



Veterans-*For*-Change Newsletter

A Voice of the Veterans

Week Ending Sunday, February 21, 2016

Volume 7, Issue 08

This-N-That

Finally, someone in the VA seems to have grown a pair. Although it's a small step, it's better than no step at all.

Deputy Secretary Sloan Gibson told the Merit System Protection Board (MSPB) that their decision was not enforceable and that senior executive Linda Weiss would not be reinstated to her position.

Officials at VA are now trying to figure out how to bypass the Board procedures to allow termination of all bad executives without a fuss. This would include Kim Graves and Diana Rubens which involved \$400,000.00.

Again, on the bad side of the VA, the Crisis Hotline which was featured in a recent Oscar-winning documentary has allowed calls to go to voice mail, unanswered, and forwarded to lesser staffed, lesser trained staff to handle the calls, and most likely the reason for more Veterans resorting to Suicide.

The main call center, in Canandaigua, N.Y., has let some calls fall to one of its backup centers — where lesser-trained responders left calls unanswered, according to the report. Calls to backup centers are not monitored by the VA.

Those callers “did not always receive immediate assistance from VCL and/or backup center staff,” the report says, and the center “did not provide social assistance with adequate orientation and ongoing training.”

The report confirmed about 20 complaints over lost calls in fiscal year 2014. But I'm sure that's only the number of those Veterans who actually filed complaints, and doesn't take into account all the dropped calls, calls sent to voice mail, and certainly doesn't account for calls forwarded to outsourced services.

In my humble opinion after working with many Veterans for nearly ten years now, there are two era's who have been treated the worst when it comes to claims for illnesses. Korean Service Veterans and Blue Water Navy Veterans.

But there is a way WE all can help at least Blue Water Navy Veterans who still to this day suffer and are continually denied claims.

The House bill, HR 969, has 300 co-sponsors. The Senate bill Gillibrand introduced, S-681, has just 37 co-sponsors, so that is where Belanger is concentrating her considerable energy.

We need to get on the phones and call our Congressmen and Senators, then get on to their individual web sites and send a message demanding their support of these two bills.

Further down in this newsletter as with all we publish we provide phone numbers you can use to call you reps in DC and those lines are open 24/7/365 so call often day and night and leave a message or tell the person who answers in the respective offices to support these bills.

I want to thank those who have e-Mailed me the issued you have each had in dealing with the VA. Every little bit helps and some of you I've not responded to as of yet, but I promise by the end of the weekend I will respond.

I didn't expect the response we received to our request, but I am very thankful more Veterans are coming forward.

I continue to do a fax blast to all 535 members of Congress and I bullet point the complaints, problems, issues be they with Veterans or the VA in general. So please, keep writing to me!

We've recently added polling back to our website and we've activated all 60 survey questions, and I have one little bug to fix today, but the polls are working, so please help us to help you and visit the [VFC website](#) and take the time to answer as many of the poll questions as you can!

The majority of our readers are Veterans, and most if not all of you have served on foreign soil at one point in your career and I'm sure that when it came time for mail call you witnessed one or more fellow soldiers in your unit whose names were never called.

Operation Mail Call is designed to address that problem and a little more!

Betty Hidalgo who is the director of VFC's Operation Mail Call Program does her level best to bring a little joy to all those on foreign soil by sending them care packages which she is working all the time to fill them with a little bit of home with cards, letters, baked goods, candies, and sometimes little gag gifts, anything she can find to bring a little joy to their daily lives where they are.

Where we need help most are cards and letters letting them know all those here at home appreciate them, and support them.

A little further down in this newsletter there is a web link which will take you to the information on where you can send cards and letters which will be included in many of the boxes that go out weekly.

We'd appreciate anything you can do to help us bring a little joy to them, maybe even put a smile on their faces even if only for a few moments.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Volunteers nationwide, we wish you and your family good health!

Respectfully,
Jim Davis
Founder & CEO
Jim.Davis@Veterans-For-Change.org

VA Budget Proposed

In his FY 2017 budget, President Obama is proposing \$182.3 billion for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The FY 2017 budget includes \$78.7 billion in discretionary funding, largely for health care and \$103.6 billion for mandatory benefit programs such as disability compensation and pensions. The \$78.7 billion for discretionary spending is \$3.6 billion (4.9 percent) above the 2016 enacted level. The President's Budget also provides for continued implementation of the Veterans Benefits Administration's (VBA) Transformation Plan to systematically improve the quality and efficiency of claims processing. The Budget also requests \$1.6 billion for programs to prevent or reduce Veteran homelessness. For more information, visit the [VA website](#).

