
2	Carlton Rhodes
3	Jack Mattingly
4	John McGinty
5	TBA
6	Greg Paulline
7	Terry Courville
8	Chuck Reneiver
9	Virgie Hibbler

**Yes: 22**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 1**

**Without objection motion passed.**

Director Wilson made a motion with a second from Director Southern:

**Motion 25**

**To continue the agenda after a 15 minute break:**

**Yes: 22**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 1**

**Without objection motion passed.**

President McManus excused members that had driven to the meeting to leave early because of hazardous road conditions forecasted for today. President McManus stated that the Report of Panel of Inquiry (3 pages) is no longer classified as “Confidential” and may be shared with the members.

**REPORT OF PANEL OF INQUIRY INTO VETERANS’ VOICE OF AMERICA, INC.  
(VetVOA)**

**Date: January 9, 2022**

**To: Board of Directors of Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. (VVA)**

**From: Panel of Inquiry**

**SCOPE**

By Motion approved on November 6, 2021 by the Board of Directors of VVA, as supplemented by a Memorandum of Appointment dated November 15, 2021/Revised January 3, 2022 prepared by Patricia A. Harris, General Counsel of VVA, a Panel of Inquiry was formed

consisting of John Margowski (VVA Director), Charles Odom (President of VVA Mississippi State Council), and Kerwin Stone (VVA Director), with VVA's General Counsel designated as the principal VVA staff executive responsible for providing resources, directing, planning, administering and supporting the Panel. Copies of the Motion and of the Memorandum of Appointment are included in the Appendix to this Report. The sole purpose of the Panel is to determine the genesis, purposes, sequence of events that lead to the creation of Veterans' Voice of America, Inc. (VetVOA) as a possible adjunct organization of VVA. The Panel is not tasked with making determinations of wrongdoing or disciplinary actions.

#### **APPENDIX**

Copies of all pertinent documents reviewed by the Panel (including organizational documents from the formation of VetVOA) are included in the Appendix to this report, as are summaries of the Panel's interviews with persons involved in some manner with the formation of VetVOA; the only witness whose testimony was desired but not available to the Panel was Rebecca Patterson, no longer affiliated with VVA.

#### **CRITICAL DOCUMENTS**

Veterans' Voice of America, Inc. was incorporated as a nonprofit corporation under the laws of the State of Delaware on April 10, 2020 through the filing of a Certificate of Incorporation, using VVA's address in Silver Spring, MD as its own principal address of record. The initial officers and directors were all VVA employees and were: Rebecca Patterson, Director/President; Heather Olson, Director/Secretary; and Greg Nembhard, Director/Treasurer. VetVOA was granted exemption from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3) on April 13, 2020. VetVOA was assigned Employer Identification Number 85-0726909 on April 20, 2020. Bylaws were adopted by VetVOA on June 12, 2020, stating that the corporation would be governed by its Board of Directors, consisting of between three and nine members, elected by the Board; the officers of the corporation (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer) would be elected by the Board. These initial steps were performed by attorney Greg Lam of Kansas City, MO, whose services were arranged by Quentin Butcher, Director of VVA's Household Goods Donations Program (HGDP), and were accomplished at a cost to VVA of \$\_\_\_\_\_. There is no reference to VVA in any of the incorporation documents. An undated Memorandum of Agreement was drafted by VVA's Veterans Benefits Committee to address the relationship between VetVOA and VVA, and although there is some confusion on the issue, it was never approved or executed by VVA. VetVOA has applied for recognition by the OGC as a veterans service organization, but the application process generally takes years, and such recognition has not been granted at this time.

#### **GENESIS OF VetVOA**

In 2017 Tom Burke (current VVA Vice President) was Chair of the VVA Veterans Benefits Committee. Prior to that time, and continuing to the present day, there was much discussion (and dissent) within VVA about the future of VVA, in view of the fact that VVA members are all aging and at some point will no longer be able to continue operating VVA and, in particular, continuing to fulfill its obligations as a duly recognized veterans service organization handling disability and other claims on behalf of veterans for whom VVA holds powers of attorney (POA's). Mr. Burke was advised by the Office of General Counsel (OGC) that VVA would remain responsible for the handling of all claims (including appeals) for which it holds POA's at the time VVA is forced to close, even though VVA would obviously no longer be around. Some of this discussion gave rise to the thought of forming an affiliated organization to which VVA might be able to transfer its POA's so that they would continue to be handled by persons with ties to VVA; that organization would need to be tax exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) so that it could raise funds of its own with which to finance its operations. Some of those early discussions labeled the proposed new organization as "VVA2" as a shorthand way to

denote the relationship; however, that proposed name was discarded because a number of VVA members felt that it reflected the formation of a new organization to take the place of VVA. Late in 2019 the name “Advocates for Veterans” was proposed, but it was discarded after only a couple of months. John Riling replaced Tom Burke as Chair of the Veterans Benefits Committee, and continued this line of investigation. In a January 2020 meeting involving then-VVA Treasurer Jack McManus, VVA Director of HGDP Quentin Butcher, and VVA staff attorney Felicia Mullaney, Mr. Butcher noted that in past HGDP marketing programs his clients expressed a distinct approval of the name “Veterans Voices of America” as a charitable organization; since HGDP clients would be a likely source of funding for a new organization, it was decided to use that name as the basis for formation of the new organization. Hence, efforts shifted over to use of the VetVOA name, and the incorporation followed soon thereafter. Then-VVA President John Rowan envisioned VetVOA as being an arms-length circumstance, with VVA’s involvement to be expressed through a memorandum of understanding; he thought that VVA’s own legal staff could handle the incorporation work.

