

VVA CHAPTER 1069 BENEFITS PRESENTATION 10/14/2015

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"I never said most of the things I said."

2. In June 2015, I told the Chapter about the addition of over 100 ships being added to the list of ships of over 200 that made the veterans who were on the ships off the coast of Vietnam during the Vietnam War eligible for possible compensation due to the "PRESUMPTIVE DISEASES" that are listed in your AGENT ORANGE booklet. The VA has now added another 32 names of ships to bring the total to 352. If you know of a veteran who served on a ship off the coast of Vietnam, they can go to the website www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/shiplist OR call me OR Don Montoya and we can look up the name of the ship they were on for possible claim purposes. "It's deja vu all over again."

3. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS, TUESDAY, November 3, 2015: Amendment # 1-If passed will increase "from \$15,000 to \$25,000 on the amount of the residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation for public school purposes."

Amendment #2-"An exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the resident homestead of the surviving spouse of a 100 % or totally disabled veteran who died before 2009." "When you come to a fork in the road, take it."

4. PERCENTAGES OF COMPENSATION; For VA purposes, the percentage that a veteran receives for compensation is given in multiples of 10 ONLY. For example, 10%, 20%, 30%, 40%, etc. There are no percentages like 23, 35, or 47. When the VA Compensation Rating Chart (CRC) is used, the various percentages are rounded up for 5 or more OR rounded down for 4 or less. For example, 45 becomes 50% and 44 becomes 40%. A 10% disability and a 10% disability is equal to 19 on the VA CRC. The 19 is rounded up to 20%. If a veteran has a 50% disability, a 40% disability and a 30% disability, the VA CRC equates the total to 79 and it is rounded up to 80%. The veteran's disability rating is 80%. "Baseball is 90 % mental, the other half is physical."

5. AMOUNTS OF COMPENSATION: "It ain't over, till it's over." Once you get any % of compensation, from 10% to 100% "it ain't over." First you should go back to the VSO and review the claim decision letter (Commonly called a RATING DECISION LETTER) with the VSO that assisted you in completing the claim. Next, the VSO will then give you the list of benefits that apply to your % of disability (VVA BENEFITS PRESENTATION 11/12/2014) The very first benefit that I tell the veteran is for tax exemption purposes on your homestead. A veteran with a 10% disability receives \$133.17 in compensation for 2015 and a veteran at 30% receives \$407.75 for himself and \$48.00 for a spouse for a total of \$455.75. At 100%. vet receives \$2906.83. For a Special Monthly Compensation an extra \$103.23 is added per month. IN EXTREME CASES, the amount can be as high as \$5,616.50. SEE A VSO for any change in your health that you feel can impact your compensation.

"IT AIN'T OVER, TILL YOU TURN THIS PAGE OVER."