VA CONTINUES DENIAL OF AGENT ORANGE BENEFITS FOR 174,000 NAVY VETS

The Department of Veterans Affairs late Friday afternoon issued a revision to their manual defining what areas can be considered for the presumption of Agent Orange exposure. This revision continues the exclusion of the crews of ships that entered the major bays and harbors of Vietnam. The provision was disseminated in response to a court order issued last April by the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. This decision entitled *Gray v. McDonald*, found that the old regulation to be improper and ordering the VA to re-write it.

In a letter to VA Deputy Secretary Sloan Gibson, Military-Veterans Advocacy Executive Director, Commander John B. Wells, USN (Retired) described the new regulation as a "betrayal." "It does not change their old rule," Wells noted. "It merely restates it with language that the court found to be irrational."

The new regulation comes on the heels of two meetings between Wells and Gibson and rescission of a draft regulation containing similar wording. The Wells letter, e-mailed Sunday evening noted: “[Y]ou have ignored scientific evidence and basic common sense to reiterate a position that was untenable prior to *Gray* and is untenable now. As I carefully demonstrated to you during our July meeting, the proven hydrological effects of the river discharge carried the contaminated waters far out to sea. We provided you with river studies showing that the Mekong River discharge plume would travel for hundreds of kilometers in a few weeks. We also presented you with information confirming Agent Orange runoff into Da Nang Harbor. Finally we furnished you with documented and incontrovertible proof that Agent Orange had infiltrated Nha Trang Harbor.”

“These folks got a straight shot into their drinking water.” Wells said. “Studies conducted for the Australian Department of Veterans Affairs and confirmed by the United States’ Institute of Medicine have proven that. Yet the bureaucrats at the VA refuse to accept the fact that they were wrong.” Australia has granted the presumption of exposure to their shipboard veterans since 2003. David R. McLenachen, Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Disability Assistance, Veterans Benefits Administration, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs acknowledged the validity of the study under questioning from Senators at a Veterans Affairs Committee hearing on September 29, 2015.

In his correspondence to Gibson, Wells went on to note: “I have a feeling of personal betrayal since I made the mistake of trusting you. In answer to a direct question during our September meeting, you assured me that you were “leaning closely to our views.” In reliance upon your assurances I agreed to ask the Veterans Affairs Committees in the House and Senate to allow you an opportunity to issue a reasonable and rational regulation. I also delayed several court filings. While that deception may have allowed you to continue to stall the process, I can assure you that this delay will not affect the final outcome.”

Wells promised continued pressure in Congress and the courts. HR 969 which would expand the presumption of exposure to the territorial seas is pending in the House Veterans Affairs Committee with 298 co-sponsors. The Companion Senate bill, S 681, has 37 cosponsors.

Currently litigation is pending before the United States Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit and the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

The presumption of exposure was stripped from the Navy veterans in 2002 when the VA implemented a General Counsel’s opinion that the requirement for air, land or naval service in the Republic of Vietnam limited the provisions of the Agent Orange Act to the land mass and internal rivers. This finding is in spite of the United States recognition of Vietnamese sovereignty over the territorial seas in the 1954 Geneva Accords and the 1973 Paris Peace Treaty. Wells continued to express dismay and disgust at the VA action. Again addressing Gibson he noted: “Your office, and that of the Secretary carries with it a special responsibility to care for our nation’s veterans. Phony platitudes in correspondence and press releases are not enough when your actions cause them to ring hypocritical. The decision to put bureaucracy before honor and mendacity before veracity merely are illustrations of why the nation’s veterans loathe the VA. Congress and the veterans community agree that you have broken faith with the American veteran.”

Wells, who served on several Navy ships and is a retired surface warfare officer. He is now an attorney practicing military and veterans law. He is recognized nationally as the subject matter expert on the Blue Water Navy matter.

Commander John B. Wells, USN (Retired)
Executive Director, Military-Veterans Advocacy

DoD Proposes a 1.6% Pay Increase for 2017

A 1.6-percent pay raise for military members was proposed as part of the president's fiscal 2017 budget. But, by law troops are to supposed to receive a pay raise within 0.5 percent of the civilian sector wages as determined by the Employment Cost Index. The index for 2017 is projected to be 2.1 percent, according to the Congressional Budget Office. Some in the House of Representatives are vowing to fight for a larger pay increase for troops.

