Student Veterans Resource Guide

November 2013
Welcome to Virginia Tech, where your service to our country is recognized and appreciated. We want to take this opportunity to thank you for your service and the sacrifices you and your families have made, and continue to make so as to ensure our freedom and way of life. This guide was compiled to ensure that our veterans are able to succeed academically, professionally, and personally on our campus.

The Virginia Tech Student Veterans Resource Guide is a compilation of different offices on campus that offer services that can assist student veterans as well as information on available regional and national resources. Included in this guide are the offices that provide specific assistance to student veterans as well as the contact information for individuals who can be contacted directly. These offices offer services that will be helpful in facilitating smooth and successful transition to higher education for student veterans. This guide can also be accessed on the VT Student Veterans website: http://www.veterans.vt.edu/Undergraduate_Students/index.html

How to Use VT Student Veteran Resource Guide

This VT Student Veterans Resource Guide is an introduction to the services available to veteran students. It provides the contact information of the individuals in various offices who are committed to working with student veterans at Virginia Tech. The guide is designed to help you quickly identify various departments on campus that can assist you as you transition to life on campus. In addition, the guide also provides information on regional and national resources that are available to veteran students. This guide is not a complete list of all the services offered on campus; it should be used as a starting point to utilize the services available. The guide will be continuously updated as more programs and services are identified or as they become available.
# Veteran and Military Student Resource Guide
## Table of Contents
- Office of Veterans Services ................................................................. 3
- Veteran and Military Student Organization ........................................... 4
- Academic Support Services .................................................................. 5
- Center for the Enhancement of Engineering Diversity ............................ 5
- Cook Counseling Center ..................................................................... 6
- Dean of Students Office ...................................................................... 6
- Library Resources ................................................................................ 7
- Schiffert Health Center ....................................................................... 8
- Services for Students with Disabilities .................................................. 8
- University Scholarships and Financial Aid ............................................ 8
- Virginia Tech Off-Campus Housing (VTOCH) ......................................... 8
- Women’s Center .................................................................................. 9
- Local and Regional Resources ............................................................... 9
- Transportation Services ....................................................................... 10
- Women Veteran Resources ................................................................. 11
- Employment Resources ...................................................................... 12
- Homeless Shelters ............................................................................. 13
- Local Veterans’ Organizations ............................................................. 14
- National Organizations Offering Assistance to Veterans ....................... 15-25
Office of Veterans Services

The Office of Veterans Services is the primary resource for Virginia Tech veterans and their dependents. Staff work closely with the Department of Veterans Affairs to receive and process all documentation related to veteran and military student educational benefits. The Office of Veterans Services, in collaboration with the Office of the University Registrar and The Student Success Center, ensures that veterans, military students and dependents are connected to the resources necessary for a successful transition to and through their course of study at Virginia Tech. Students served by the Office of Veterans Services have access to tutoring, mentoring, assistance navigating the VA system, and the Veterans@VT student organization.

Contact Information:
130 Student Services Building (mc 0548)
800 Washington Street SW
Blacksburg, VA 24061
540-231-5815
E-mail: veteran@vt.edu
Web: www.veterans.vt.edu
http://www.studentsuccess.vt.edu/Office_of_Veterans_Services/index.html

Student Veterans Organization

Veterans@VT

Veterans@VT is Virginia Tech’s chapter of Student Veterans of America. The organization aims to provide transition assistance for incoming and current student veterans in a social and academic role. Main objectives are to help smooth over the veteran’s transition into college life and to make it as stress-free and enjoyable as possible, to help with maximizing VA benefits, and to serve as advocates for any university issues veterans may have.

http://www.veterans.vt.edu/Student_Veterans_Grou/index.html
**Campus Academic Support Offices**

**The Student Success Center**
The Student Success Center offers free academic support, such as tutoring and study skills seminars, to undergraduate students at Virginia Tech. Student Success has services for students who are already succeeding academically or for those who simply want to enrich their educational experiences.

Contact Information:
Mrs. Barbara Weimerskirch, Associate Director  
bmweimer@vt.edu  
110 Femoyer Hall  
540-231-5499

**Undergraduate Admissions**
Interested in applying to one of Virginia Tech's outstanding undergraduate programs? Check out the link below for information on application procedures and deadlines, potential academic majors, costs, and campus-life.  
http://www.admiss.vt.edu/etc

Contact Information:
Lt. Col Gary Jackson, USA (retired), Assistant Director of Admissions, Military Affairs  
201 Burruss Hall  
540/231-6267  
gjackson@vt.edu

**Undergraduate Academic Advising**
Advising at Virginia Tech is a collaborative process between student and advisor leading to the exchange of information that encourages the individual student to make responsible academic and career decisions.

