



VETERANS

CONSORTIUM

PRO BONO

PROGRAM



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ANNUAL

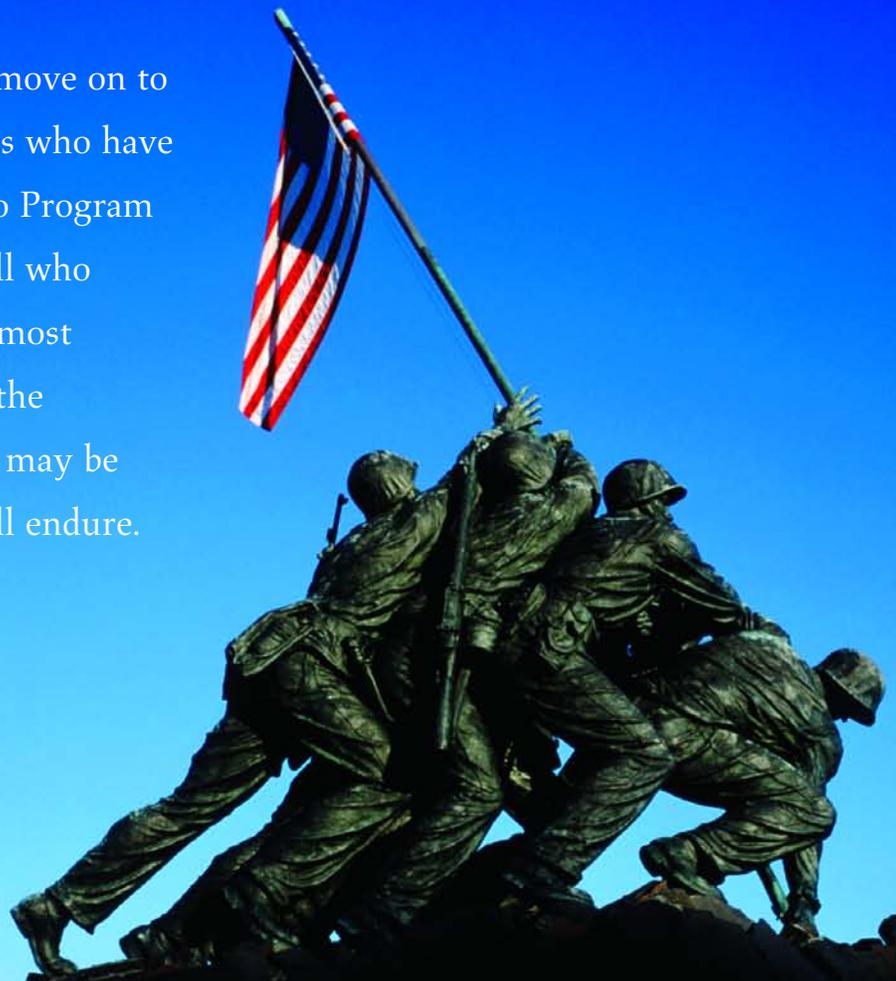
REPORT

The great American tragedy of civil war

played out its last act in Virginia and North Carolina 140 years ago as the country was reunited. To assist those thousands of veterans who helped preserve the nation, the agency that would ultimately become the Department of Veterans Affairs was created.

Just 80 years later, only 60 years ago, the grandchildren and great-grandchildren of the veterans of both sides of that conflict, united under one flag and with one cause, completed the crusade in Europe and the liberation of the Pacific. Once more, America's veterans, those who would be known as the "Greatest Generation," looked to their government for a step up, and a helping hand if one was needed. Their country, through the Veterans Administration, answered that call.

Now, as the veterans of WWII move on to join those comrades and patriots who have gone before, we at the Pro Bono Program dedicate this annual report to all who have served their country, but, most particularly, to those heroes of the Second World War, whose days may be numbered but whose legacy will endure.



This is my first opportunity to write to you as the chairman of the Executive Board of The Veterans Consortium, Inc. While new to this position, I am not new to the world of disabled veterans. I have represented veterans as a volunteer lawyer trained by the Consortium; I am the chair of the Pro Bono Committee at my firm's Washington, D.C., office and have supervised many other lawyers representing veterans; and I am a West Point graduate and retired Army officer, as well as a disabled veteran who pursued my own claim for veterans benefits for eight years before it was granted. It is an honor to hold this position.

The number of appeals is sharply up from 2004, and indications are that this trend will continue. For example, in August of 2005, we had 40 pending requests for representation. As I write this letter, there are 160 such cases. Consequently, we will train more volunteer lawyers, who will quickly get their first cases. The Consortium is strong and doing what it was meant to do. The Consortium is in a time of internal and external change, and I want to take this chance to express my appreciation and that of the Consortium to the following:

David Isbell served as chairman of the Executive Board of the Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program from its inception in 1992. National organizations that are at the forefront of protecting the interests of disabled veterans trusted him to lead them in an unprecedented effort to ensure that veterans receive quality legal representation. He engaged in early discussions with Members of Congress and earned the respect and trust of scores of judges and government officials. He was the right man at the right time for the Program, and he will be missed. On behalf of the Program and the many thousands of veterans who have benefited from it over the past 13 years, it is an honor to say to David and his wife, Florence, "Thanks, and well done!"