OPERATION MAIL CALL



Operation Mail Call needs your help! We need cards and letters to send to our troops currently serving on foreign soil.

Doesn't have to be anything special, just words of support and thanking them for their service!

Operation Mail Call has successfully moved into it's new location:

For more information visit: <http://veterans-for-change.org/5439-operation-mail-call-2>

STOP TRICARE Fee Increases!

Protect Earned Health Care Benefit

The Administration's FY 2017 budget request includes:

- Creating a TRICARE-for-Life (TFL) annual fee of \$150 for new beneficiaries;
- Replacing TRICARE "Prime" and "Standard" with new programs: TRICARE "Choice" and TRICARE "Select";
- Requiring all retirees under age 65 to pay larger enrollment fees;
- Increasing pharmacy co-pays; and
- Increasing deductibles for the new TRICARE Choice and Select programs.

Shipmates are urged to use the Action Center to ask their legislators to oppose these TRICARE fee, co-pay, and deductible increases Today!

[Take Action!](#)

GULF WAR VETERANS

The winter 2016 issue of the Gulf War Newsletter marks the 25th anniversary of the start of Operation Desert Storm. Inside you will find:

- Personal reflections on the Gulf War from VA employees, many of whom are also Gulf War Veterans
- Information on VA research related to Gulf War Veterans, including how to participate in upcoming studies
- Results from a recent survey on the physical and mental health of Gulf War and Gulf War Era Veterans
- A list of Gulf War illnesses that are presumed by VA to be caused by military service
- Tips on how to get a disability compensation claim decision fast

Start reading today at www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/publications/gulf-war/gulf-war-winter-2016/index.asp

Veterans fought for us; we continue to fight for our veterans!

VFC Website Update

If you've not visited our website, maybe you should visit today! Since going on-line on 10/28/12 we have been averaging between 2,100 and 3,000 visitors per day and have had **2,580,103** visitors to date.

Visit today and subscribe, it's 100% **FREE** of charge to all! Just be sure to use a valid E-Mail address so the system can send you an authentication E-Mail. Becoming a subscriber will show you all the various forum's, added libraries, and more.

We have the largest One-Stop-Shop Veterans website available that is user friendly, offers a host of information on many topics, Several forums, Frequently Asked Questions and Answers, a massive Documents Library with more than 12,900 documents, various VA and DoD forms.

www.veterans-for-change.org

- Documents Library with over **140** different libraries and over **14,417+** documents
- FAQ's (**1,567** on-line now) (**Updated 04/05/15**)
- Forums (**with Licensed Mental Health Worker Moderator**)
- Job Postings and Job Fairs (Updated 02/12/16 **36** New Jobs and **1** New Job Fair)
- Memorial Pages (**Updated 01/02/16** added **17**)
- News (Updated almost daily, **5,521** articles on-line)
- Polls Added 02/08/16
- Web Links (**3,428** Active Links)(**Updated 02/07/16** added **1** New Links)

The documents library has many different categories and contains more than 55 million pages of information and forms.

There are forums for all Eras of service and one just for Women Veterans, which is locked to use by women only. Another for Men Veterans which is also locked to men only.

In the documents and forums we provide information pertaining to women and the ability speak freely in the forums to other women about the same issues and problems you face.

The Memorial Pages are open, and if you have a loved one or a buddy you've lost and would like for them to be added to our Memorial Pages, please send a photo, First and Last Name, Rank, Branch of Service, DOB and DOD, and allow us 2-3 days to install on the proper page. (Send to: Jim.Davis@veterans-for-change.org)

You also have the ability to comment and rate all NEWS articles which would be very helpful for us so we know the types of information you'd like to see on our website.

Budget Proposal Includes Retiree Tricare Fee Hikes

The new Defense Department budget proposal for 2017 sent today to Congress drastically increases the cost of **healthcare for military retirees** under 65 and reorganizes the current **Tricare** system, but otherwise includes few other major military family program reforms. Under the new proposal the primary three Tricare options — Tricare Prime, Tricare Standard and the services used by retirees — would be combined into two basic plans. Like the current Tricare Prime and Standard options, the newly minted Tricare Select and Tricare Choice would continue to offer free services at Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs) and require co-pays for services from in-network civilian providers. Like Tricare Prime, Tricare Select would require users to receive referrals for specialty care, while Tricare Choice would operate like Tricare Standard, allowing users to self-refer.