#### **APPROVAL BY VVA OF VetVOA**

The formation of VetVOA was never submitted to the VVA Board of Directors for approval, nor was its proposed use as an affiliate of VVA. Since VetVOA had to be a 501(c)(3) corporation, it could not be a subsidiary of VVA. The concept has been used before, with the formation of the Veterans Health Council.

#### **PANEL’S FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1. There is no indication that VVA funds were improperly used in this process.**
- 2. No witness thought that the intentions and purposes behind the formation of VetVOA were anything other than good.**
- 3. The Panel found no witness and no email (or other document) suggesting that the formation of VetVOA was an attempt to either (a) create an organization to replace VVA or (b) change the name of VVA.**
- 4. The Panel found no evidence that VetVOA has taken any action either independently or on behalf of VVA, beyond the formation of the entity and application to be a veterans service organization.**
- 5. A duly negotiated and executed Memorandum of Agreement between VVA and VetVOA, as envisioned by past-VVA President John Rowan, can be a viable means of VVA exercising limited control over VetVOA to protect VVA’s interests.**
- 6. Recommendation: In order to preserve the transparency of operations desired by VVA, the formation documents of VetVOA along with the names of all officers and directors of VetVOA (including any which VVA may wish to nominate) should be submitted for approval to the VVA National Board of Directors along with the proposed Memorandum of Agreement. The VVA BOD should, as part of such an approval process, also specifically address any objections to potential conflicts of interest in the event any of VetVOA’s officers and/or directors are also members/employees of VVA.**

#### **SUBMISSION BY PANEL**

The Panel of Inquiry submits this Report to the Board of Directors of VVA as the unanimous result of the Panel’s inquiries into the creation of VetVOA.

Director Barickman submitted a motion with a second from Vice President Burke:

#### **Motion 26**

**To keep the Panel of Inquiry – Full Document Confidential (600+ Pages) and it is posted to BOD Confidential Site:**

**Yes: 21**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 2**

**Without objection motion passed.**

### **Veterans Health Council**

President McManus spoke about the Veterans Health Council and Secretary Meeks made a motion with a second from Vice President Burke:

#### **Motion 27**

**Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. (VVA) Board of Directors (BOD) directs creation of a select panel of inquiry consisting of the following individuals:**

**Chuck Beyers, Chair – Linda Schwartz – Tom Burke – Marsha Four – Gumersindo Gomez – Kate O’Hare-Palmer – Peter Peterson – Wayne Reynolds – Sharon Hodge – and Artie Shelton**

**The purposes of this panel is to 1) review the creation and purpose of the Veterans’ Health Council of America (VHCA);**

**2) review the creation of the VVA Veterans of Health Council;**

**3) review the current relationship between VHCA and VHC;**

**4) determine whether the original intent of the VHCA is being fulfilled as expressed in the most recent Memorandum of Understanding and VHCA Corporate documents;**

**and 5) whether the original mission is still necessary.**

**The select panel of inquiry shall make limited independent assessments and provide facts and recommendations.**

**The VVA President shall authorize the utilization of existing FY 2023 approved budget funding and resources for the execution of duties by the select panel.**

**The VVA General Counsel, Patricia Harris, is designated the principal VVA staff executive responsible for providing resources, directing, planning, administrating and supporting this panel.**

**This panel of inquiry is not tasked with making determinations of wrongdoing or disciplinary actions.**

**The suspense for submitting the panel’s findings and recommendations to the BOD is the April or August BOD meeting.**

**Yes: 21**

**No: 0**

**Non Vote: 1**

**Not Present: 2**

**Without objection motion passed.**

### **Committee Reports Only**

Minority Affairs – G. Gomez verbal and written report (appendix)

Veterans Against Drugs – no report

POW/MIA – G. Coates verbal report  
Membership Affairs – D. Southern verbal and written report by e-mail  
Homeless Veterans – S. Miller verbal report  
Public Affairs – D. Howland verbal report  
2022 National Leadership Conference Planning Committee – D. Stenvold verbal report  
PTSD and Substance Abuse – no report  
Veterans Benefits – J. Riling verbal report  
Women Veterans – no report  
Veterans Health Care – no report  
Government Affairs – P. Peterson verbal report  
Agent Orange/Dioxin – S. Wilson verbal report  
Constitution – no report  
Resolutions – J. Margowski verbal report  
Economic Opportunities – no report  
Veterans Incarcerated and In The Justice System – D. Yezzo verbal report

Adjourn 1:20PM

## Appendix

### **Minority Affairs Committee**

**January 14, 2021**

#### **Committee report**

**After more than 18 month, the committee came together again on a face-to-face meeting. We were very happy that we were able to see each other again, discuss our past issues, and pick up new issues that the committee plans to work on in the next two years.**