The Executive Board members and other supporters make each Board meeting a success. While I follow in David Isbell's footsteps, his shoes are too big to fill, I'm afraid. So each of these individuals has put in many extra hours helping me understand everything from budgets to policies.

The full-time staff of the Program is relentless in the pursuit of what is best for the veterans who seek Consortium assistance. I know that leadership changes cause uncertainty in organizations, and the sharp caseload growth is trying, but I have seen nothing but good effort and great results.

Chief Judge William Greene, Jr., of the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims and the court's staff have given me a warm welcome and continue to embrace the Program as a major supporter of that court.

My law firm, Baker Botts L.L.P., has supported without reservation my work as chairman and made other significant contributions to the cause of disabled veterans for the past several years.

Finally, volunteer lawyers who provide pro bono service to the veterans through the Program are talented and focused, and their ranks also have increased to meet an increased demand. My final note of thanks goes to them, without whom there would be no Program.

It has been an amazing start for me in this chairman role, and I look forward to continuing to work with the Program and for those who have sacrificed much for our nation.

Jeffrey A. Stonerock



Chairman, Executive Board

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD CHAIRMAN



INTRODUCTION

In May 1992, the Legal Services Corporation, acting for the U.S. Court of Veterans Appeals, issued two requests for proposals (referred to as RFPs “A” and “B”) to develop a program that would provide pro bono representation to appellants before the Court. (The authorizing legislation for the Pro Bono Program is Pub.L.No. 102-229, 105 Stat. 1710 (1991).)¹ RFP “A” solicited proposals for an umbrella program to evaluate cases and to recruit and train qualified lawyers who would volunteer their services to represent appellants before the Court. RFP “B” solicited proposals from entities already providing representation to veterans to expand existing programs to aid more veterans and other Department of Veterans Affairs claimants.

Four veterans service organizations—The American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, the National Veterans Legal Services Project (now Program), and the Paralyzed Veterans of America—created the Veterans Consortium, which competed for and won the grant to operate the Pro Bono Program that was established by RFP “A” (the “A” grant).

Today, the Pro Bono Program continues to assist America’s Veterans in obtaining meaningful judicial review of adverse decisions of the Board of Veterans’ Appeals, and this report highlights those successes of calendar year 2005. We believe that over the course of the Program’s history we have met the challenge of providing effective representation and that we continue to meet that challenge every day. What follows is not just the report of our 13th year of operations, but also a testament to our nation’s continuing commitment to those men and women who have answered America’s call to service and to those members of the legal profession who donate their time and talents on their behalf.

OUR MISSION

The Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program established as its mission that no veteran or survivor who has taken an appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, who has a legally credible claim, and who wishes to be represented by counsel, will be without competent representation and to accomplish this by:

Recruiting and training volunteer lawyers in veterans’ law and the procedures of the Court;

Referring to those lawyers, to handle without cost to the appellants, evaluated cases where there is an issue that should be fully presented to the Court and where the appellants are unable to afford counsel; and by

Providing advice and support to the lawyers to whom cases have been referred.



1. Pub.L.No. 102-229 states in relevant part: “...for the purpose of providing financial assistance (through grant or contract...)” to facilitate the furnishing of legal or other assistance, without charge, to veterans and other persons who are unable to afford the cost of legal representation in connection with decisions to which section 7252(a) of title 38, United States Code, may apply, or with other proceedings in the Court, through a Program that furnishes case screening and referral, training and education for attorney and related personnel, and encouragement and facilitation of pro bono representation by members of the bar and law school clinical and other appropriate Programs, such as veterans service organizations, and through defraying expenses incurred in providing representation to such persons....”

PRO BONO PROGRAM

The Pro Bono Program has five organizational elements: the Executive Board, the Outreach Component, the Education Component, the Case Evaluation and Placement Component, and the Direct Representation Component.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Veterans Consortium Executive Board consists of five voting and two invited guests and is responsible for establishing and monitoring the activities of the Pro Bono Program's operational components. The four veterans service organizations that comprise the Consortium each have a voting representative on the Executive Board. Invited guest members represent the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims and the Legal Services Corporation. The current chairman of the board (the fifth voting member) is a representative of the private bar. The Executive Board oversees the Program's component directors, who, in turn, are responsible for implementing established policies, complying with the terms of the Program's federal grant, and operating their respective components within a budget approved by the Executive Board and by the Legal Services Corporation.

The Executive Board met formally 11 times during 2005, rotating between offices of the Consortium's constituent organizations. All personnel and other expenses connected with activities of the Executive Board were donated by the organizations with which the board members are affiliated.