Contact Information:
Dr. Kimberly Smith-kimberly.smith@vt.edu  
117 Femoyer Hall  
540-231-8440  
http://www.advising.vt.edu/
Office of the Registrar (Transfer Credit)

Undergraduates, who have academic credits from other institutions of higher education, including community colleges and universities, may submit their transcripts to Virginia Tech for transfer-credit evaluation. The University Registrar has rules that govern the transfer of credit on a university level. However, some colleges at Virginia Tech have additional policies and procedures regarding transfer credit. Students are responsible for consulting with the transfer coordinator (see below) in the appropriate college to discuss their plans to transfer credit, and to request information on the college's specific policies and procedures regarding transfer. It may also be possible to obtain academic credit for training received while in the armed forces. However, each college/department may have individual policies regarding military credit, and may choose to accept it or not at their discretion. Undergraduate applicants desiring credit for military training should contact the transfer coordinator in the college to which they are applying to find out specific policies and details. Graduate applicants should contact the department to which they are applying.

Office of the Registrar
Student Services Building
www.registrar.vt.edu

Click below for information on different colleges:
http://www.veterans.vt.edu/Undergraduate_Students/Transfer_Credit.html

University Scholarships and Financial Aid

The mission of the Office of University Scholarships and Financial Aid (USFA) is to support the University’s student access, enrollment, and retention goals by providing the financial means to encourage economic, social, cultural, and academic diversity in the student body.

Contact Information
200 Student Services Building
540/231-5179
http://www.finaid.vt.edu/about/index.html
Graduate Admissions

If you are interested in attending graduate school at Virginia Tech check out the link below for information on application procedures and deadlines.

Janice Austin
120 GLC @ Donaldson Brown
231-8636
jema@vt.edu
http://graduateschool.vt.edu/admissions/applying/index.html#nogo

Newman Library Resources

These are the available resources in the Newman library on campus:

- Afghan War, 2001-
- Iraq War, 2003-
- Soldiers -- Mental health
- Post-traumatic stress disorder
- Retired military personnel -- Employment -- United States.
- Disabled veterans -- Services for -- United States -- Handbooks, manuals, etc
- Veterans -- Employment -- United States
- Veterans -- Mental health
- Veterans -- Services for -- United States -- Handbooks, manuals, etc
- Veterans -- United States -- Handbooks, manuals, etc
- United States -- Armed Forces -- Military life
- Military spouses -- United States
- Veterans' families -- United States -- Handbooks, manuals, etc

New books page (archives are at - http://dsp.lib.vt.edu/newbooks/archive.php)

Contact Information:
- Reference Desk on 2nd floor Newman - specializing in Business, Humanities & Social Sciences questions (including government documents). Telephone: 540-231-9232
Center for the Enhancement of Engineering Diversity

The Center for the Enhancement of Engineering Diversity (CEED) at Virginia Tech is dedicated to enriching the engineering profession through increased diversity. CEED programs are targeted to current engineering students at Virginia Tech, prospective students, and the Commonwealth of Virginia’s pre-college community. The goals of CEED include: increasing the diversity of students who apply to, enroll, and graduate from the College of Engineering; increasing the awareness of engineering and other technical fields as an exciting and rewarding career path to a diverse population; providing academic, professional and personal support programs; providing support to student organizations that support our mission; and fostering collaboration between the CEED, the University, industry, and the local community to support our mission.

Contact Information:
Dr. Bevlee Watford
215 Hancock Hall
540-231-3244
http://www.eng.vt.edu/ceed

Smith Career Center

The Career Center assists students with a variety of career concerns, from searching for a major to gaining career-related experience to conducting a job search or applying to graduate/professional schools. Students from all backgrounds
are encouraged to take advantage of all the resources and services provided in Smith

Contact Information:
Ms. Ali Woodworth
aliw@vt.edu
Corner of Washington Street & West Campus Drive.
540-231-6241
http://www.career.vt.edu/

Dean of Students Office

In support of the Division of Student Affairs Mission Statement, and in keeping with the Virginia Tech Principles of Community, the Dean of Students Office:
• supports and empowers students and families in crisis and/or challenging situation,
• leads campus-wide collaborative orientation programs for new students and families as they make their transition to the university
• facilitates communication and connections for Hokie Parents and families, and
• nurtures a welcoming campus climate through proactive programming, oversight for bias incident protocol, and ongoing discussion.