**The initial issues that the committee discuss was the ratification of the members to the committee for the next two years, those been Mr. Williams (Bill) Garcia, Charles Odom, Francisco Ivarra, Jorge Pedroza, Kee J. Kim, Joe Jennings, Peter Peterson, Dave Simmons, Virgie Hibbler and AVVA advisor, Nina Schloffel. The committee approved these individuals as member of the committee. The second motion that was approve by the committee was that of the budget of Mr. Mac McCabe to travel to Puerto Rico to oversee and work on off at least 40 claims that are still pending for minority veterans in Puerto Rico. The Committee approved this motion.**

**The In Country Korean Vietnam Veterans HB 234 was discuss, which is coming soon to be on the House floor and the committee is asking that a letter of support be drafted from our Board President and be sent to the speaker of the House in support of HB 234. We are already preparing the Senate ounce it gets out of the House. We are meeting with Senator Blumenthal D-CT member of the Senate Veterans Committee, co-signing the bill will be Senator Booker D-NJ.**

**The committee discuss our long term agenda for the coming two years, which will be dedicated to Native American Veterans (NAV); Mr. Francisco Ivarra, will in charge of coordinating the Northwest, Mr. Bill Garcia will coordinated the Southwest, Mr. Chuck Odom will coordinate the Southeast and the chair will coordinate the Northeast. We are making contact with the Natives Federation coming out of Oklahoma with Mr. Dan Landor President of the Federation. Our Leadership workshop in August will be dedicate to the NAV studies.**

# VETERANS BENEFITS YEARLY REPORT

## January 2022

### CONTENT

1. State of the Department
2. VBP Activities
3. Notable Achievements
4. People & Staff Changes

### APPENDIX

#### 1. State of the Department

The Benefits team recently made some changes to better meet the needs of the team and the overall VVA mission. Effective 1 November 2021, Greg Nembhard assumed the role of Director of Benefits. Felicia Mullaney became the Deputy Director for Veteran's Benefits, a role that allows her to focus on her education and other personal goals while still playing a critical role on the team. Alec Ghezzi is now the Deputy Director for Claims and Appeals, utilizing his expert knowledge of Veteran's law and the organization to support the National Benefits team and state programs. Claire Corsey was promoted to Managing Attorney on November 21, 2022 and has leveraged her former role as lead attorney to maintain team operations while beginning to implement a vision to reduce the current appeals backlog.

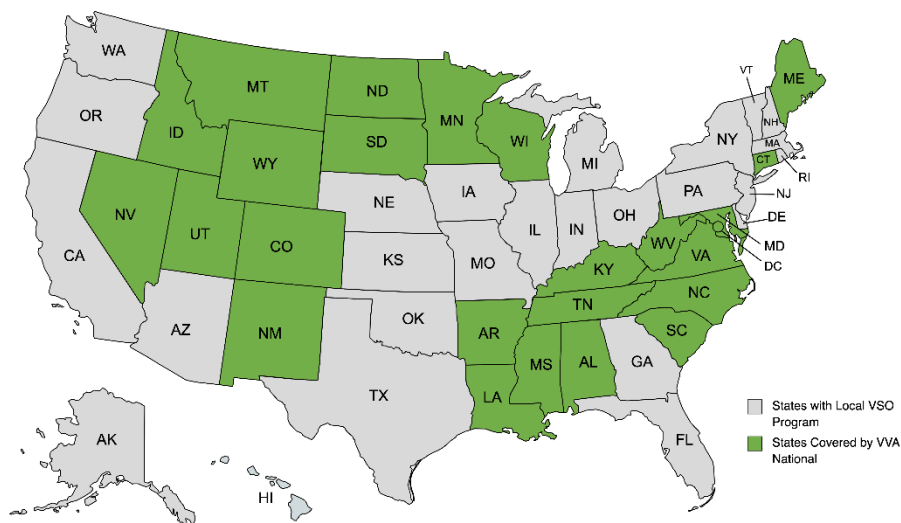
We plan to fill the Lead Attorney position internally and will be interviewing candidates in the coming week. This will leave us with 2 Board Attorney vacancies which we are in the process of announcing internally and externally. The goal is to fill these two positions by mid-February. These positions are already accounted for in the budget and does not require additional approval.

The VSO (development) team is currently fully staffed and represent Veterans across 24 states where we do not have a VSO program. We are anticipating an increase in workload as other programs shut down and has requested funding to hire one additional VSO. If approved, we will announce the vacancy in March to begin the hiring process.

Like much of the country, COVID (Omicron) has hit home for the Benefits team with a number of employees and/or their family members testing positive. Thanks to our remote work, employees were able to continue working through their recovery and isolation, while also focusing on their health. Except for days when symptoms were at their worse, our team members continued to be productive and engaging with the team and Veterans we represent. I am happy to report that each affected employee is recovering well and it is our hope that this remains the case going forward.

The VBP participation and contribution to the National Convention was a tremendous success and proved to be a template for leveraging VVA's internal expertise for training and education during important events and meetings. The team provided classes during the convention and was able to provide critical benefits related information to attendees. We hope to replicate and improve on this during future events also.