OUTREACH COMPONENT

The Outreach Component is responsible for publicizing the Pro Bono Program and for recruiting volunteer lawyers to represent appellants before the Court. In 2005 more than 65 lawyers were recruited into the Program. Recruitment was reduced in 2005 to adjust the number of trained lawyers to the number of cases then available to be placed. Recruitment in 2006 is expected to rise, but will depend on the needs of the Case Evaluation and Placement Component.

Recruitment presentations were made at the annual seminar of the Pro Bono Institute on March 4 and at the annual DC Bar Pro Bono Partnership (PART) luncheon on September 22.

Most of the lawyers recruited by the Program practice law in the greater Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. However, in 2005 the Pro Bono Program continued an initiative begun years ago to recruit lawyers outside the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. Lawyers representing veterans through the Program in 2005 came from 27 jurisdictions:

Alabama	California	District of Columbia
Illinois	Maryland	Minnesota
New York	Pennsylvania	Virginia
Alaska	Connecticut	Florida
Kansas	Massachusetts	Mississippi
North Carolina	South Carolina	Washington
Arkansas	Delaware	Georgia
Maine	Michigan	New Jersey
Ohio	Texas	West Virginia

2005 HIGHLIGHTS

122 cases

Were placed with Program lawyers or received assistance with cases that were remanded.

425 appellants

(all of those who were not provided with representation) were nonetheless given legal advice about their appeals and underlying administrative claims.

67 pro bono lawyers

Received either classroom or video training in veterans law issues.

More than \$3,440,120.34

in donated legal services was provided to appellants represented under the Program.

FACTS & FIGURES

63 percent

of all pro bono lawyers actively participating in the Program in 2005 were from the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area.

25 Washington, D.C.,

metropolitan area law firms participated in the Program in 2005.

45 percent

of all pro bono lawyers who participated in the Program in 2005 were from law firms.

More than 95 percent

of all lawyers who completed a case through the Program in 2005 have taken, or indicated a willingness to take, another case.

The average per capita recruitment cost for the 67 lawyers recruited in 2005 was \$397.20*

The average education cost for the 195 pro bono lawyers for whom Education Component services were available in 2005 was \$805.10.**

* Calculated by dividing the total costs of the Outreach Component lawyers recruited into the Program in 2005.

** Calculated by dividing the total costs of the Education Component Pro Bono lawyers to whom Education Component services were available in 2005. That number does not include those lawyers who received training but were not assigned a case.

EDUCATION COMPONENT

The Education Component trains volunteer lawyers and provides educational materials and mentoring lawyers for each volunteer who accepts a referral from the Program. This training is essential in helping a pro bono lawyer gain sufficient expertise in the field of veterans law to represent an appellant effectively before the Court.

Since the Program began in 1992, more than 2000 lawyers and paralegal representatives have attended the Program's training class for new recruits. In 2005 the Program held one eight-hour training class at the DC Bar, instead of the usual two classes, to maintain better coordination with projected needs of the Case Evaluation and Placement Component. Thirty-seven new lawyers attended that introductory class, while the Program held an advanced training class for previously trained attorneys in lieu of a second entry-level course.

Volunteer lawyers continue to receive instructional assistance after they accept a case referral from the Program. Each volunteer lawyer is provided with the current edition of *The Veterans Benefits Manual*. The manual is a compendium on veterans law issues and includes a copy of current federal veterans law statutes, rules, and regulations. This material is provided in both paperback and CD-ROM format and includes an online veterans law research capability through the publisher (Lexis-Nexis). In addition, the Program provides subscriptions to two veterans law journals: *The Veterans Advocate*, published by the National Veterans Legal Services Program; and *Tommy*, a quarterly publication of the Veterans Law Section of the Federal Bar Association.

The Consortium also assigns a mentor to each volunteer lawyer. These mentors are employed by one of the veterans service organizations that make up the Consortium;² they are experienced in veterans law and U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims practice and procedure. The Consortium, on request, also provides moot court practice sessions for lawyers with oral arguments scheduled before the Court, as well as for those lawyers who voluntarily pursue an appeal in a Program case to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

The Executive Board has also approved the use of mentors to provide assistance to volunteer lawyers who continue to represent appellants after their cases have been remanded by the Court to the Board of Veterans' Appeals (BVA).

CASE EVALUATION AND PLACEMENT COMPONENT

The Case Evaluation and Placement Component is the full-time office of the Pro Bono Program. As its name implies, this component receives requests for assistance from unrepresented appellants, confirms each appellant's financial eligibility for Program services, and evaluates each appellant's case for merit and possible referral to a lawyer participating in the Pro Bono Program. If one or more issues warranting placement are identified in the evaluation process, that appellant is matched with a lawyer. This process takes into account such factors as the issue(s) involved in the appeal, the complexity of the case, the experience of the lawyer, potential language issues, and, when possible, the geographical locations of the appellant and the lawyer.

