

Veterans-For-Change Newsletter

A Voice of the Veterans

Week Ending Sunday, December 27, 2020

Volume 11, Issue 38



This-N-That

Good evening Jim,

We do hope everyone had a truly wonderful and very Merry Christmas! And hopefully all are looking forward to a very Happy and Prosperous New Year!

I had hoped there would be more news to provide to you, but it seems most government offices and agencies we rely on for feeds to the latest information had shut down for Christmas.

And although I should have published two days ago,

the time was not wasted!

During the past week we've uploaded a total of 293 more documents to the library, and have added 59 new libraries to choose from. And over the next few days we should be uploading another 90+ new weblinks to the site.

So please do check the site often, you never know what you've been looking for and not found that we may have just uploaded and keep in mind we still have more than 110,000 more documents to prepare and get on-line and in the appropriate library.

Weblinks are coming in constantly, but each one needs to be reviewed and determined if it fits in-line with what most Veterans and their family's might be looking for, and with the weblinks we try and gather at least 75+ at a time so we're not really wasting time going back and forth.

In addition to that we're slowly working on the addition of more to our Memorial Pages which we've not been able to confirm information and get taken care of, but we did manage to find a volunteer who could give enough time to work on the massive pile we have, confirm details, and prep for getting on-line.

Hopefully, come Monday afternoon, all of our sources

will be back at the job, and sending out more information we will be able to pass along to you and in keeping with our purpose of keeping you informed with as much information as possible.

We've received quite a number of E-Mails on COVID-19, the COVID Vaccine, other viruses and their vaccines.

While I am neither a physician or a scientist, I would never ask and/or insist anyone get any Vaccine they're opposed to, or quite possibly allergic to, the flu vaccine has already been a long-proven method to avoid getting the latest and greatest flu virus.

When it comes to COVID and the newest vaccines released, I'm still in doubt as to their ability to do the job properly without harming anyone.

I've read so much information both pro and con I myself can't even make a deliberate and informed decision, but in this newsletter as well as on the website is a lot of information available, I would very highly recommend reading so you too can either be as informed or as confused as I am.

But for the time being I would still strongly recommend using masks and keeping social distancing to at least protect yourself and your family. On behalf of our Volunteers nationwide and myself, we wish you and your family good health and a Very Happy New Year!

Respectfully,
Jim Davis
Founder
Jim.Davis@Veterans-For-Change.org



PDBR Review of Disability Claims Continues

The Physical Disability Board of Review (PDBR) was created by an FRA-supported provision in the FY2008 Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that reassess the accuracy and fairness of combined disability ratings of 20 percent or less for service members who were separated from service, rather than medically retired because of medical conditions.

To be eligible for a PDBR review, service members must have been medically separated between Sept. 11, 2001, and Dec. 31, 2009, with a combined disability rating of 20 percent or less and found ineligible for retirement. According to Military.com only 19,000 of the more than 71,000 eligible have requested a review of their claim. The PDBR claims that more than half of the reviewed claims have been upgraded to a disability rating of 30 percent or more.

The review panel is authorized to recommend an increase in a disability rating, uphold the previous finding or issue a disability rating when the previous board did not assign one. The board, however, is NOT able to recommend a lower rating. Eligible veterans can request a board review by submitting a Department of Defense Form 294, Application for Review of Physical Disability Separation from the Armed Forces of the United States, which is available online.

Veterans requesting a review must mail their completed and signed DD Form 294 to SAF/MRBR, 550 C St. W., Suite 41, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas 78150-4743. Applicants may submit statements, briefs, medical records or affidavits supporting their application.

For more information about the PDBR, go online.



COVID-19 Vaccine Distributed in Phases to TRICARE Members

The COVID-19 vaccine will soon be available for you and your family. The Department of Defense (DoD), in collaboration with the Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will provide COVID-19 vaccines in phases. As this critical response begins, you may have questions about the COVID-19 vaccine, as well as when and how you can get it.

To learn more, read the article.

Links to Other Stories

1. Indictment:

Veteran

Falsified

Records

of

Travel

for

Treatment

2. GOVERNMENT

CONTRACTOR

ADMITS

SCHEME

TO

INFLATE

COSTS

ON

FEDERAL

PROJECTS

AND

PAYS

\$11

MILLION

TO

RESOLVE

CRIMINAL

AND

CIVIL

PROBES

3. Agawam

Man

Sentenced

for

Defrauding VA Hospitals by Failing to Inspect Medical Gas **Systems** 4. Medical Equipment Company Handicare USA, LLC, **Agrees** to Pay \$800,000 to Resolve False Claims Act **Action** 5. Pulse **Oximeters** and Oxygen **Concentrators:** What to **Know About**