## 2. VBP Activities



The VBP represents more than 77,000 Veterans and family members of all eras. Thanks to the VBP's advocacy, over 84 million dollars in benefits are paid every month.<sup>1</sup> Claimants in 26 States and Puerto Rico are represented by local VVA VSOs. Claimants residing in the 24 remaining states and the Philippines are represented by the VBP national office.

Created with mapchart.net

The VBP continues to achieve a “win rate” at the BVA of Veterans’ Appeals (BVA) of nearly 80% (75%) for Legacy cases and 70% for AMA cases. As you can see from the table below, we have continued to perform above our historical averages in Legacy:

Year	Granted	Grant %	Remanded	Remand %	“Win” %	Denied	Denial %	Other	TOTAL
2008	168	23%	325	44%	67%	211	29%	30	734
2009	205	24%	400	47%	71%	217	25%	30	852
2010	259	30%	453	52%	81%	138	16%	25	875
2011	357	28%	625	48%	76%	270	21%	42	1294
2012	215	24%	444	49%	72%	166	18%	86	911
2013	244	25%	470	48%	72%	204	21%	70	988
2014	305	29%	493	47%	76%	212	20%	55	1055
2015	234	30%	407	52%	82%	144	18%	27	782
2016	167	32%	235	45%	76%	83	16%	42	527
2017	167	29%	251	43%	72%	113	19%	52	583
2018	339	37%	382	42%	79%	113	12%	73	907
2019	341	32%	493	46%	78%	168	16%	67	1069
2020	328	34%	410	43%	77%	137	14%	81	956
2021	314	34%	373	41%	75%	138	15%	95	920
AVG		29%		46%	75%		19%		890

<sup>1</sup> Data obtained from VA.



As shown in Appendix A, VVA continues to have one of the lowest denial rates (14%) in Legacy cases recorded by BVA compared to other representatives, second only to private Attorneys (13%). Significantly, that is almost half the denial rate of those who have no representative before the Board (26%).

The disposition of BVA AMA cases is as follows based on data provided by VA:

	Grant	%	Remand	%	"Win" %	Denial	%	Other	TOTAL
2019	11	48%	7	30%	78%	5	22%	0	23
2020	51	34%	52	35%	69%	39	26%	8	150
2021	37	25%	55	37%	62%	39	26%	17	148

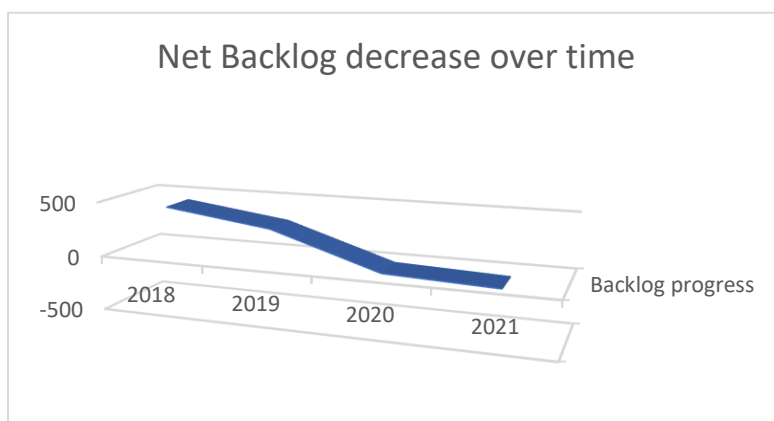
Of the 217 cases VBP worked in 2020, there are still 30 (14%) waiting for a decision from the Board. We have recovered \$1,555,952.77 in past-due benefits so far for that year. Of the 107 cases worked in 2021, 50 (47%) are still waiting for a decision. We have recovered \$190,783.92 in past-due benefits so far for that year. In terms of timeliness, VVA has recorded the following average times (in days):

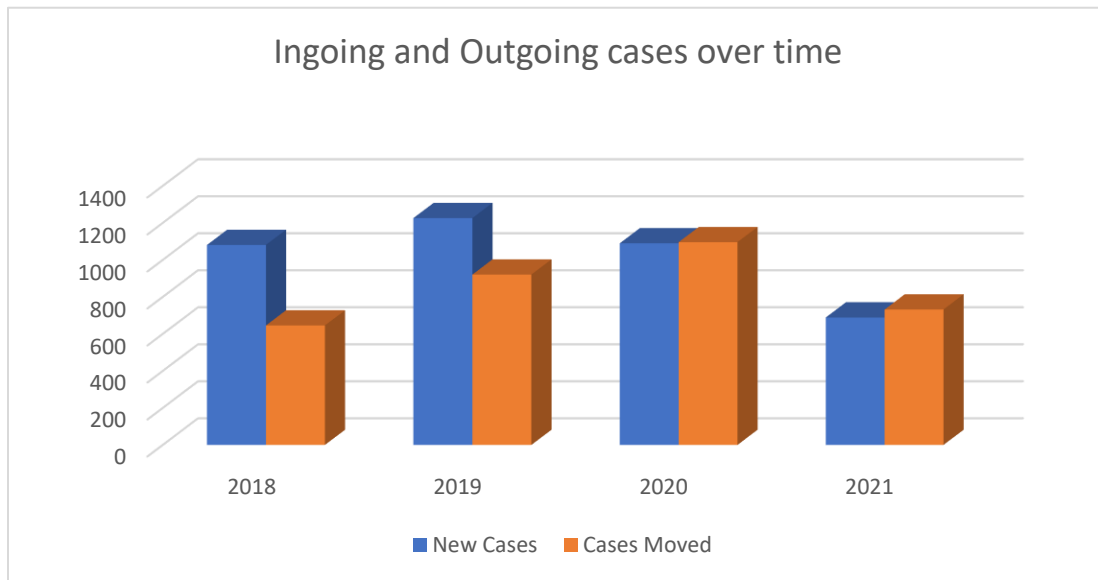
Year	NOD to complete BVA intake (Caseflow)	Intake to submitting IHP	IHP to Decision
2019	61	74	100
2020	54	84	157
2021	91	239	78