DoD Budget Hints at More Future Force Initiatives

The U.S. Defense Department's proposed fiscal 2017 budget details the various new initiatives designed to make the military more attractive to potential recruits — from expanded maternity leave to a corporate fellows program — and hints at more efforts to come. The \$583 billion spending plan — the largest of any federal agency — references the 20 personnel reforms the Pentagon has unveiled since Defense Secretary Ashton Carter first announced the so-called "Force of the Future" program in November.

DoD Seeks to Delay Matching Retirement Benefit

The U.S. Defense Department's [proposed budget for fiscal 2017](#) seeks to rein in the military's new retirement system recently passed by Congress by delaying when junior troops can begin receiving matching contributions, a budget analyst said. In documents released Tuesday as part of the proposed budget for the fiscal year that begins Oct. 1, the Pentagon indicated it wants to change when service members can begin receiving matching retirement contributions — from their third year of service to their fifth year of service.

Government Accountability Office (GAO) Reports

Counterfeit Parts: DOD Needs to Improve Reporting and Oversight to Reduce Supply Chain Risk.

<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-16-236>

Defense Logistics: Enhanced Policy and Procedures Needed to Improve Management of Sensitive Conventional

Ammunition. <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-16-202>

International Remittances: Actions Needed to Address Unreliable Official U.S. Estimate.

<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-16-60>

International Remittances: Money Laundering Risks and Views on Enhanced Customer Verification and Recordkeeping Requirements. <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-16-65>

Medicaid: Efforts to Exclude Nonemergency Transportation Not Widespread, but Raise Issues for Expanded Coverage.

<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-16-221>

DOD Service Acquisition: Improved Use of Available Data Needed to Better Manage and Forecast Service Contract Requirements. <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-16-119>

Military Base Realignments and Closures: More Guidance and Information Needed to Take Advantage of Opportunities to Consolidate Training. <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-16-45>

Missile Defense: Assessment of DOD's Reports on Status of Efforts and Options for Improving Homeland Missile Defense.

<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-16-254R>

Transportation Security: Status of GAO Recommendations on TSA's Security-Related Technology Acquisitions.

<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-16-176>

Transportation Security: TSA Has Taken Actions to Address Transportation Security Acquisition Reform Act

Requirements. <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-16-285>

Follow Veterans-For-Change on Twitter



<https://twitter.com/Veterans4Change>

New Hotline in Alaska

Alaska Veterans Affairs is rolling out a local hotline for veterans that may have issues with the My Choice Healthcare plan in the state. Anyone in Alaska using the My Choice program is urged to call 907-257-3767 if they have any questions or complaints.



Are you seeking employment? Been looking forever and not found the right job?

Well Veterans-For-Change is working very hard to bring you more information on Job Fairs and Job Postings available across the country.

Click on the link below, and find all the jobs available, Job Fairs coming up, locations, details, etc.

<http://veterans-for-change.org/documents-library/category/167-job-fairs-job-postings>

If you have a job position open, and are willing to hire a Veteran, please send an E-Mail to: JIM.DAVIS@VETERANS-FOR-CHANGE.ORG there is never any fee involved, this is a 100% free service in order to help thousands of Veterans nationwide to gain full time employment.

To be Updated 02/20/16 by 6pm PST

<i>Veteran Crisis Resources</i>	
Veterans Crisis Line	1-800-273-8255 and Press 1
Military Crisis Line	1-800-273-TALK (8255)
National Call Center for Homeless Veterans	1-877-4AID-VET (424.3838)
VA Caregiver Support Line	1-855-260-3274

The Difference Between VA Claims and VA Appeals

What are the differences between a claim and an appeal with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)? You submit a *claim* when seeking VA disability benefits (or increased benefits) for one or more medical conditions you believe are related to military service. These claims can be filed online through eBenefits, submitted by mail or in person at the

nearest VA regional office. The multi-stage appellate process is available to you after you have already received one or more decisions on your claim, but disagree with some aspect of VA's decision For more information, read the [VA Vantage Point Blog](#).

Free Learning Courses for Veterans

LinkedIn is now offering service members and veterans one year of access to its professional development site, [Lynda.com](#), at no cost. This online learning company offers thousands of on-demand courses for users to build their business, software, technology, creative and other skills. LinkedIn also allows job seekers to create a public Veterans Employment Center (VEC) profile. The VEC connects transitioning service members, veterans and their families with employers that have made a commitment to hire them. To create a VEC profile, visit the Veterans Employment Center [webpage](#) and selecting 'job seekers.' For more information, visit the LinkedIn Veterans webpage at [veterans.linkedin.com](#).