At-Home Oxygen Therapy 6. Protect Your **Family** from Fraudulent Flu **Products** 7. Agent Orange **Diseases** and **Symptoms** Breakdown! 8. **VA** unveils first coronavirus vaccine sites as case numbers continue to climb 9. Frontline health care workers among

first

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in
   DOD
   for
   COVID-
    19
   vaccine
10. Veterans
   Affairs
   nurse
   receives
   COVID-
   19
   vaccine
   in
   Minneapolis
11. What
   are
   the
   Dangers
   of
   Burn
   Pit
   Exposure?
12. VA
   Welcome
   Kit
   adds
   10
   new
   guides
   for
   Veterans
   and
   their
   families
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13. VA Debt Management Center to resume sending notification letters in **January** 2021 14. VA **Profile** allows Veterans to update contact information on VA systems

Missed Open Season? How to Get TRICARE Coverage

If you missed the Dec. 14 deadline for open season, you'll have to wait until next year's open season to change your existing coverage unless you have a Qualifying Life Event (QLE). A QLE—at any time of the year—allows you to enroll in or change your

TRICARE Prime (including US Family Health Plan) or TRICARE Select plan. With the next open season not set to arrive until the fall of 2021, you need to understand the options available to you now.

To learn more, read the article.



The Veterans-For-Change website has been around since 2009. The looks pretty much stay the same for now, but in the background our new webmaster has been working on a whole new look and feel, a facelift so-to-speak.

Constant improvement and change are being done to make our website the most user friendly "One-Stop-Shop" website to find almost everything you might have tried to find searching the internet.

Almost a hundred people have been involved; collecting web links to documents now houses on the VFC website, collecting thousands of web links for various issues, illnesses and benefits. Creating forums for all eras of service and two forums one just for men and one just for woman where you can go question,

comment, share medical and personal concerns, what ever you'd like it to be.

We also have a forum with for Mental Health and are currently seeking a new Licensed Mental Health Worker, where you can seek help or just ask questions.

If you subscribe you will have full access to the entire website and best of all it's **FREE of charge!** You just need a valid E-mail address so the system can us a notification to approve your account. Once received, and we approve, the system will send you an E-Mail letting you know your account has been approved.

www.Veterans-for-change.org

- Documents Library with over 19,939 documents in 230+ Libraries, added 283 documents on-line (Updated: 12/25/20)
- FAQ's on-line with **1,843** FAQ's on 104 topics! (Updated 05/30/20 46 NEW)
- Multiple Forums
- o Afghanistan Veterans
- o FMP Foreign Medial Program
- o Gulf War & Desert Storm Veterans
- o Iraq Veterans
- o Korean Veterans
- o Men Veterans Forum

- o Mental Health for Veterans (Counselor Needed)
- o Political Issues
- o Suggestion Box
- o The Mess Hall
- o VA Hospitals and Medical Centers
- o Veteran Affairs
- o Vietnam Veterans
- o Welcome Mat
- o Women Veterans Forum
- o WW II Veterans
- Job Postings
- Memorial Pages (Updated: 04/23/20) (3 Added)
- News (Articles On-Line: 10,114)
- Polls
- Web Links, more than **7,809**, Added 79 New Links (Updated: 11/02/20)

If you have a submission for the memorial pages, E-Mail: Jim.Davis@Veterans-for-change.org



Jim, below are links to all currently active pre-written E-Mails to many pieces of legislation. We ask that you

go to each one, and send the pre-written E-Mails, and to also call your Reps or Senators and ask for their support on a weekly basis!

Jim you don't need to be Active Duty or a Veteran, in fact we ask all Veteran friends to also help! (Updated 11/27/20)

1. Support
Veterans
Economic
Recovery
Act!

2. NDAA

Amendment

to

Provide

Benefits

to

Vets

Exposed

to

Agent

Orange

3. Please

Support

Addition

of

Agent

Orange

Presumptive

Diseases

4. Support Amendments

That Add **Diseases** Caused by **Agent** Orange! 5. H.R. 6027, the Restore Veterans' Compensation Act 6. H.R. 5867, the **STOP** Veteran Suicide and Substance **Abuse** Act 7. H.R. 95, Legislation to **Allow** Homeless **Veterans** to Stay With **Their**

Children While Receiving **Services** 8. H.R. 303, the Retired Pay Restoration Act 9. H.R. 553, **Military** Surviving **Spouses Equity** Act 10. H.R. 1527, the Long-Term Care **Veterans** Choice Act 11. S 179 and HR 712, VA Medicinal Cannabis