The substantially longer period to submit IHPs in 2021 is due both to VBPs focus on clearing the Legacy backlog of cases (which are all significantly older) and because of a recently discovered BVA practice of placing cases on hold while requesting an IHP, making it impossible for us to track with the reporting tools we have access to.

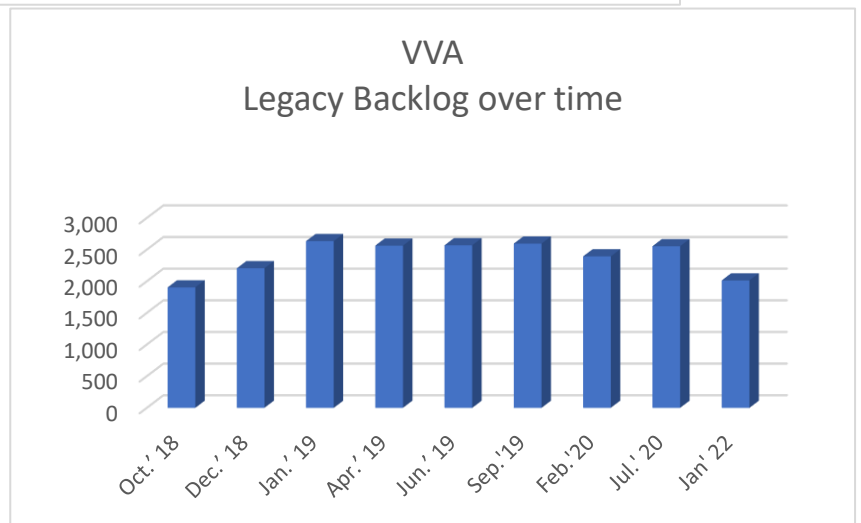
Overall, the VBP continues to make progress on the combined Legacy and AMA backlog:

Year	New Cases	Cases Moved	Backlog progress
2018	1081	646	435
2019	1226	921	305
2020	1090	1096	-6
2021	689	732	-43





The total backlog also continues to decrease over time, with a significant reduction in cases pending a video hearing (as shown in the below table) due in large part to BVA's focus on video hearings during the COVID-19 pandemic. Unfortunately, we have also seen a much smaller reduction in the travel board hearing backlog.



#### TOTAL LEGACY APPEALS BACKLOG AT BVA OF VETERANS APPEALS

LOCATION	Oct.' 18	Dec.' 18	Jan.' 19	Apr.' 19	Jun.' 19	Sep.'19	Feb.'20	Jul.' 20	Jan' 22
Pending Attorney Review	1044	1107	1751	1753	1788	1829	1694	1695	1521
Pending Travel Hearing	185	458	211	218	224	240	222	278	253
Pending Video Hearing	662	631	654	572	538	513	466	570	223
Pending Central Office Hearing	12	9	18	20	18	13	11	10	16

<b>TOTAL VVA BACKLOG AT BVA</b>	<b>1,903</b>	<b>2,205</b>	<b>2,634</b>	<b>2,563</b>	<b>2,568</b>	<b>2,595</b>	<b>2,393</b>	<b>2,553</b>	<b>2,013</b>
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Source: VACOLS; BVA of Veterans' Appeals

### 3. Notable Achievements

The VBP Team is busy zealously advocating for the veterans we serve. Some notable accomplishments for this quarter of the VBP team are highlighted below:

Chayah Yisrael successfully persuaded the Board that a Veteran's *Tinnitus and Hearing Loss* should be awarded service connection. Both were fully granted, the tinnitus at 10% and HL at 0%, with an effective date of May 30, 2014, yielding the Veteran a lump sum back award of **\$12,048.92.**"

Kenneth Bouy successfully secured a grant of *service connection for cause of death*, obtaining a retroactive benefit in the amount of **\$65,914.88** for the surviving family member.

Malkia Saunders successfully assisted a Veteran with obtaining benefits in the amount of **\$28,424.87** for a *bilateral extremity peripheral neuropathy increase rating*. She also successfully argued for a Veteran to obtain benefits in the amount of **\$14,494.33** for a *CAD* increased rating.

Alec Ghezzi successfully assisted the adult son of Veteran with obtaining recognition that he qualified for *spina bifida* benefits. He will now be able to receive monthly compensation and access to healthcare that he previously could not afford.