2. In 2005 the DAV (two mentors), and PVA (three mentors) provided mentoring services at no cost to the Program.

In 2005 there were some 122 cases that met Program eligibility requirements and were placed with a volunteer or Direct Representation Component (DRC) lawyer at no cost to the appellant or were identified as substantially likely to be remanded by the Court under the provisions of the Veterans Claims Assistance Act of 2000. This brought the 12-year total for the Program to more than 2,500 placed cases.

In addition to conducting the initial eligibility screening, a veterans law specialist prepares a comprehensive case-evaluation memorandum that serves as a guide for placement and a suggested road map for the litigation of the case by the volunteer or Direct Representation Component lawyer. The Case Evaluation and Placement Component also monitors the progress of every evaluated case, whether it is placed with a Program lawyer or not, as a quality-control measure. The Case Evaluation and Placement Component is also responsible for the maintaining the Program's Web site, www.vetsprobono.org.

DIRECT REPRESENTATION COMPONENT

Through 1998, the Pro Bono Program operated under two separate grants of funds from the Legal Services Corporation. The principal grant (the "A" grant) provided for the costs of the three operational components described above; the other (the "B" grant) involved the provision of funds directly to one or more organizations that committed themselves to provide counsel for a specified number of cases placed by the Program.

Beginning in 1999, the "A" and "B" grants were merged into a single grant, and the function formerly performed by the "B" grant was renamed the Direct Representation Component (DRC). The director of Case Evaluation and Placement administers cases assigned to the DRC.

The DRC has given the Program the flexibility necessary to provide adequate and timely representation in unique or complicated cases or in cases that require immediate intervention by a lawyer to protect an appellant's interests. In 2004 the DRC grant was again awarded to the Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA). Under the terms of the grant, PVA accepted 20 cases during the year.

Twenty-one cases were referred to the DRC in 2005. This is one more than originally anticipated; an additional sum was provided to the DRC grant holder to cover costs related to this additional case. Further, 16 cases previously assigned to the DRC were completed; the DRC prevailed in 12 of them. Of the remainder, one was dismissed when the veteran died, and, in another, the appellant declined the offer of representation. The final two decisions of the Court affirmed Board of Veterans' Appeals decisions.

FACTS & FIGURES II

3,730 appeals were filed with the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims in 2005.

Of those, 58 percent (2195) were proceeding pro se at the time of the filing and as a result were mailed information about the Pro Bono Program.

In 2005, 25 percent (547) of the 2195 pro se appellant who were sent an application eventually applied for pro Bono Program services.

100 percent of those appellants meeting Program eligibility requirements received some form of legal assistance or advice at no cost in 2005.

22.3 percent (122) of the 547 fully evaluated cases in 2005 were found to have one or more legal issues warranting placement with a lawyer through the program.

A LIFE CHANGED



James R. Stevens

was a Vietnam veteran with multiple "in-country" tours who earned five Army Oak Leaf clusters and five Bronze Stars during his six years of active service. In 2003 he was homeless and nearly destitute. For more than 20 years he had filed unsuccessfully for service connection for health problems related to exposure to chemicals, including Agent Orange.

During some of Stevens' in-country duties, which included cleaning and redistributing chemical equipment turned in by units standing down from combat, he was exposed to Agent Orange and other herbicides on a regular basis. Moreover, during that time he developed boils and some additional lesions and began smoking tobacco products.

Mr. Stevens filed his original claim for compensation and pension benefits in February 1980, and that claim was denied. A second claim was filed in 1982, and although service connection for pre-service acne, aggravated by service, was granted, service connection for other more severe skin problems

related to Agent Orange exposure was denied. In May 1998, the veteran filed another claim, which remained undecided until May 2001, when it was denied by the regional office. During that period Mr. Stevens was found to have basal cell carcinoma, and the cancer was removed by Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) physicians on two subsequent occasions. The cysts and boils were also continuing at the time, while lung and heart problems had arisen.

On February 6, 2003, the Board of Veterans' Appeals (Board) denied the claim for service connection for the skin disorder and remanded claims that new and material evidence had been submitted to reopen a claim for service connection for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), secondary to in-service tobacco use, and a claim for entitlement to service connection for a heart disorder, as secondary to the COPD.

Mr. Stevens, by then struggling to provide for his wife and daughter, and requiring oxygen, filed an appeal with the U. S. Court of Appeals for Veterans





Claims and applied to The Pro Bono Program for the assistance of a pro bono lawyer. The review by the Program's veterans law specialist found that the Board decision was flawed for failing to consider the basal cell carcinoma issue on the merits and that the Board had failed to provide reasons and bases for all theories of service connection provided by the veteran, and further failed comply with the provisions of the Veterans Claims Assistance Act of 2000.

Program review found that when the regional office denied service connection for a skin condition related to Agent Orange exposure in 1984, it did so based on the general conclusion that no skin condition related to Agent Orange existed because no specific skin condition was cited in the denial. In the current appeal, a specific skin condition exists. What the Board failed to consider was that there are 20 different diagnostic codes for skin disabilities under the Schedule for Rating Disabilities and each disability is a separately ratable condition. Moreover, it failed to consider that a newly diagnosed disorder, whether or not medically related to a previously diagnosed disorder, cannot be the same claim when it has not been previously considered, i.e., the Board had to consider the cancer as a separate claim.