Contact Information:
109 East Eggleston Hall
540-231-3787
http://www.dos.vt.edu/

Cook Counseling Center

Thomas E. Cook Counseling Center provides individual counseling and group to enrolled undergraduate and graduate students at Virginia Tech. Consultation and outreach services are provided for Virginia Tech faculty, staff, and student organizations.

Contact Information:
Schiffert Health Center

Schiffert Health Center is part of the Division of Student Affairs at Virginia Tech. We offer a wide variety of services to Virginia Tech Students.

Contact Information:
540-231-6444
http://www.healthcenter.vt.edu/

Services for Students with Disabilities

Services for Students with Disabilities exists to assist the university with its mission of creating an inclusive and welcoming community for all students. SSD works to ensure that students with disabilities receive equal access to education and opportunities in this academic community.

Contact Information
Contact: Dr. Susan Angle spangle@vt.edu
250 S. Main Street, Suite 300
540 231-0858 Voice
http://www.ssd.vt.edu/student_veterans.html

The Women’s Center

The Women’s Center provides counseling and advocacy services to students, faculty and staff who have been affected by sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, and or harassment. The Women’s Center also works to support women on campus and advocate for their needs.

Contact information:
Christine DennisSmith - cdennis@vt.edu
Anna LoMascolo - alomasco@vt.edu.
206 Washington Street (0270)
(540) 231-7806
Virginia Tech Off-Campus Housing

The Virginia Tech Off-Campus Housing (VTOCH) is located at the Information Desk in Squires Student Center.

Contact Information
Monday - Thursday 10:00 am-8:00 pm
Friday – 10:00 am-4:00 pm
Phone: 540—231-3446
E-mail: vtoch@vt.edu

Local and Regional Resources

New River Community Services

http://www.nrvcs.org/about.htm

New River Valley Community Services (NRVCS) is a public provider of behavioral health services to residents of the New River Valley. The agency serves children, adults and families by providing community-based programs for mental health, mental retardation, substance abuse and prevention services.

For emergencies, referrals and first appointments:
Call ACCESS Services at 961-8400
or toll-free at 1-888-717-3333
(24 hours a day, seven days a week)

Virginia Wounded Warrior Program

Leanna Craig

Transportation Services
Blacksburg Transit

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Phone: 540-961-1185
Fax: 540-951-3142
Email: btransit@blacksburg.gov

Public Transportation (Radford)
Community Transit provides safe and reliable fixed route services as well as medical trips for individuals with disabilities and/or special needs.
http://www.nrvcs.org/communitytransit/default.htm

Radford Transit

540-831-5911
info@radfordtransit.com
http://www.radfordtransit.com/

Valley Metro Roanoke, VA
540-982-2222

Smart Way Bus
http://www.smartwaybus.com/
Schedule:
http://www.smartwaybus.com/schedule.htm

Local Taxi Services:

Blacksburg
Blacksburg Taxi
Contact: 540-552-6671
Blacksburg Hooptie Ride
Contact: 540-552-3748

Christiansburg
Christiansburg Cab Service
Contact: 540-382-8037

Medical Transportation

S.T.A.R. -- Valley Metro (Roanoke)
Medical Transportation – New River Valley Senior Services
Contact: Monica Musick 540-980-7780

Disability Transportation – New River Valley Senior Services (Pulaski)
Contact: 540-980-7780

MedRide NRV
Peggy Akers
1-888-633-7433
http://volunteer.truist.com/uwmrf/org/15389850.html

LogistiCare
LogistiCare Call Center in Norton, VA
866-386-8331.

Women Veteran Resources

Women’s Resource Center of the New River Valley
540-630-1123
www.wrcnrv.org

The Women’s Resource Center provides programs and services to adult and child victims of domestic and sexual violence in the New River Valley. They have a 24 hour hotline and an emergency shelter.

