



Veterans Service Program Newsletter



August 2009

Information from Bob Harvey

When filing a claim for increased evaluation of a service connected disability, it helps immensely if the claim includes specific complaints about decreased functional ability, increased pain, recent medical care, etc.

When submitting a notice of disagreement, you can save a couple of months in the processing time if you specify either **Decision Review Officer**, or **Traditional** handling. If you don't include that information with the disagreement, the VARO Appeals Team is going to ask for it, making the whole process take longer than necessary.

Cold Injury claims

When submitting claims for service connection for residuals of cold injury (frostbite), be sure to ask the veteran whether he/she has any residual cold sensitivity, pain, numbness, skin discoloration, tissue loss, nail abnormalities, locally impaired sensation, hyperhydrosis, osteoporosis, osteoarthritis, amputations, muscle atrophy. Most claims in the past have been for involvement of the hands and feet. Separate evaluations may also be assigned for the ears and nose. Be sure to ask about that possible involvement when submitting future claims. Also, if you know of any current clients that are service connected for cold injury of the hands or feet, ask them if they have symptoms involving the ears or nose, and, if so, submit a supplemental claim.

WELCOME ABOARD

To the New Service Officer

Southeast Region:

Jason Howe -St. James

Southwest Region:

Robert Willson - Branson West

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Central Office/Veterans Services Program/Cemeteries Program.

Janeene Pierce, Veterans Services Assistant with the Missouri Veterans Commission has been selected as the July 2009 Employee of the Month for Central Office/Veterans Services Program/Cemeteries Program.

Janeene was selected for this award because of her experience and eagerness to advise others, her willingness to step forward and adjust her schedule to help maintain even coverage throughout the region.

She has also done a remarkable work in training our new VSO at the Missouri Veterans Home in Mt. Vernon with all of the changes that have arisen.

Missouri Veteran Homes

Daniel Potter, Custodial Worker I for the Mexico Veterans Home was selected as the July 2009 Missouri Veterans Commission Employee of the Month.

Congratulations to both!



AUGUST Birthdays

Karen Etzler	8/6
Raymond Aubuchon	8/9
Alfredia Williams	8/26
Karla Alsberge	8/31

Happy Birthday!!!

If you have news or events you would like to post, please submit the information to:

Cindy Stivers, VSO at Cindy.Stivers@mvc.dps.mo.gov or

Karla Alsberge, OSA at Karla.Alsberge@mvc.dps.mo.gov for submission

www.mvc.dps.mo.gov