Following this review of the claim file and record, James G. Turner, Esq.,

of Olney, Maryland, assumed the case at the request of the Pro Bono Program. Through Mr. Turner's efforts, VA agreed to a joint remand.

Although Mr. Turner's required duties were completed when the Court granted the motion for remand, he, like so many other lawyers who give their time and effort to assist the country's veterans, stayed with the case as it returned to Board and then the regional office. Once back at those levels, Mr. Turner realized that this was an opportunity to move the case in a different and better direction. Working closely with the veteran, and remaining in near-constant contact with VA through the process, Mr. Turner resolved the carcinoma issue with VA, and, more important, was able to garner a 100 percent disability rating and special monthly compensation for the COPD and the additional health problems troubling Mr. Stevens.

Today, Mr. Stevens has a family residence, financial stability, and is receiving all those benefits and privileges he so richly deserves.

The Veterans' Consortium Pro Bono Program thanks Mr. Stevens for his service to our country and extends a special "thank you" to James Turner for his dedication and efforts on behalf of a most deserving vet.

THE PRO BONO PROGRAM AND THE FUTURE

The past year was one of change for the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, the Pro Bono Program, and the veterans benefits adjudication system as a whole. The Pro Bono Program will continue to provide counsel to the former members of the nation's armed forces while remaining alert for changes within the VA system.

At the Court, the departure of the last two members of the "Original Seven" was completed with the retirement of Chief Judge Donald L. Ivers and Judge Jonathan R. Steinberg. (Sadly, Judge Steinberg suffered severe injuries in a cycling accident shortly after stepping down from the bench and is currently involved in the long journey through rehabilitation back to good health.) With Chief Judge Ivers' departure (and after Judge Steinberg's very brief tenure as chief judge) the chief's gavel passed to William P. Green, Jr., a member of the Court since 1997. These changes left the Court lacking judicial experience, as the two next-senior judges (Judge Kasold and Judge Hagel) completed their second year at the end of 2005, while the four others took their seats on the bench in December 2004.

The biggest challenge facing the Court in 2006 will be dealing with an unprecedented flood of cases. Whether due to the long-anticipated flow of remanded cases resulting from the effects of the Veterans Claim Assistance Act, a new cognizance of the Court's appellate procedure generated by current events, or a growing number of younger veterans seeking benefits, the Court's filings exploded by 56 percent, growing from 2,234 in FY 04 to 3,466 in FY 05 (and 3,730 for CY 05). Another cause for vigilance was the fact the Court decided only 1,905 cases (including 72 extraordinary writs disposed of through dismissal or denial, with two granted,) an increase of 125 cases from the preceding fiscal year but a lower percentage compared to cases filed. Statistics for FY 05 also revealed that 938 cases were remanded, or reversed and remanded, in whole or part, to the BVA for additional review. One success was the reduction in total processing time from 392 days to 379, but the change is in part a result of the inclusion in

"The Veterans Consortium (Pro Bono Program) is without a doubt an organization that has earned my respect to the highest degree. Such a program truly honors the veterans for defending their country by offering the veterans excellent legal representation when needed, at no cost to them, before the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims."

Jerry E. Fullwood, Vietnam-era veteran



“quick turnaround” cases, such as dismissals for untimely filings. However, it is hoped that the increasing experience of the new members of the Court and their staffs will bring about a continuing decline in the processing time to go with the Court’s efforts to decide cases more effectively and efficiently. One area where the change in personnel is readily apparent is the sharp increase in oral arguments, as the Court heard argument 24 times in the past year, compared just seven the year before.

Despite the efforts of the Program and the private bar, 58 percent of veterans filing appeals at the Court were unrepresented, and the percentage of appellants still unrepresented at the time of the Court’s final decision climbed from 22 percent to 29 percent. The Pro Bono Program will continue to exert every effort to reduce that number.

Another matter of continuing interest is the large discrepancy between numbers of BVA decisions in which an appellant’s appeal is denied and the small, by comparison, number of appeals filed at the Court. In FY 2005, of the slightly more than 13,000 denials handed down by the Board, only about one in four of those denials were appealed to the Court.

Looking to the Board of Veterans’ Appeals, there is no apparent relief from the flow of potential appeals in sight. In FY 2005 the number of cases received by the Board rose from 39,956 to 41,816, and, although the number of new claims slipped from in excess of 49,000 to 47,136, the numbers in FY 06 and 07 are expected to rise slightly, giving no relief to the Board and its members.