Research Act of 2019 12. H.R. 1200, the Veterans' Compensation Costof-Living Adjustment Act of 2019 13. **S**. 785, the Commander John Scott Hannon **Veterans** Mental Health Care Improvement Act 14. H.R. 96, to Provide Dental Care

for All **Veterans Enrolled** in **Veterans** Health Care 15. H.R. 6590, DAV **Supports Deferring** Debt **Collections** during **COVID-**19 **Crisis** 16. H.R. 6933, the Caring for **Survivors** Act of 2020 17. Support S. 3761/H.R. 7443 to reestablish

VSO review period on **VBA** decisions 18. Please Ask Your Member Of Congress То **Support** Tester/Harder **Amendment** In The Fy2021 **National Defense** 19. **S**. 2950, the **Veterans** Burn Pits Exposure Recognition Act 20. Tell Congress to **Stand** Up

for Vietnam Veterans! 21. Ask Your Member of Congress to **Support** Tester/Harder **Amendment** in the Fy2021 **National** Defense **Author**

Last Chance: Set Up Payment for TRICARE Select Enrollment Fees

The Dec. 31 deadline to set up payment for your new TRICARE Select 2021 enrollment fees is just around the corner. If you're a TRICARE Select Group A retiree, this is your last chance to set up payment. If you don't set up your payment by the Dec. 31 deadline, you'll be disenrolled from TRICARE Select or TRICARE Overseas Program Select on Jan. 1, 2021.

To learn more, read the article.

CONTACT YOUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS!

To Call your Representative: 202-225-2305

To Call your Senators:

202-224-3841 or 202-224-3553

To call Different Members of Congress:

202-224-3121

TOLL FREE: 866-272-6622

PLEASE... STOP Making Excuses!

www.veterans-for-change.org



Follow us on MEWE! The support staff at MEWE is responsive, open to suggestions and works very hard to protect your personal information.

We hope you will join us on this new site.

VETERANS-FOR-CHANGE

HOMELESS HEROES PROGRAM OF VETERANS-FOR-CHANGE

AMVETS GROUP

VETERANS SOCIAL GROUP

{USAVET} SUPPORTING GOD & ALL WHO SERVED OUR GREAT NATION

AMERICANS FOR SOVEREIGNTY

"History is not there for you to like or dislike. It is there for you to learn from it. And if it offends you, even better. Because then you are less likely to repeat it. It is not yours to erase. It belongs to all of us."

Office of Inspector General

1. Defense

Health

Care:

Efforts

to

Ensure

Beneficiaries

Access

Specialty

Care and Receive **Timely** and **Effective** Care 2. Emergency Responder Safety: **States** and DOT Are **Implementing Actions** to Reduce Roadside Crashes 3. Medicaid Long-Term **Services** and Supports: **Access** and Quality **Problems** in Managed Care Demand **Improved**



CLICK HERE TO FOLLOW US ON TWITTER!



1. Controlled

Correspondence

Related

to

Generic

Drug

Development

Guidance

for

Industry

2. Coronavirus

(COVID-

19)

Update:

December

21,

2020

3. Coronavirus

(COVID-

19)

Update:

FDA Issues New **Authorization** for the **BinaxNOW COVID-**19 Ag Card Home **Test** (12/16/20)4. Coronavirus **Disease** 2019 (COVID-19) (12/20/20)5. Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) (12/21/20)6. COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions 7. **DA Approves** First **Adjuvant**

Therapy for Most Common Type of Lung Cancer 8. **FDA Advises** Consumers to **Avoid** Green Gorilla Root **Juice** Due to a **Potentially** Harmful **Undeclared** Ingredient 9. **FDA Approves First Adjuvant** Therapy for Most Common Type of Lung

Cancer 10. FDA **Approves** First Oral Hormone Therapy for **Treating Advanced Prostate** Cancer 11. FDA **Approves First** Oral Hormone Therapy for **Treating Advanced Prostate** Cancer 12. FDA **Approves Prosthetic Implant** for Abovethe-Knee **Amputations** 13. FDA **Approves Treatment**

for Ebola Virus 14. FDA **Authorizes** Marketing of New **Implant** to Repair a Torn **ACL** 15. FDA Drug **Shortages** 16. **FDA** Statement on **Vaccines** and Related **Biological Products Advisory** Committee Meeting 17. FDA **Takes Additional Action** in **Fight Against**

COVID-19 Ву Issuing **Emergency** Use **Authorization** for Second **COVID-**19 Vaccine 18. FDA Warns Consumers to **Avoid** Certain Male **Enhancement** and Weight Loss **Products** Sold **Through** Amazon, eBay and Other Retailers Due to Hidden, **Potentially Dangerous**

Drug Ingredients 19. FDA Warns Consumers to **Avoid** Certain Male **Enhancement** and Weight Loss **Products** Sold Through Amazon, eBay and Other Retailers Due to Hidden, **Potentially Dangerous** Drug Ingredients 20. **FSMA Proposed** Rule for Food Traceability 21. List

of Off-Patent, Off-**Exclusivity Drugs** without an **Approved** Generic 22. O&H Danish Bakery, Inc. Issues **Allergy Alert** on **Potential** for **Undeclared Pecans** in **Almond** Kringle 23. Penumbra's **Urgent** Voluntary Recall of **JET Catheters** with Xtra

