



TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION

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Press Release

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Texas Veterans Commission Continues to Help Alleviate the VA Backlog with Corpus Christi Event

CORPUS CHRISTI - The Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) will host a "Beating the VA Backlog" event in Corpus Christi on June 15 in order to provide specific, one-on-one guidance to Texas Veterans, family members and survivors with pending disability claims from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). This event will take place in at the Holiday Inn Emerald Beach from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

TVC holds backlog events in order to serve Veterans through the State Strike Force Teams, which were created by Governor Rick Perry, Lt. Governor David Dewhurst, and House Speaker Joe Straus in July 2012. The teams' mission is to help reduce the backlog of disability claims in Texas, where the two VA Regional Offices have the third and fourth highest numbers of pending claims in the country.

"Since the TVC State Strike Force Teams were authorized by the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the House in July, we have already helped more than 16,000 Veterans with their backlogged claims, and provided almost 4,500 cases to the VA for action," said Thomas Palladino, TVC Executive Director. "This 'Beating the VA Backlog' event is one of several events that the TVC is holding around the state as we try to help Texas Veterans get the benefits they deserve."

The success of the State Strike Force and Fully Developed Claims Teams, as well as the continued need to serve Veterans with claims in the backlog, led Lt. Governor Dewhurst, Speaker Straus, Senate Finance Committee Chairman Tommy Williams and House Appropriations Committee Chairman Jim Pitts to authorize another \$500,000 in funding to provide 16 additional staff members for these initiatives. Moreover, state budget that was just passed during the 83rd Legislative Session continues this funding through the 2014- 2015 biennium.

The upcoming "Beating the VA Backlog" event is open to all Veterans, their families and survivors, and all services are free of charge. Preregistering will give staff an opportunity

to research your claim prior to the event and provide you with the ability to select an appointment time. Walk-ins are allowed on a first-come, first-served basis as time allows. For details regarding this event, contact information and registration, please visit: <http://www.tvc.state.tx.us/Beating-the-VA-Backlog.aspx>.

Texas Veterans Commission

The mission of the Texas Veterans Commission is to advocate for and provide superior service to Veterans and their families in the areas of disability claims assistance, employment services, education benefits and grant funding. Over 200 skilled counselors in 75 cities provide one-on-one guidance to Veterans and their families to ensure they receive all of the benefits to which they are entitled. For more information about the Texas Veterans Commission services click here: <http://www.tvc.texas.gov/Home.aspx>.

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