### 4. People & Staff Changes

As noted above, Greg Nembhard assumed the role of Director of Benefits, Felicia Mullaney became the Deputy Director of Programs and Policy, Alec Ghezzi is now the Deputy Director for Veterans' Claims and Appeals, and Claire Corsey was promoted to Managing Attorney.

Over the course of the last year Justin Huber (August 2021) and Fatmata Conteh (September 2021) moved on to other opportunities outside of VVA.

The following chart shows how many new grants of benefits were issued by VA for Veterans represented by VVA from September 2021 to November 2021.<sup>2</sup>

State	TOTAL AWARDS ISSUED	TOTAL BENEFITS	NEW AWARDS ISSUED	NEW BENEFITS PAID
VVA Total	144,311	\$245,988,667	311	\$303,913
AK	1,251	\$2,611,323	3	\$2,857
AL	305	\$583,452	0	\$0
AR	340	\$716,531	1	\$3,522
AZ	5,781	\$9,053,711	8	\$6,989
CA	4,383	\$9,997,102	14	\$20,769
CO	482	\$965,412	0	\$0
CT	991	\$1,667,929	0	\$0
DC	102	\$149,497	0	\$0
DE	285	\$576,886	0	\$0
FL	4,048	\$7,993,222	19	\$40,133
GA	569	\$1,165,139	0	\$0
HI	1,038	\$2,171,600	1	\$144
IA	8,464	\$12,185,544	13	\$15,187
ID	430	\$644,555	0	\$0
IL	6,312	\$11,816,518	8	\$8,925
IN	3,558	\$5,450,595	5	\$5,650
KS	73	\$127,755	0	\$0
KY	667	\$1,164,267	0	\$0
LA	691	\$1,265,199	0	\$0
MA	4,884	\$8,372,901	20	\$11,437
MD	856	\$1,790,911	0	\$0
ME	3,018	\$7,124,529	5	\$4,833
MI	10,094	\$18,455,352	39	\$22,543
MN	9,503	\$13,192,867	7	\$11,991
MO	3,711	\$6,526,522	14	\$16,254
MS	435	\$939,869	1	\$1,146
MT	563	\$1,040,844	0	\$0
NC	1,143	\$2,197,823	2	\$637

ND	290	\$524,724	0	\$0
NE	1,719	\$2,182,580	0	\$0
NH	330	\$623,435	3	\$3,435
NJ	4,211	\$9,218,567	12	\$14,811
NM	170	\$318,981	1	\$1,251
NV	520	\$1,151,647	0	\$0
NY	8,387	\$14,597,604	4	\$2,603
OH	3,320	\$4,573,502	5	\$3,218
OK	414	\$855,656	0	\$0
OR	1,150	\$2,238,421	2	\$1,993
PA	10,281	\$16,338,477	36	\$35,057
PH	53	\$126,228	0	\$0
PR	615	\$1,772,083	1	\$4,091
RI	1,004	\$1,984,721	1	\$144
SC	222	\$454,952	1	\$144
SD	76	\$94,676	0	\$0
TN	1,511	\$3,127,430	1	\$3,649
TX	8,008	\$14,202,588	20	\$15,644
UT	338	\$654,589	0	\$0
VA	905	\$1,695,995	1	\$144
VT	124	\$251,636	0	\$0
WA	20,257	\$28,165,567	59	\$35,694
WI	3,559	\$5,115,333	3	\$7,572
WV	2,822	\$5,682,503	1	\$1,445
WY	48	\$88,919	0	\$0
TOTAL	53,006	89,580,434	121	109,800
TOTAL	19,073	36,663,034	17	20,840

**KEY:**

States receiving grant funds

States covered by VVA National

<sup>2</sup> We have requested and are still awaiting the report for December 2021.