The Board issued 34,175 decisions, of which 38 percent were denials, up from 24 percent last year, and 38.6 percent were remands, down from 56 percent.³ Adding to the concerns of the veterans’ representatives is the fact the BVA is predicting that more than 8,000 cases will be added to the BVA backlog. The BVA is also forecasting a response time of 404 days in 2005. It should also be noted Consortium organizations represented veterans in 52 percent of the cases decided by the Board.⁴



3. Report of the Chairman, Board of Veterans Appeals, FY 2005, p. 17.

4. *Id.* at 18.



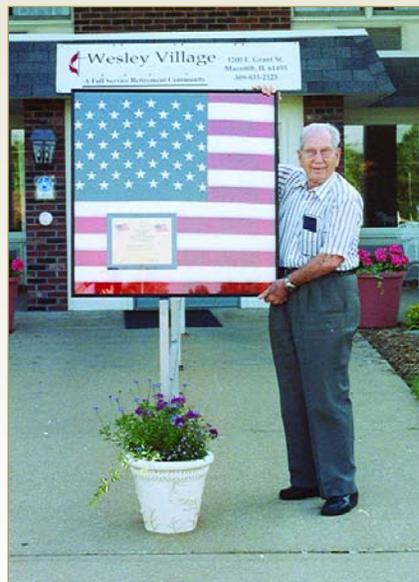
As always, both the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit continued to exercise their judicial oversight of the veterans law arena. The decision drawing the most attention was *Mayfield v. Nicholson*, 19 Vet.App. 103 (2005), in which the CAVC decided notice requirements could be fulfilled in a piecemeal fashion without creating prejudicial error, and if there was error, the appellant had to show it. (This decision was overturned by the CAFC in early 2006.) Other important cases decided by the CAVC include: *McCreary v. Nicholson*, 19 Vet. App. 324 (2005), (equitable tolling rules outlined for hurricane victim); *Kowalski v. Nicholson*, 19 Vet. App. 171 (2005) (duty to assist may override veteran's objections, and BVA cannot disregard medical opinion based on information from veterans); *Baldrige v. Nicholson*, 19 Vet.App. 227 (2005) (billing practices required for Equal Access to Justice Act fees); and *Sumner v. Nicholson*, Vet.App. (2005) (what is a "prevailing party" for purposes of awarding Equal Access to Justice Act funds).

Although the number of appeals filed at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit remained constant (up just four appeals to 186), the Federal Circuit continued to expand its review of CAVC decisions. The most notable of these included *Bates v. Nicholson*, 398 F.3d 1355 (Fed. Cir. 2005) (law that effects providing benefits should be broadly read); *Kirkpatrick v. Nicholson*, 417 F.3d 1361 (Fed. Cir. 2005) (BVA remands are not final decisions that CAVC may review); *Andrews v. Principi*, 421 F.3d 1278 (Fed. Cir. 2005) (the regional office and the BVA must sympathetically read all pro se pleadings); *Bingham v. Nicholson*, 421 F.3d 1346 (Fed. Cir. 2005) (failure to consider any one theory of a case does not make a denied claim "unadjudicated."); and *Thomas v. Nicholson*, 423 F.3d 1279 (Fed. Cir. 2005) (VA may rebut presumption of service connection using a preponderance standard).

As in previous years, there was continued strong activity in the field of veterans law on the part of the private bar (many of whom received their initial training from the Pro Bono Program). Further, the working relationship between private bar and the Program remained strong. However, the potential remains that the continued practice of veterans law could be adversely affected by pending court decisions that may limit the scope of the Equal Access to Justice Act in veterans' cases.

Clearly, there will always be a place for the Pro Bono Program at the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. Based on experience and the projections of the BVA and DVA, we expect that the number of appeals at the Court will increase in 2006. We hope the pace of both agency and judicial review will increase. As one segment of our case load, we believe we will continue to handle cases and issues that are not attractive to the private bar when the issues presented will not support fee agreements predicated upon a portion of past due benefits. We will continue to support those veterans who are no less worthy of representation and no less deserving of assistance with their judicial appeals.

Interest in the Pro Bono Program's training classes remains exceedingly high, and the Program expects to return to a full, if not expanded, training schedule in 2006, as the increase in cases at the Court has already led to an increased demand for attorneys. We eagerly look forward to continuing and expanding on our history of outstanding accomplishment in providing representation to deserving veterans and their family members at the CAVC.



John Moon, 91 years old, is officially the oldest survivor of Iwo Jima. He was presented with a certificate from the Marine Corps honoring him as such. John is an active and patriotic person. He is still active in his Macomb, Illinois, Legion Post activities and has USMC license plates with messages such as "Retired Marine" and "Iwo Jima Survivor."

2005 VETERANS CONSORTIUM EXECUTIVE BOARD

VOTING MEMBERS

Private Bar



Jeffrey A. Stonerock, Esq., currently serving as chairman of the Executive Board, is a partner in the law firm of Baker Botts L.L.P. in Washington, D.C. He is a graduate of the

United States Military Academy (1979) and Duke Law School (1984), and he received his LL.M from the Judge Advocate General's School of the Army (1989).