On line resources:

Center for Women Veterans
http://www.va.gov/womenvet/

Women’s Veterans Health Care
Salem VA Medical Center
http://www.salem.va.gov/services/women/

Wounded Warrior Project
http://woundedwarriorproject.org/
Employment Resources

Department of Rehabilitative Services
540-381-7122

Virginia Employment Commission

Veterans Representative
Johnny Rupe
540-831-4115
johnny.rupe@vec.virginia.gov

Disabled Veterans Representative
David Rowland
540-831-4112

Crisis Resources for Student Veterans, Family and Friends

Dean of Student’s Office
540-231-3787
www.dos.vt.edu
The Dean of Student’s Office provides support to students and families in crisis and/or challenging situations and facilitates communication and connections for Hokie parents and families.

On Line Resources:
http://wearevirginiaveterans.org/Resources/For-Family---Friends.aspx
http://wearevirginiaveterans.org/Resources/For-Military-Parents.aspx
http://wearevirginiaveterans.org/Resources/For-Spouses.aspx

Homeless Shelters

New River Family Shelter
(540)-633-2980
P.O. Box 2308
Christiansburg, Virginia 24068

Crossroads Shelter Incorporated
(540)-228-9270

* Takes up to three families for temporary shelter.
240 Calhoun Street
Wytheville, VA 24382

Trust- Roanoke Valley Trouble
(540) 344-1948
404 Elm Ave., SW
Roanoke, VA 24061

Salvation Army Lodge- Homeless Shelter
(540)342-7398
821 Salem Ave., SW
Roanoke, VA 24016

Rescue Mission of Roanoke
(540)343-7227
402 4th Street, SE
Roanoke, VA 24031

RAM House- Day Center
(540)343-3753
824 Cambell Ave., SW
Roanoke, VA 24016

Women’s Resource Center of the New River Valley
(540)639-1123
P.O. box 306
Radford, VA 24141

YWCA of Roanoke Valley
(540)345-9922
605 First Street SW
Roanoke, VA 24011
CONTACT: Gwea Smith

Transitional Living Center
(540)345-7537

23 24th Street
Roanoke, VA 24011

Turning Point- Salvation Army
(540)345-0400
Roanoke, VA

New River Family Shelter- THE HAVEN
(540)382-6188
110 Roanoke Street
Christiansburg, VA 24073

Total Action Against Poverty
(540)345-6781
P.O Box 2868
Roanoke, VA 24001

Day Shelter
(540)343-3753
824 Cambell Ave
(540)345-8850
Roanoke, VA 24011

Interfaith Hospitality Network
(540)343-9982
P.O. Box 21054
Roanoke, VA 24018

House of Good Shepard
(540)236-7573
408 West Center Street
Galax, VA 24333

Union Mission
(340)327-8167
2200 Bluefield Ave.
Bluefield, W, VA. 24741

Salvation Army
(423)764-6156
137 Edgemont Ave.
Bristol, TN. 37620

Pine Haven Homeless Service
(423)968-2011
P.O. Box 372
Bristol, TN. 37620

The Haven of Rest
(423)968-2011
P.O. Box 372
Bristol, TN. 37620

Local Veterans' Organizations

VFW
Christiansburg
Contact Information:
Charlie Elgin - 382-3867

Elliston
Contact Information:
PO Box 281 24087

Radford
Contact Information:
Gary Harris
641-2590

Floyd
Contact Information:
David Poff
651-3921

Narrows
Contact Information:
Randall Fletcher
726-3123/3274

Pulaski
Contact Information:
Bobby Ward
PO Box 2005 24301  980-8542
American Legion

Blacksburg
George Blume
552-2909

Christiansburg
Robert Job
bobjob@nrvunwired.net
381-5853

Radford
Dana Jackson
633-5666

Pembroke
PO Box 561 24136

Floyd
533 Laurel Branch Rd/PO Box 8
24091

Narrows
Contact Information:
726-7281

Pulaski
svaughn43@verizon.net
P O Box 545 24301

AmVets

Pulaski
Contact Information:
Clayton McGrady
994-6006/577-4469

Salem
Contact Information:
Francis Kristoff
982-2462 ext 3330

Disabled Veterans of America

Pulaski
Contact Information:
Chuck Nelson
381-1769

Veterans Crisis Line
If you're thinking about hurting yourself or others, call this number:
(800) 273-8255 (TALK), ext. 1
It's a hotline set up by the Veterans Health Administration, giving you 24/7 access to trained counselors who know what you're going through.

http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/VAMentalHealthGroup.asp
http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/depression.asp

