

TDVS Benefits Bulletin
23-10

[TDVS Updates](#)
[VA and Veteran Benefit Updates](#)
[Practice Like a Pro](#)
[Advocate Spotlight](#)

This month's bulletin is 649 words and will take just under 3 minutes of your time.

1 big thing: Governor Lee's Veterans Day Event



*Serving those
who served!*

VETERANS DAY 2023
TN NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY
HALL OF FLAGS
GOV. BILL LEE HONORS VETERAN STATE EMPLOYEES
THURSDAY  **11:00 AM**
NOV. 9, 2023

3041 SIDCO DRIVE, NASHVILLE, TN 37204

Join Governor Bill Lee, Dept. of Veterans Services Commissioner Tommy Baker, Dept. of Military, Adjutant Gen. Warner Ross II, and other guests for a United States Veterans Day event on Thursday, November 9 at 11 a.m. CST. The event will be at the TN National Guard Armory Hall of Flags, 3041 Sidco Dr, Nashville, TN 37204.

TDVS Updates

Training Updates

What's next: Here's the training schedule for the remainder of the calendar year.

- Annual Examination, November 17th **or** November 20th
- December Lunch and Learn, December 13th, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. CST
- [2024 Training Schedule](#)

VA and Veteran Benefit Updates

Community Conversation – Coalition Collaborations in the Midsouth Healthcare Network (VISN 9)



COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS:
**COALITION COLLABORATIONS IN THE
MIDSOUTH HEALTHCARE NETWORK, VISN 9**

November 2, 2023 from 10:00am - 12:00pm EST

Community Conversations centered around coalition collaborations.
This meeting will include topics such as:

- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration Funding Opportunities
- Identification and Screening
- Connectedness and Care Transitions
- Lethal Means Safety and Safety Planning

To register for this webinar, use your smart phone to scan the QR code or copy the link into your browser.
<https://veteransaffairs.webex.com/weblink/register>

Expanded Burial Benefits

VA has proposed expanding burial benefits to help with end-of-life expenses. Updated burial benefits include:

- Expanded reimbursement of transportation expenses, to include costs for transporting remains, to state or Tribal Veterans' cemeteries; and
- A more generous single payment rate for non-service-connected burial benefits.

I need more:


- [Proposed Rule](#)
- [Press Release](#)

The Big Picture: VA encourages all Veterans to provide surviving family members with peace of mind by incorporating [end-of-life benefits](#) provided by VA into their estate planning. VA offers a variety of planning tools and benefits. [Learn More About End-of-Life Planning](#)

Don't forget: TDVS also offers preregistration at its five State Veterans Cemeteries to help family members with peace of mind following their Veteran's death.

- [Pre-Register via the TDVS' Website](#)
- [Visit a State Veterans Cemetery](#)
- Use the QR Code Below


“HAVE YOU RESERVED YOUR PLACE OF HONOR?”



Department of Veterans Services, Authorization No. 223376, 300 copies, September 2022. This public document was photographed at a cost of \$.08 per copy.

TN Department of
Veterans Services

Contact your local
Veterans Cemetery
tn.gov/veterans



VA Expands Maternity Care Coordination for Veterans

Veterans now have access to maternity care coordinators from the beginning of their pregnancy to 12 months post-partum.

I need more:

- [Learn More About Maternity Care Coordination](#)
- [Press Release](#)

Practice Like a Pro

Annual Conference Practical Application Materials

Annual Conference offered advocates several hands-on practical application sessions. County partners and others shared best practices from their offices.

Presentations as well as practical application materials (checklists, fact sheets, quick reference guides) are available by selecting the [breakout sessions](#) on the TDVS Conference Website.

I need more: The [VSO Tools](#) portion of TDVS's website also contains a variety of best practice tools to ensure you are practicing like a pro.

Advocate Spotlight

Asbestos claims training pays off for a Veteran and surviving spouse because during client interviews, the VSO noted a few key words (Navy Veteran / adenocarcinoma / electrician / Boatswain's Mate) used by the Veteran and survivor.

Details: A Navy Veteran sought assistance filing a claim following a diagnosis of esophageal adenocarcinoma. He had served as an electrician on a ship built in the 1940s and in the 1970s was tasked with rewiring the electronics.

The surviving spouse of a Navy Veteran sought assistance following the death of her husband. The Veteran was not service connected for any disability prior to death. The death certificate recorded cause of death as gastrointestinal bleeding, metastatic esophageal adenocarcinoma, coronary artery disease, and gastroesophageal adenocarcinoma.

Results: The Veteran was awarded service connection at 100% and received a nearly \$20K retroactive award. The surviving spouse was awarded DIC and DEA.

Why it matters: Picking up on a few key words during a client interview led this VSO to follow an asbestos claim playbook shared during a Lunch & Learn. This practical application is deserving of this month's advocate spotlight.

Of note: [All TDVS training](#), including Lunch & Learns, are available on the TDVS website.

Do you have an advocacy success story or something you'd like to see included in an upcoming bulletin? If so, [share](#) for a future bulletin.

TDVS Benefits Bulletins Can Be Found on the [VSO Tools](#) Portion of TDVS's Website

Follow TDVS on social media:

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#)