UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS



625 INDIANA AVENUE, NW SUITE 900 WASHINGTON, DC 20004

CHAMBERS OF CHIEF JUDGE MICHAEL P. ALLEN

Dear Appellant:

I'm writing to invite you to participate in a program designed to help appellants who have chosen to represent themselves at the Veterans Court. The program gives you the opportunity to have an experienced volunteer attorney represent you free of charge (pro bono), for the limited purpose of participating in a Court-mediated conference with VA counsel. During this time, your volunteer attorney will discuss with VA counsel whether there can be early resolution of your case. No outcome is guaranteed, but I want you to know that these conferences frequently result in agreements that are beneficial to appellants seeking VA benefits, and can significantly reduce the time that your appeal waits for a decision from the Court. The program is completely voluntary, but in the two years that it has been in effect it has helped many veterans, and I encourage you to participate.

This program is administered by the Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program (TVC). If you opt in, a volunteer attorney will be assigned to represent you at the conference, as described in Rule 33 of the Court's Rules of Practice and Procedure. If the conference does not result in a favorable resolution of your case, you will be in the same position as if you had not participated, and the next step will be for you to submit a written brief. The volunteer attorney will not continue to represent you after the conference *unless you and the attorney decide to continue the relationship*.

To opt in or to receive more information, contact TVC at 855-446-9678 or email Rule33Pilot@vetsprobono.org. (If you aren't interested in participating in the program, please refer to the Instructions for Filing the Informal Brief for the next step in your appeal.)

Sincerely,

Michael P. Allen Chief Judge