Women Veterans Health Care
http://www.publichealth.va.gov/womenshealth/index.asp

Military Sexual Trauma
http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/msthome.asp

Resources for Veteran Students and their Families
http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/College/veteranfamilies.asp

Resources for College Counseling Professionals
http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/College/campuscounseling.asp

**Assistance: VA Benefits, Health, Continuing Education**

Post 9/11 GI Bill
http://www.gibill.va.gov/

Military Scholarships
http://financialaid.unt.edu/military-scholarships

Campus Students GI JOBS
www.GIJOBS.COM

Student Work-study Allowance Program
www.gibill.va.gov/pamphlets/wkstud.htm

Wounded Warrior Project
877-832-6997
alumni@woundedwarriorproject.org
www.woundedwarriorproject.org

The Wounded Warrior Project offers a wide range of assistance, from help collecting disability benefits, to help in healing PTSD wounds, to continuing
education for a post-military life. WWP can connect you with benefits counselors who can guide you through the VA maze. And their programs include Project Odyssey, a retreat with fellow vets that involves hiking, kayaking and whitewater rafting. With the WWP's Track program, vets receive a scholarship to attend Florida State College at Jacksonville or The Alamo Colleges in San Antonio.

If you call the organization's phone number and explain your situation, the advisor will tell you about the WWP programs that are right for you. Their staff also replies to email and to messages left on their Facebook page: http://bit.ly/wwpfacebook.

**National Veterans Foundation**
888-777-4443
www.nvf.org

Like the Wounded Warrior Project, the National Veterans Foundation offers an impressive range of free services to vets. Call their number and speak to a NVF staff member about your situation. You can also use this link (www.nvf.org/livehelp) to chat with a staff member online.

NVF will help you if you're in crisis, need legal help, assistance with a disability claim, help finding a job, treatment for PTSD or Traumatic Brain Injury, or simply want to connect with other vets. The organization also helps military families who are having a hard time affording groceries.

**Career Training**

**NextGenVets**
424-259-3803
info@nextgenvets.org
www.nextgenvets.org/contact.html

NextGenVets is a job placement organization. Go to their contact page, fill out their form, and answer questions about your education and military rank. You'll be placing your profile in the organization's database. A case worker at NextGenVets will then contact you and reach out to companies that are hiring so that they can match the right vet with the right company.
If you're interested in pursuing a career in finance, Wall Street WarFighters can help. The organization provides education and training to wounded vets, so they can make the transition from the battlefield to Wall Street. Even if you don't have a college degree, you can still call them.

The organization is designed to assist wounded soldiers. Veterans interested in the program need at least a 10 percent disability rating from the VA to participate.

**Farmer-Veteran Coalition**

530-756-1395  
info@farmvetco.org  
www.farmvetco.org

The FVC offers veterans training in becoming farmers. For many vets, training on the organization's Sacramento Valley farm is a pathway to a new career in agriculture. For others who just need some peace after the chaos of war, the organization's weekend retreats offer some much needed calm.

The coalition has partnered with Air Compassion to fly any Iraq/Afghanistan vet to the farm for free. For more info, check out this article from the NY Times: [http://bit.ly/tradingswordsforplows](http://bit.ly/tradingswordsforplows).

**Healing Your Body, Mind and Family**

**Combat Paper Project**

Drew Cameron, project co-director: drewcameron@combatpaper.org  
www.combatpaper.org

The Combat Paper Project conducts hands-on workshops across the country where veterans take their uniforms, cut them up, process them into pulp, and use that pulp to create art. While molding their old uniforms into something new, veterans get a chance to talk about their battlefield experiences with other vets who have been there and understand.
For many soldiers, these workshops have been transformative experiences, helping them process the pain lingering from their war-time tours while reshaping their identity: from warrior to artist. The healing power of the workshops was captured in director Sara Nesson's Oscar-nominated documentary "Poster Girl" (trailer: http://bit.ly/postergirltrailer) and will be explored in her upcoming film "Iraq Paper Scissors" (trailer: http://bit.ly/IraqPaperScissorsTrailer).

For the locations of upcoming workshops, click here: www.combatpaper.org/tour.html.

**Warrior Writers Project**
Lovella Calica, project director: lovella@warriorwriters.org
www.warriorwriters.org

The Warrior Writers Project brings together recent veterans and current soldiers to express themselves through art. The organization holds workshops across the country, where soldiers write stories, create poetry, and develop art projects through photography, drawing and music.