Microsoft Software and Systems Academy

The Microsoft Software & Systems Academy (MSSA) is a 16-week full-time training course that readies active duty service members transitioning out of the military with STEM and IT-specific skills. MSSA is open to both current service members with a scheduled discharge date and to honorably discharged service members. All candidates must attend an MSSA Information Session at their Base Education Center and complete a screening interview with an education counselor. To learn more about MSSA or apply for the program, please contact your Base Education Center or e-mail the MSSA Operations team at mssaops@microsoft.com. For more information, visit the Microsoft Military Affairs [website](#).

Sesame Street Launches Website

The Sesame Workshop, the nonprofit organization behind Sesame Street, recently launched a website devoted to helping families cope with the changes associated with transitioning into civilian life. [Sesame Workshop](#) contains resources that military parents can use to help their families communicate through the transition process. The Department of Defense (DoD) has worked with the Sesame Workshop in the past to use Sesame Street's familiar characters to help preschool-aged military children understand aspects of military life such as the deployment of a parent or moving to a new home. Previous examples of these resources can be found through [Military OneSource](#).

Links to other Stories

- 1) [Budget Proposal Includes Major Retiree Tricare Fee Hikes](#)
- 2) [Congress May Fix VA Hospitals by Merging Them With Military](#)
- 3) [Could congressman's plan save the VA?](#)
- 4) [Dental health and heart health](#)
- 5) [Is VA oversight making it easier to fire whistleblowers?](#)
- 6) [Medical histories show what health conditions run in the family](#)
- 7) [Ohio Senators Demand Action After Whistleblowers Expose Misconduct at Cincinnati VA](#)
- 8) [Shame continues of neglecting certain Veterans](#)
- 9) [The Cost Of War: Latest DoD Figures Show Suicide Kills Almost 5 Times As Many Troops As Combat](#)
- 10) [Troops betrayed as Army dumps hundreds of heroic war dogs](#)
- 11) [VA Celebrates 70 Years of Partnering with Medical Schools](#)
- 12) [Vermont Veterans with PTSD go skiing to bond, heal](#)
- 13) [Veterans Affairs suicide hotline lets some calls go to voicemail or unanswered](#)
- 14) [Veterans Affairs Thumbs Nose At Judge](#)
- 15) [Why Is VA Healthcare Dependent On Medical Schools?](#)

You can help Veterans-For-Change by reading the articles posted, and comment at the bottom and rank the article. If you don't have an account, sign-up today, it's **FREE**. Your comments and rankings help us to better determine the type of information you'd like most to see.

Check us out today: www.veterans-for-change.org

To Contact your Members of Congress	
To Call your Representative:	202-225-2305
To call your Senator:	202-224-3841 or 202-224-3553
To call different members of Congress:	202-224-3121
Toll FREE Number:	866-272-6622

Million Veterans Blood Sample Program

The goal of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Million Veterans Program is to collect blood samples of at least a million veterans, and use it to research illnesses. The veterans' blood samples could hold the key to understanding causes and discovering treatments and cures for myriad illnesses. The VA is looking at some 750,000 genetic markers that medical researchers believe could be linked to illnesses that plague veterans, ranging from cancers to heart disease, kidney disease to post-traumatic stress disorder. Veterans may volunteer for the project at a number of VA sites across the country. For more information, visit the VA Million Veteran Program [website](#).

Veteran Legal Clinics in Virginia

The Virginia State Bar (VSB) and the Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS) are teaming up in March to provide a series of four pro bono veterans legal services clinics to low-income veterans. In order to be eligible for services, veterans and their spouses must fill out an intake questionnaire on Attorney General Herring's [website](#) or at their local [Virginia Department of Veterans Services Benefits Center](#). For more information and clinic locations, visit Attorney General Herring's [website](#).

Army Budget Cuts Modernization and Personnel

A shrinking U.S. Army has rolled out its proposed fiscal 2017 budget — a plan that funnels more money into readiness but cuts every other area including personnel, modernization and construction. The Army's active component takes the biggest hit to personnel compared to other services. The Army is the largest service, but its active force is scheduled to shrink from 475,000 to 460,000 — that's a 3-percent decrease, compared to the Navy's 1-percent cut to its active component. Both the Air Force and the Marine Corps have no planned cuts to their active components, according to budget documents.

