

## Veterans of Foreign Wars Dept. of Arizona

6423 S Ash Ave Tempe, AZ 85283 Phone: 480-941-5258 Fax: 480-994-3730 TAX ID 86-0076886

The Department Service Officer team wanted to reach out to all comrades, Auxiliary members and especially post service officers with information that can assist all.

- PACT Act specifics
- VBA Claims form changes
- Future training

Since the PACT Act was set in motion on 08/10/2022 there has been a lot of confusion amongst veterans on what conditions are related to their service specifically. It is important that you exercise your attention to detail when it says that a specific list of contentions ONLY applies to either Vietnam era veterans or Gulf War era veterans. It seems like the ones that are commonly confused are respiratory related. Sleep Apnea <u>IS NOT</u> a presumptive condition of either or any era at all. Asthma, Rhinitis and Sinusitis are related to the Gulf War and NOT Vietnam. Another missed detail is that Melanoma is a Gulf War presumptive and the one for Vietnam is Multiple Myeloma. Finally, Hypertension is only a presumptive of Vietnam. Be sure you pay attention to detail to what is, and what is not connected and remember to call the Department Service Office at (480) 702-0680 with any questions.

The Veterans Benefits Administration has updated 3 commonly used forms recently and have been refusing to process the older forms submitted. For new forms, visit <a href="www.va.gov/find-forms">www.va.gov/find-forms</a> The forms are listed below:

21-526EZ – Basic claim for Disability 21P-534EZ – Dependents and Indemnity Compensation (Survivors Benefits) 21-686C – Adding of Dependents

The next scheduled National Veterans Services training is the Proficiency Conference held the week of 04/17 – 04/21/2023. The Department has seen fit that we conduct Post Service Officer training on 04/26 and 04/27/2023. The first day will be in the Phoenix area and the second will be in the Tucson area. Training on both days will be from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Notification will be sent out once the two locations have been finalized. Please contact the Department Service office any time a Post Service Officer would like one on one training at the Department Headquarters.

**Department Service Officer**