Mr. Stonerock began his Army career as a Field Artillery officer before becoming a member of the Judge Advocate General's Corps. Among his assignments before leaving active duty in 1992 were tours with the 82nd Airborne Division and the Second Infantry Division in the Republic of Korea. He retired from the Army Reserve in 2001 as a lieutenant colonel.

Mr. Stonerock has for many years chaired Baker Botts' pro bono committee in the firm's Washington, D.C., offices. A disabled veteran, Mr. Stonerock became personally involved with the Veterans Consortium as a volunteer attorney in 2000, and since then has handled several Veterans Consortium cases pro bono for disabled veterans. His firm has many other lawyers who participate in this program. A highly respected international lawyer, he heads his firm's Korea practice group.



David B. Isbell, Esq., immediate past chairman and a Pro Bono Program founding father, stepped down from his position as chairman of the Executive Board in

June. A senior counsel in the law firm of

Covington & Burling in Washington, D.C., he is a graduate of Yale College (1949) and Yale Law School (1956). Between the two degrees, he worked for the Marshall Plan in Europe and served in the U.S. Army. His entire professional career has been with his present law firm, except for two years as an assistant staff director at the United States Commission on Civil Rights.

Mr. Isbell has been active in both the District of Columbia Bar and the American Bar Association; among other things, he has been president of the DC Bar (1983–84), and chair of the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility (1991–94). He is an adjunct professor at the Georgetown University Law Center, where he teaches a course on professional responsibility, and at the University of Virginia School of Law, where he teaches a seminar on civil liberties law. He is a member of the board of directors and treasurer of the Disability Rights Council of Greater Washington, and a member of the National Advisory Council (and former national board member as well as affiliate board chair) of the American Civil Liberties Union.

In 1991, Mr. Isbell received an award from the National Legal Aid and Defenders Association for "significant contributions to civil liberties, civil rights and advocacy for poor people." In 1994 the U.S. Court of Veterans Appeals (now the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims) presented him with a Distinguished Service Award for his work as chairman of the Veterans Consortium Advisory Committee (now the Executive Board). In 1999 he received PVA's Schweikert Disability Awareness Award for his contributions to the Pro Bono Program. In 2001, Mr. Isbell (with his wife, Florence Isbell) received the Wiley Branton Award for "extraordinary commitment" to equal justice from the Washington Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights and Urban affairs.

Paralyzed Veterans of America



William Mailander, Esq., is general counsel for the Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA). As the chief legal officer for PVA, he provides legal advice to the officers, directors, and

senior staff of PVA and manages the legal affairs of the corporation. He began his career at PVA in 1992, when he was hired to primarily represent claimants before the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims in those cases assigned to PVA under the direct representation component of the Pro Bono Consortium Program.

Mr. Mailander enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps following graduation from high school and served from 1976 to 1979. He received three meritorious promotions through the rank of corporal and was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal. He received a BA from New York University in 1984 and a JD from Temple University School of Law in 1988. He also received an MBA from Johns Hopkins University in 2001.

Following graduation from law school and before coming to PVA, Mr. Mailander held positions as an attorney-advisor with the Board of Veterans' Appeals, the Coast Guard Chief Counsel's Office, and the Department of Veterans Affairs General Counsel.

Mr. Mailander is a member of the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims Bar Association and the Federal Bar Association. He is the editor of the FBA Veterans Law Section newsletter. He is admitted to practice in the District of Columbia, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. He resides in Arlington, Virginia, with his wife, Rosalind.

The American Legion



Mr. Peter S. Gaytan began serving as Director of the Veterans' Affairs and Rehabilitation Division in September 2004 and assumed Executive Board

responsibilities at that time. Prior to serving as director, he served as principal deputy director of the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Division and deputy director of the Legislative Division.

He attended Wesley College in Dover, Delaware, where he earned a BA in political science. He is also a graduate of the Defense Information School, Fort Meade, Maryland, and earned an associate of science degree in public affairs from the Community College of the Air Force.

In 1991, he entered the United States Air Force. After completing initial training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, and Keesler AFB, Mississippi, he served as military protocol liaison with the 436th Airlift Wing at Dover AFB, Delaware. While serving with the 436th Airlift Wing he worked with military, diplomatic, and congressional leaders. He coordinated all protocol requirements for NATO visits, repatriation ceremonies for the U.S. Army Rangers killed in Somalia, and the memorial ceremony for Commerce Secretary Ron Brown and the passengers of the T-43A that crashed in Bosnia. While on active duty, he also served as Honor Guard Training Flight NCOIC, where he provided final honors for more than 200 military funerals. He also served six years with the 512th Airlift Wing, U.S. Air Force Reserve as a Public Affairs Specialist.

During his military service, Mr. Gaytan received the Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Medal, and the Air Force Outstanding Unit Ribbon. Originally from Norfolk, Virginia, he and his wife Kimberly, and newly arrived twins, Maria and Sebastian, reside in Washington, D.C.