## Appendinx A

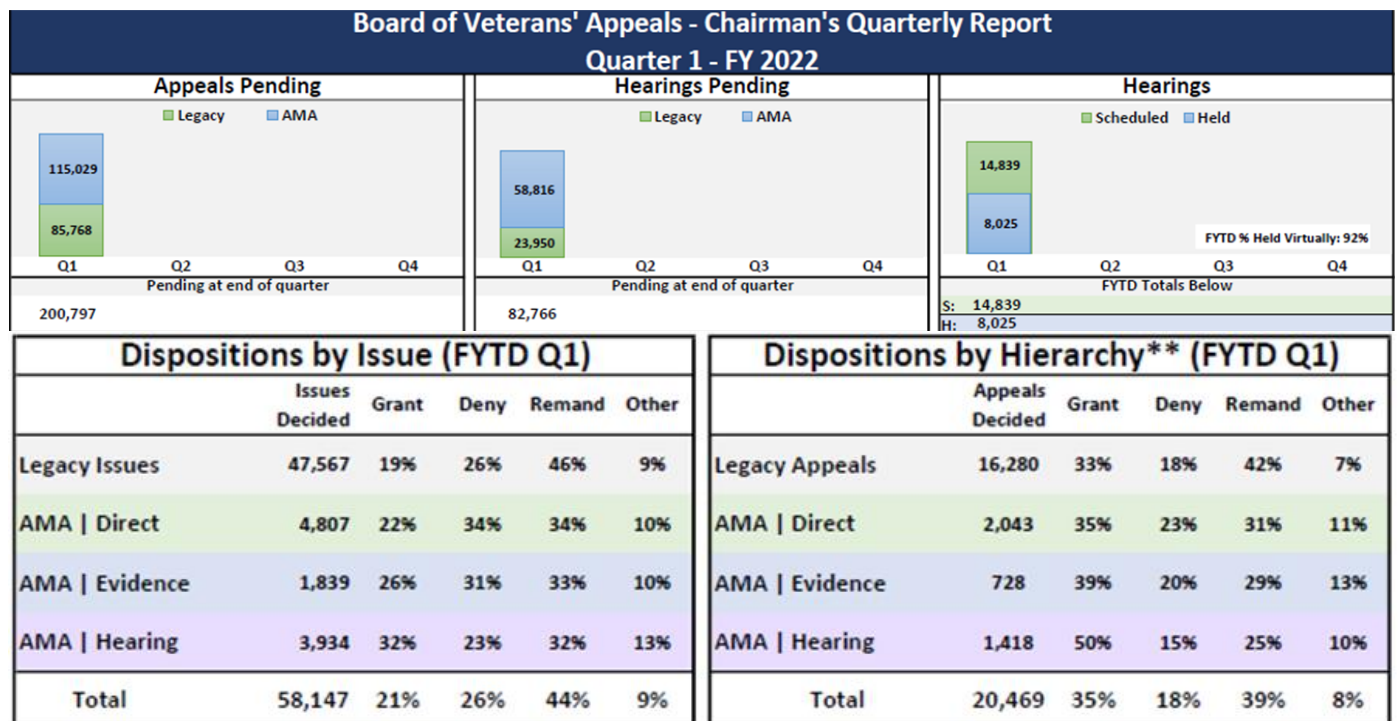
	Jan-Dec 2018 Results by Org								
ORG	Granted	Grant %	Remanded	Remand %	Combined %	Denied	Denial %	Other	TOTAL
VVA	339	37.4%	382	42.1%	79.5%	113	12.5%	73	907
Attorney	7,931	46.0%	6,275	36.4%	82.4%	2,292	13.3%	734	17,232
Agent	769	39.3%	756	38.7%	78.0%	336	17.2%	95	1,956
PVA	75	40.8%	54	29.3%	70.1%	32	17.4%	23	184
States	5,820	36.9%	6,624	42.0%	79.0%	2,885	18.3%	425	15,754
ARC	31	38.8%	31	38.8%	77.5%	15	18.8%	3	80
Other	268	35.1%	291	38.1%	73.3%	144	18.9%	60	763
VDVA	129	36.8%	139	39.6%	76.4%	67	19.1%	16	351
VFW	2,129	36.6%	2,229	38.3%	74.9%	1,123	19.3%	340	5,821
MOPH	126	36.7%	130	37.9%	74.6%	67	19.5%	20	343
AMVETS	110	36.2%	115	37.8%	74.0%	63	20.7%	16	304
DAV	7,501	34.4%	8,735	40.1%	74.5%	4,643	21.3%	924	21,803
AL	4,060	34.2%	4,702	39.6%	73.8%	2,615	22.0%	500	11,877
None	2,757	27.7%	3,895	39.1%	66.8%	2,885	29.0%	425	9,962
AVG		38.4%		38.1%	76.6%		17.4%		87,337

Jan-Dec 2019 Results by Org									
ORG	Granted	Grant %	Remanded	Remand %	Combined %	Denied	Denial %	Other	TOTAL
Attorney	9,482	45.2%	7,788	37.1%	82.3%	2,800	13%	905	20,975
PVA	158	37.2%	158	37.2%	74.4%	66	16%	43	425
VVA	341	31.9%	493	46.1%	78.0%	168	16%	67	1,069
MOPH	94	43.5%	72	33.3%	76.9%	35	16%	15	216
VDVA	131	32.3%	188	46.3%	78.6%	77	19%	10	406
Agent	844	35.7%	924	39.1%	74.8%	452	19%	143	2,363
AL	4,985	33.8%	6,225	42.2%	76.0%	2,904	20%	637	14,751
VFW	2,910	36.0%	3,159	39.0%	75.0%	1,645	20%	380	8,094
DAV	6,087	33.9%	7,389	41.1%	75.0%	3,694	21%	796	17,966
Other	225	31.2%	297	41.2%	72.4%	156	22%	43	721
States	5,785	33.8%	6,717	39.3%	73.1%	3,856	23%	742	17,100
AMVETS	107	34.5%	119	38.4%	72.9%	72	23%	12	310
ARC	20	25.0%	38	47.5%	72.5%	20	25%	2	80
None	2,690	25.8%	3,757	36.1%	61.9%	3,392	33%	572	10,411
AVG		34.3%		40.3%	74.6%		20.3%		94,887

