

TDVS Benefits Bulletin
23-6

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

**1 big thing: Registration Now Open TDVS Annual Training Conference 2023 –
“Serving Those Who Served”**

Register now for TDVS's Annual Conference 2023. It will be held **October 2nd – 4th, 2023** at the **Marriott Knoxville Downtown**, 525 Henley Street, Knoxville, TN 37902.



TDVS Updates

Tennessee State Veterans Home Ribbon Cutting



Training Updates

What's next:

- July Quarterly Training, NVLSP Webinar, Available Monday, July 10th – Friday, July 14th
 - Understanding CRSC and CRDP
- New Service Officer Accreditation Course, July 24 – 28
- August Lunch and Learn, August 9th, 11:30 to 12:30 p.m. CST
 - A Year in Review: PACT Act Implementation and VA Regional Office Progress
- September Lunch and Learn, September 13th, 11:30 to 12:30 p.m. CST
- Annual Conference, October 2nd – 4th, Knoxville, TN
- [2023 Training Schedule](#)

PACT Act Toolbox – Updates

TDVS has created a [PACT Act Toolbox](#) to help you serve Tennessee Veterans and their families. It's an advocate's one-stop shop for all things PACT Act –

- VA Fact Sheets
- VA Web Resources
- TDVS Fact Sheet
- TDVS FAQs
- Bill Text, Summaries, and More
- Training Resources

What's new:

- [Proposed Rule: Update VA Adjudication Regulations to Authorize the Use of Electronic Notification for VA Benefit Claims and Appeals](#)

VA has published a proposed rule in the Federal Register to implement the legislative changes made by the *Honoring our PACT Act of 2022* that allow VA to provide electronic notice.

Why it matters: This proposed rule contemplates both claimants and representatives having to opt-in to electronic notification, is not necessarily consistent across benefit lines, and may impact the computation of time limits for filing.

VA and Veteran Benefit Updates

Beneficiary Travel Claims Must be Submitted Within 30-Days of Appointment

Health care travel reimbursement claims must be filed within 30 days of the appointment. This standard had been relaxed during the COVID-19 pandemic, but the 30-day requirement was reinstated June 9, 2023.

How to help my clients:

- Here's VA information on [Travel Pay](#) reimbursement for eligible Veterans and caregivers for mileage and other travel expenses to and from approved health care appointments.
- [Benefits Bulletin 20-7](#) previewed the roll out of VA's Beneficiary Travel Self-Service System or BTSSS.
- Here are [step by step instructions](#) to help Veterans create an account for VA.gov to file a health care travel reimbursement online.

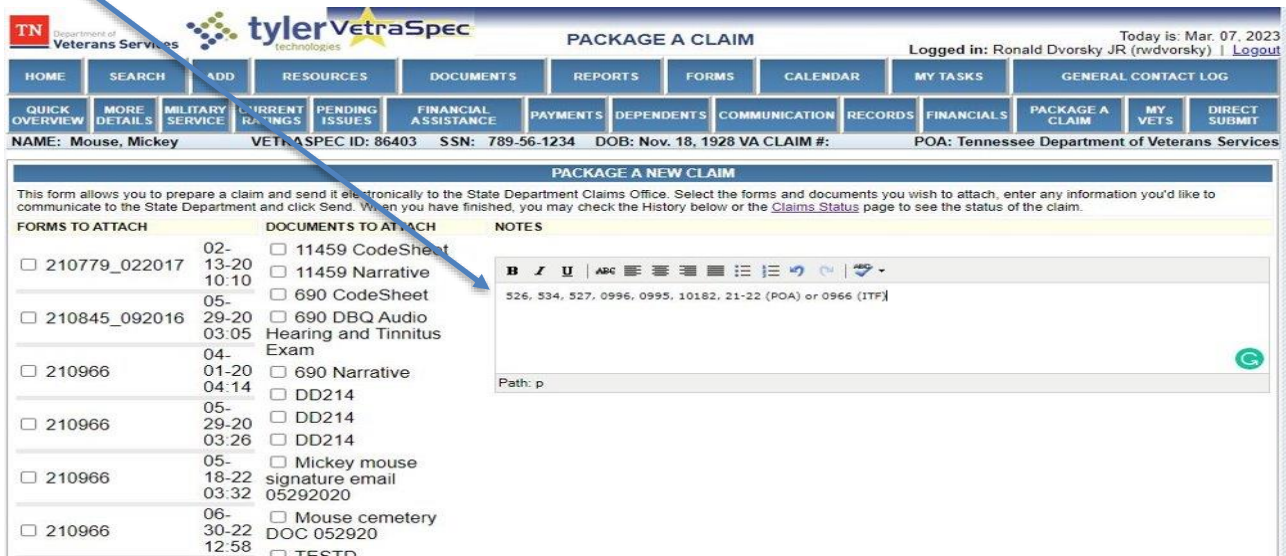
Practice Like a Pro

Self Service Fact Sheets

- Requesting Records (DD214) From NPRC

Support Timely Quality Review and Filing

Help TDVS speed quality review and filing by tagging claim forms and disagreements in Package-A-Claim notes. Simply include the form number – 526, 534, 527, 0996, 0995 or 10182 -- as appropriate as a note.



Advocate Spotlight

National Veterans Legal Services (NVLS) Advocacy Update

TDVS established an advocacy partnership with NVLS in July of 2019.

By the numbers: Since that time, TDVS has sent over 1,000 Board of Veterans' Appeals denials to NVLS for review. NVLS has offered appellate representation at the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims (CAVC) to approximately 19% of these claimants.

Why it matters: 100% of the appeals that have reached a conclusion at CAVC, have been resolved in the Veteran or appellant's favor.

State of play: Use the TDVS power of attorney to ensure that all claimants are afforded this advocacy opportunity. Here's a [Fact Sheet](#) where you can learn more.

If you have an example of teamwork between Veteran service offices/organizations across the state making a difference in the lives of Tennessee veterans, please share with your Regional Director for possible inclusion in an upcoming "Advocate Spotlight."

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

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