~ We Proudly Support Our Military Personnel & Families ~

If you received this Newsletter as a forward or as a Courtesy Copy and would like to continue to receive this FREE weekly newsletter, click on link below:

<https://app.expressemailmarketing.com/survey.aspx?sfid=121170>

Complete all information, and select the appropriate box at the bottom of the form. You will then receive an automated authentication E-Mail, follow the instructions and you will then be added to the weekly distribution list.

Our mailing list is never sold, traded or shared with anyone ever, and is held in the strictest of confidence.

GI Bill Transfer Update: Questions Answered

So you heard that there are changes underway to transferring the post-9/11 GI Bill. [You know what was proposed](#), but now you want to know: what actually happened and what does it mean? You're not the only one asking — we've received tons of questions from users wanting the inside scoop. Here's what you need to know in [this fact sheet](#).

TRICARE Pharmacy Changes

Several changes to the TRICARE pharmacy benefit took effect on Feb. 1. Copays for drugs filled at retail pharmacies and TRICARE Pharmacy Home Delivery increased slightly. Also, TRICARE Over-the-Counter (OTC) drug coverage became a full and permanent part of the TRICARE benefit, requiring that beneficiaries pay the usual generic copays. If you get your drugs from a military pharmacy, or use Home Delivery to get a generic drug, you will still pay \$0. To view all the new copays, visit the TRICARE Prescription Costs [webpage](#). Different OTC drugs will be available as well. For more information about the OTC benefit, visit the [TRICARE Over-the-Counter Drugs webpage](#).

DoD to Send Out IRS Health Care Tax Forms

Department of Defense (DoD) civilian and military personnel will begin receiving Internal Revenue Service Form 1095 soon to complete their 2015 federal tax returns. Service members will receive an IRS Form 1095-B or 1095-C for their TRICARE coverage. Military retirees and annuitants will get Form 1095-B. DoD civilians will receive a Form 1095-C from their Pay Center and a 1095-B from their Federal Employee Health Benefit carrier. Taxpayers should review their 1095 forms for. Any incorrect information for filers and their family members should be reported to MyPay, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, personnel offices and the [Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System \(DEERS\)](#).

VA Boosts Budget for Outstanding Health Claims

The Veterans Affairs Department is requesting a budget of \$182 billion next year, a nearly \$20 billion funding increase designed in part to tackle outstanding health care claims from veterans. The proposed spending plan unveiled on Tuesday includes nearly \$103.6 billion for mandatory programs such as disability compensation and pensions, and more than \$78 billion in discretionary funding — mostly for health care.

Navy Installations Enforce REAL ID Act

Navy installations worldwide will no longer authorize base access for individuals who do not have an approved U.S. Government-issued credential or state driver's license that is compliant with the REAL ID Act of 2005. Driver's licenses from Minnesota, Illinois, Missouri, New Mexico, Washington, and American Samoa will require a secondary form of identification. Examples of acceptable identification include a U.S. Passport or passport card; employment authorization document (card); foreign passport with an I-551 stamp; federal, state or local government ID, Social Security card without restrictions; student ID with photo; original or certified copy of a birth certificate issued in the U.S., or a Native American Tribal document U.S. Citizen identification card (Form I-179). For more information, visit the Department of Homeland Security [website](#).

Veterans-For-Change Newsletter is a once weekly publication deadline for submission is 5:00 PM PST on Thursday!



America is a passionate idea or it is nothing. America is a human brotherhood or it is chaos.

~Max Lerner, *Actions and Passions*, 1949~

Veterans-For-Change, Inc.

Riverside County, CA

Visit our website today

www.veterans-for-change.org

Serving those who served!

Please pass to all your Veteran friends and family!

Distribution	
Express Mail:	144,450
Boston	65,749
Courtesy Copies:	3,500
Dept of VA	12,360
DoD	3,983
Face Book Pages:	3,080
Los Angeles	103,053
New York	110,524
Other Social Media:	16,190
San Francisco	56,998
Twitter:	27
U.S. House of Reps & Staff	824
U.S. Senators & Staff	91
University of So. CA	1,611
US Air Force	15,866
US Army	38,712
US Marines	18,475
US Navy	12,288
Veterans	19,043,440
Washington DC	138,212
Yahoo:	134
	19,789,567