



(October 8, 2015)

In order to further improve the lines of communication and to respond to the concerns between the National VA Council and you our members, I have established a National VA Council Briefing. This NVAC Briefing will bring you the latest news and developments within DVA and provide you with the current status of issues this Council is currently addressing. I believe that this NVAC Briefing will greatly enhance the way in which we communicate and the way in which we share new information, keeping you better informed.

Alma L. Lee
National VA Council, President

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

In This Briefing: MESSAGE FROM THE VA CHIEF OF STAFF

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

On behalf of the Secretary and the Deputy Secretary, I would like to congratulate the Board of Veterans Appeals for a record-breaking year serving 55,713 Veterans and maintaining a quality rate of 93.98 percent. As noted below, this is particularly impressive, as the Board transitioned to a largely paperless environment and staffing levels remained consistent with fiscal year 2014.

Again, thank you and congratulations to all who contributed to this hard work.

Robert L. Nabors II

PLEASE PRODUCE LOCALLY FOR ALL THOSE WHO DO NOT ROUTINELY ACCESS EMAIL DUE TO THEIR SPECIALTIES.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE IN CHARGE/VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF VETERANS' APPEALS

The Board of Veterans' Appeals had another **record-breaking year, serving 55,713 Veterans**, surpassing the FY 2014 number of Veterans served. The Board set this new all-time high while maintaining a **quality rate of 93.98 percent**, exceeding our longstanding goal of 92 percent. The Board also **conducted 12,738 Board hearings with Veterans**, which represents a 17-percent increase over the number of hearings conducted in FY 2014. These achievements are particularly impressive in light of the fact that the Board's staffing levels remained fairly consistent with the levels in FY 2014, and this was a big year for the Board in transitioning to a largely paperless environment — factors that make these achievements all the more remarkable.

As I stated last week, these accomplishments could not have been achieved without the hard work and continued commitment of **all Board employees** to VA's noble mission of serving those who have served us all in defense and protection of our freedom. A true demonstration of I CARE. Great work, team!

Laura H. Eskenazi