Like the Combat Paper Project, the Warrior Writers workshops have proved to be powerful experiences for many soldiers who, through art, find a way to express their feelings about their time at war. For the locations of upcoming workshops, click here: www.warriorwriters.org/happening.html.

**New Directions**
310-914-5966
www.newdirectionsinc.org

New Directions is a resource center for veterans, located in Los Angeles. It provides an array of services, including substance abuse treatment, counseling, remedial education, job training and placement, as well as parenting and money management classes.
The Pathway Home
800-404-8387
Admission and further info: Kathy.Loughry@thepathwayhome.org
www.thepathwayhome.org

The Pathway Home is a recovery facility for traumatized veterans, located in a scenic stretch of California's Napa Valley. At the facility, soldiers get a chance to cool down, learn about PTSD, develop relaxation techniques, get treatment for insomnia, depression, nightmares as well as anger, guilt and other war-related emotions. The Pathway Home also offers couples therapy and family therapy.

Home Base Program
617-724-5202
homebaseprogram@partners.org
www.homebaseprogram.org

The Home Base Program provides care to vets who served in Iraq and Afghanistan and are now suffering from PTSD or Traumatic Brain Injury. The program, which is located in Boston and sponsored by Massachusetts General Hospital, offers high-quality medical and psychological care.

Home Base also has programs for the families of wounded soldiers, helping children who are adjusting to a parent's return and spouses who are dealing with the challenges of PTSD and TBI.

Operation Home and Healing
215-382-6680
www.operationhomeandhealing.org

Operation Home and Healing reaches out to vets shaken by the trauma of war. The group has 140 therapists across 13 offices providing counseling to vets struggling with grief, depression, PTSD and chronic pain. The group also provides couples therapy.

Note: The organization is based in Philadelphia and designed for families in southeastern Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey.
USA Together
info@USAtogher.org
www.usatogogether.org

USA Together is a wonderful way to connect veterans in need with civilians interested in helping them. Think of it like a Craigslist for soldiers: military families go to the USA Together website and post a note about something they need. Then civilians visit the site and fill the need.

Reading from posts currently on the site: one wounded veteran needs help with his electric bill, other needs to purchase a printer for his new business, and the mother of a deceased Marine needs help moving across the country to be with her surviving son. The organization's founder, Dave Mahler, says that in the years his site has been up, virtually every request has been filled.

If you need assistance, click here: https://app01.usatogogether.org/newapplicant.html and tell readers how they can help you.

Gathering of Eagles — Laptops for Wounded Warriors
Dawn West, program coordinator: eaglesvt@gmail.com

The Gathering of Eagles provides laptops to soldiers recovering at medical treatment centers. Wounded soldiers can then use email and Skype to connect with family and friends while they recover from their injuries.

If you are recovering in a military medical center and need a laptop, email the organization or post a message on its Facebook page. For more info on the program, check out this excellent piece by reporter Eric Levy of WTKR, a CBS affiliate in Virginia: http://bit.ly/gatheringofeaglesvideo.
Lawyers Assisting Veterans

National Organization of Veterans' Advocates (NOVA)
www.vetadvocates.com/directory.html

The non-profit group NOVA maintains this excellent directory of lawyers who practice veterans law. Their easy-to-navigate directory is organized by state. Simply visit the directory, click on your state and scroll through the names, numbers and email addresses of the lawyers in your area.

Law Firms Offering Pro Bono Assistance

Foley & Lardner LLP
Steve Lambert
Washington Harbour
3000 K Street, N.W., Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20007-5109
(202) 672-5300
slambert@foley.com

King & Spalding LLP
Aaron Holstromberg
1700 Pennsylvania Ave, N.W.
Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20006-4706
(202) 737-0500

Other Attorneys Specializing in Veterans Law

R. Edward Bates
1801 N. Mill Street, Suite J
Naperville, Illinois 60563
(708) 355-2090

Joseph Nathaniel Baron
(800) 338-6074
jnbaron@aol.com,

Louis M. DiDonato
245 E. Liberty, Suite 250
Reno, Nevada 89501
(775) 322-7877
lmdatcls@aol.com
VA Benefits Assistance and Legal Counsel

National Veterans Legal Services Program
PO Box 65762
Washington, D.C. 20035
202-265-8305
www.nvlsp.org
info@nvlsp.org

NVLSP provides legal information and assistance for veterans, survivors of veterans and veterans advocates who are seeking service-related VA benefits.