Jan-Dec 2020 Results by Org									
ORG	Granted	Grant %	Remanded	Remand %	Combined %	Denied	Denial %	Other	TOTAL
PVA	97	36%	111	41%	78%	37	14%	23	268
VVA	330	34%	409	43%	77%	137	14%	81	957
Attorney	8106	40%	7777	38%	78%	3126	15%	1289	20298
VDVA	167	35%	209	44%	79%	78	16%	24	478
MOPH	105	31%	128	38%	70%	65	19%	36	334
Other	284	34%	342	41%	74%	166	20%	50	842
AL	3542	32%	4927	44%	75%	2221	20%	540	11230
ARC	22	37%	26	43%	80%	12	20%	0	60
AMVETS	74	31%	97	41%	73%	48	20%	16	235
Agent	698	31%	920	41%	71%	496	22%	154	2268
VFW	2355	32%	2934	40%	73%	1634	22%	361	7284
DAV	4771	30%	6689	42%	72%	3678	23%	831	15969
States	4413	31%	5669	39%	70%	3568	25%	742	14392
None	1920	26%	2885	39%	66%	2139	29%	371	7315
AVG		33%		41%	74%		20%		81,930

Jan-Dec 2021 Results by Org									
ORG	Granted	Grant %	Remanded	Remand %	Combined %	Denied	Denial %	Other	TOTAL
Attorney	7203	40%	6658	37%	78%	2552	14%	1459	17872
VVA	314	34%	373	41%	75%	138	15%	95	920
PVA	60	32%	73	39%	70%	30	16%	26	189
VDVA	147	34%	194	45%	79%	73	17%	16	430
AMVETS	56	36%	54	35%	71%	29	19%	15	154
Other	261	30%	369	42%	72%	182	21%	60	872
Agent	618	33%	741	39%	72%	402	21%	130	1891
VFW	1914	30%	2673	42%	72%	1437	23%	328	6352
DAV	4874	30%	6845	42%	72%	3685	23%	820	16224
States	4105	31%	5414	40%	71%	3064	23%	842	13425
AL	3535	34%	3633	35%	70%	2495	24%	642	10305
None	1793	28%	2568	39%	67%	1721	26%	430	6512
ARC	24	32%	27	36%	68%	22	29%	2	75
MOPH	67	38%	42	24%	61%	54	30%	15	178
AVG		33%		38%	71%		22%		75,399

## Appendix B





**Vietnam Veteran of America  
Finance Committee Report  
01.13.2022 and 01.14.2022 (2 Days)**

The Newly Formed Board met on 01.13.2022 with Chairman Dottie Barickman. Members are Barry Rice, Daniel Stenvold, Alan Cook, Francisco Ivarra and Sandy Miller. All Members were approved at the BOD meeting on 01.14.2022.

We want to sincerely thank Ned Foote for his many years as Chair of the VVA Finance Committee, and the knowledge, integrity and balance that he brought to the committee. He was a true leader and champion of the VVA Mission, and stood firm in his belief that we can all do this if we do it together. He will be missed, and although his "chair" is vacant his passion and willingness to help in any way resonates with how a true leader leaves his legacy behind.

**FY 2023 Budget Process** - Discussion on the Budget Process with time-lines and a completion date for the Budget to go to the BOD for Email approval. Tentative completion target date is 02.14.2022.

**Finance Committee Motions Made:**

- ❖ Appointment of Investment SubCommittee Chair - Daniel Stenvold
- ❖ Appointment of Budget Oversight SubCommittee Chair - Alan Cook; Members Barry Rice and Francisco Ivarra.

**Finance Committee Motions Made; to move to the BOD for Approval:**

- ❖ Motion to accept **and sign** the Mullins CPA agreement to Audit the annual "The Statement of Financial Position as of February 28, 2022, for \$30K, for FY 2023.
- ❖ Motion to accept "Contracting Policy" change in Section 4, A, 1 to remove the words "Chief Financial Officer" and replace it with "Treasurer". The justification is the VVA no longer has a Chief Financial Officer position, and those responsibilities have been transferred to the Treasurer.

Discussed adding rental of ADA wheelchair or mobility scooters to the Travel Policy under reimbursable items.

**Policy Review - Travel Policy** recommended to be amended to clean up the organization and to add ADA wheelchair or mobility scooters as a reimbursable item. VVA may provide vendor contact information, and VVA Event Planner may include a 30-day reminder to rent a wheelchair or mobility scooter for travel at the same time as the 30-day hotel reservation reminders are provided.

**Policy Review - Contracting Policies** recommended to be amended to clean up the organization, remove the mention of "Chief Financial Officer" and review for consistency.



**Policy Review - Budget Oversight Policy** recommended to be amended, and to use the previous draft prepared by past FC Member Kerwin Stone.

**Discussed proposed moving FC Meeting date/times;** as the current date/times of Thursday 5pm is problematic for D. Barickman due to travel day, and S. Miller due to the Homeless Veteran Committee meeting at the same time. Decision to shift the Homeless Veteran meeting to Tier III. FC will remain in the original slot.

**Guest CSCP Chair Sam Brick.**

S. Brick brought a motion to the FC to approve a donation to Vietnam POW 49th Reunion in SC. The parent Foundation NAMPOW has facilitated 49 Reunions and do not believe they will make it past 40 Reunions. The question was if the FC would approve the funds, and what Cost Center it would be charged to. S. Brick proposed to the POW/MIA Committee, which passed on this. President J. McManus proposed that this request go to the FY 2023 Budget Process, under the President Contribution Cost Center for consideration.

*Dottie Barickman, WA Finance Committee Chair*  
01.15.2022