



VFW Service Officers help veterans develop their case by reviewing and applying current law, pertinent legislation, regulations, and medical histories. As skilled professionals, they assist in filing for disability compensation, rehabilitation and education programs, pension and death benefits, and employment and training programs. Furthermore, they won't hesitate to request hearings before the VA and the Board of Veterans Appeals to present oral arguments when needed.

VFW Service Officers are with America's veterans every step of the way once they're ready to file a claim. This is a service the VFW is proud to offer--*free of charge*--to every veteran and family member seeking assistance with the claims process. It's a service our veterans have earned and deserve.

#### VFW SERVICE OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:

- Assist veterans who are filing original claims for compensation and/or pension with the Department of Veterans Affairs and complete the required VA forms on behalf of the claimant.
- Assist veterans in reopening claims for service-connected disabilities and complete the required VA forms.
- File Appeals with the Board of Veterans Appeals if a veteran believes the decision made by the VA was incorrect.
- Assist veterans or surviving spouses in the preparation of appeals for denial of claims and benefits.
- Answer/research telephone and email inquiries regarding medical, death/burial, and other miscellaneous benefits.

*An average MONTH for the Florida VFW Service Office:*

*450 claims/appeals filed*

*36 Board of Veterans Appeals hearings conducted*

*3,300 telephone calls/emails from and to Veterans*

*325 interviews both in person and by phone*

*175 VA Rating Decisions reviewed for accuracy*

*\$13.5 million in monthly reoccurring benefits*