Lawyers Serving Warriors
www.LawyersServingWarriors.org
LawyersServing@nvlsp.org
(202) 265-8305, ext. 152

LSW is a project of National Veterans Legal Services Program that provides free legal services to U.S. military personnel and veterans who served in Iraq or Afghanistan, and who need help with disability, discharge or veterans benefits cases.

Disposable Warriors
Sgt. Chuck Luther, Director
202-465-2059
chuckluther@disposablewarriors.com

Many know Sgt. Chuck Luther from news coverage of his brave service (www.joshuakors.com/part3) and from his powerful Congressional testimony (http://bit.ly/torturehearings). Luther's organization, Disposable Warriors, assists soldiers who are being wrongfully discharged and denied benefits. Currently he works at Fort Hood in Texas, where he has been able to take rapid action on soldiers' behalves.
Andrew Pogany is an independent veterans advocate, helping soldiers receive proper discharges and assisting wounded veterans with their disability claims. A former investigator for the National Veterans Legal Services program, Pogany's work on behalf of soldiers has been highlighted by ABC News, NPR and the Washington Post.

Vietnam Veterans of America

The VVA can connect you with a knowledgeable, supportive veteran who can guide you through the VA system. To find a vet assistant in your area, click here: https://benefitsforum.org/Rep.aspx.

The Veterans Pro Bono Consortium
701 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Suite 131
Washington, D.C. 20004
(888) 838-7727
mail@vetsprobono.org

If the VA has rejected your disability claim—or given you a troublingly low disability rating—you can appeal your case to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. Vets Pro Bono will help you with your appeal.

Urban Justice Center – Veteran Advocacy Project
Coco Culhane - Project Coordinator
Veterans and Servicemembers Project
123 William St., 16th Floor
New York, NY 10038
646-602-5620
cculhane@urbanjustice.org, www.facebook.com/VeteranAdvocacy
www.twitter.com/VeteranAdvocacy

The UJC's Veteran Advocacy Project provides veterans with several services. It helps vets find housing, and if a veteran is going to be evicted, it will defend the vet in Housing Court. The organization also helps vets access medical care, mental health treatment, substance abuse treatment and counseling.
The Veterans Legal Support Center
The John Marshall Law School
315 S. Plymouth Court
Chicago, IL 60604
Phone: 312 427 2737 ext. 346
vlsc@jmls.edu
http://www.jmls.edu/veterans/

The VLSC is one of the nation's first law school clinics dedicated solely to addressing the legal needs of veterans seeking their benefits from VA.

GI Rights Hotline
1-877-447-4487
http://girightshotline.org/en/contact/

The hotline provides advice to members of the military seeking information about discharges, grievance and complaint procedures and other civil rights.

National Lawyers Guild, Military Law Task Force

The NLG assists those working on military law issues as well as military law counselors working directly with GIs.

Yale Law School's Veterans Legal Services Clinic
(203) 432–4992

Yale's VLSC assists Connecticut's veterans in a range of litigation, including VA benefits, employment and housing. The clinic's mission is to assist the most vulnerable vets.

Womble Carlyle Pro Bono Veterans Project
Karin Lennon
kalennon@wcsr.com, (919) 755-2100

Womble Carlyle assists veterans in North Carolina with the first stage of VA benefits applications.
How to Obtain Assistance from Congressional Representatives

You can find all of your Congressional representatives by entering your address here: www.contactingthecongress.org. Start by calling your senior senator. Call the senator's D.C. office; ask who handles veterans' issues there; then ask to speak to that person.

Having a high-ranking senator and his staff working on your side can open previously closed doors and fix once broken situations. Note, though, that these people are extremely short on time. Before calling, make sure you can summarize your entire situation in 30 seconds or less, ending with the question: "Can you help me?" If you can't do it in 30 seconds, practice in front of a mirror until you can. Let the senator's veterans' advocate ask the follow-up questions. If you ramble, they will not assist you. Note, too, that one of the first questions will be: "Do you have all of your military and VA papers, including your medical, discharge and military performance papers?" Do not call until the answer to that question is yes. Also, once you obtain your papers, never send the originals to anyone.

List compiled by Bob Handy of Veterans United for Truth (bhandy@vuft.org, www.vuft.org) and reporter Joshua Kors (joshua@joshuakors.com, www.joshuakors.com).