Flex Technology Due to Increased Risk of Mortality and **Serious** Injury **Urgent** Letter to Health Care **Providers** 24. Penumbra's **Urgent** Voluntary Recall of **JET** 7 **Catheters** with Xtra Flex **Technology** Due to Increased Risk of Mortality

and Serious **Injury Urgent** Letter to Health Care **Providers** 25. Vaccines and Related **Biological Products Advisory** Committee October 22, 2020 Meeting Presentation 26. Weight Loss, Male **Enhancement** and Other **Products** Sold Online or in **Stores** May

Dangerous 27. Shane Erickson, Inc. **DBA** Innovative Marketing Consultants Issues Voluntary Nationwide Recall of Wash-Free Hand Sanitizer Due to **Potential Presence** of **Undeclared** Methanol 28. Cook Medical Recalls Flexor Check-Flo **Introducers** and Flexor Tuohy-

Be

Borst Side-Arm **Introducers** Due to Separation in **Device** 29. FDA **Takes Further Steps** to Confront **Opioid Crisis** Through Risk **Evaluation** and Mitigation Strategy **Programs** 30. FDA authorizes marketing of new device designed to remove dead pancreatic

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tissue
31. B&G
    Foods
    Issues
    Voluntary
    Allergy
    Alert
    on
    Undeclared
    Soy
    in
    a
    Limited
    Number
    of
    Containers
    of
    Food
    Club
    Garlic
    Powder
    That
    Incorrectly
    Contain
    Bacon-
    Flavored
    Bits
32. Coronavirus
    Disease
    2019
    (COVID-
    19)
    (12/22/20)
33. Outbreak
    Investigation
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of Ē. coli Leafy Greens (December 2020) 34. FDA Warns Companies Illegally Selling **CBD Products** 35. FDA In **Brief:** FDA Issues Warning Letter to Whole Foods Market **After** Repeated Recalls of Foods **Packaged** with Incorrect Allergen

Labeling

36. FDA

Warns

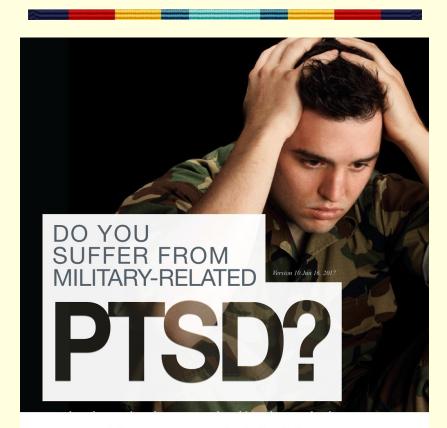
Companies

Illegally

Selling

CBD

Products



Veterans Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255 & Press 1 Ntl Call Center for Homeless Vets 1-877-424-3838

SOUND OFF! SHARE YOUR STORIES AND COMMENTS WITH US:

We know most Veterans have had issues both current and in the past with the Veterans Affairs, and we'd really like to hear from you!

So now is your chance to voice your concerns, opinions, problems, compliments, advice, etc., anything you'd like to have heard.

We will be creating another category in the "NEWS" section of the website called "SOUND OFF" and instead of us continually sending this type of information in fax blasts to all 535 members of Congress, we will be adding to the website as we know many members of Congress do watch us, and this makes it a lot easier for us to track the number of people reading the issues.

In addition, it might even open the door for your fellow Veteran's to see they're not alone, and they too might voice their concerns.

Your story can be as long or as short as you'd like to express what you have to say, we can post as anonymous, or if you want we can post your name to the article, just tell us how you would like for us to post

your story and we will adhere to your request.

We only ask that you keep it clean from foul language, and we will edit only to correct grammar, and if need be to edit out any foul language as that is an almost immediate cut off from Congress to pay attention.

Send your story to JIM.DAVIS@VETERANS-FOR-CHANGE.org and we will get it posted as quickly as we can. And if you have a title for your story that would be fantastic, as we will be providing the story title and link to Congress.



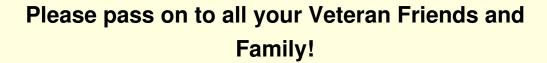
Veterans-For-Change, Inc.

Riverside County, CA

Visit our website today

www.Veterans-For-Change.org

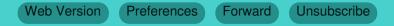
Serving those who served!



Please do not reply to this E-Mail, this is an unattended E-Mail address, please send all correspondence to:

Jim.Davis@Veterans-for-change.org

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