Disabled American Veterans



Donald E. Purcell, Esq., is an appellate lawyer with the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Judicial Appeals' Office. He joined DAV in November 2001. Prior to joining DAV, Mr.

Purcell joined the adjunct faculty in 1999 at the Columbus School of Law, Catholic University of America. He remains a lecturer in law for strategic standardization and was a co-lecturer in law of cyberspace in spring 2002. Additionally, Mr. Purcell was a cofounder of The Center for Global Standards Analysis in 1999, a nonprofit corporation located at Catholic University dedicated to the development of legal and technology education programs concerning global standardization. From 2000 to 2001, he served as the center's chairman.

From 1977 to 1999, Mr. Purcell was president of the Portable Power Equipment Manufacturers Association. During this period he represented the industry in the development of health, safety, and environmental regulations at all levels of government. From 1975 to 1977, Mr. Purcell was counsel for the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute, where he represented the industry in the development of health, safety, and environmental regulations before federal, state, and local regulatory agencies. From 1972 to 1975, Mr. Purcell was a trial attorney with the U.S. Federal Trade Commission Bureau of Competition, where he worked on antitrust cases.

A veteran of the U.S. Navy (1963–1965), Mr. Purcell holds a BA from the University of Maryland and is a 1972 graduate of the Columbus School of Law, Catholic University of America. He is a member of the District of Columbia Bar and the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims Bar Association and is admitted to practice before several federal courts.

National Veterans Legal Services Program



Ronald B. Abrams, Esq., is the joint executive director and director of training for the National Veterans Legal Services Program (NVLSP). He began his career in 1975

in the Philadelphia regional office of the Veterans Administration, serving first as an adjudicator and then as a member of the rating board. Mr. Abrams transferred to the VA Central Office in 1977, assuming duties as legal consultant to the Compensation and Pension (C&P) Service, where he was recognized as an expert in due process issues.

In that capacity, Mr. Abrams helped to draft the "VA Adjudication Procedures Manual," M21-1. He also wrote and interpreted regulations and directives for VA staff and others, and both drafted and commented on legislation on VA's behalf. Mr. Abrams also worked in and was in charge of the C&P quality review section. As part of his work for the VA Central Office, he conducted national training sessions in adjudication and due process for VA staff.

Since joining the NVLSP, Mr. Abrams has conducted more than 100 training sessions for veterans service organizations, state and county departments of veterans affairs, state bar associations, the Legal Services Corporation, the National Legal Aid and Defender Association, congressional caseworkers, and other veterans advocates. He has spoken on veterans law to meetings of the American Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Mr. Abrams is the editor of *The Veterans Advocate*, a quarterly publication on veterans law and advocacy; author of the *Basic Training Course in Veterans Benefits*; and a coauthor of the 2003 edition of *The Veterans Benefit Manual: An Advocate's Guide to Representing Veterans and Their Dependents*.

2005 VETERANS CONSORTIUM EXECUTIVE BOARD

INVITED GUESTS

U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims



Sandra P. Montrose, Esq., currently serves as counsel to the judges of the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. Before becoming counsel to the judges, Ms.

Montrose was executive attorney to the Court's first chief judge, the Honorable Frank Q. Nebeker. Ms. Montrose has also served as an attorney/advisor on the Court's Central Legal Staff.

Prior to her work at the Court, she was an associate at Covington & Burling, where she was a litigator in the firm's insurance practice group, and she also practiced health and safety law before a number of federal agencies. Before joining Covington & Burling, Ms. Montrose clerked for Judge Nebeker, then an associate judge on the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.

She is a 1984 graduate of the Columbus School of Law of the Catholic University of America, where she was a member of the Moot Court Nationals Team and of the *Law Review*. Her comment, "To Police the Police: Functional Equivalence to the EIS Requirement and EPA Remedial Action under Superfund," appears in volume 33 of the *Catholic University Law Review*.

She is a member of the District of Columbia bar and has also been admitted to the bar of the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. She is a member of the Federal Bar Association and an officer of its Veterans Law Section.

Legal Services Corporation



Dr. Bristow Hardin is a program analyst with the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) and is its administrator for the Pro Bono Program's grant funds. Prior to joining the LSC,

he was director of the Union Institute's Center for Public Policy, project coordinator at the National Legal Aid and Defender Association, and policy analyst and advocate at the Food Research and Action Center and the Virginia Poverty Law Center Food Law Project. He also was a lecturer and adjunct professor at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and the American University, Washington, D.C. As a private consultant, he provides legal services organizations and other groups with assistance in the areas of evaluation, strategic research, and policy analysis. He received an MA and a PhD in political and economic sociology from the University of California, Santa Cruz.

2005 VETERANS CONSORTIUM STAFF



Case Evaluation and Placement Component (l to r): Lennox E. Gilmer; Leonce J. Wilson; David H. Myers; Brian D. Robertson, director; Carol W. Scott; Nathan A. Smith; W.C. Klemm, Jr.; Not shown, Cathy Klingler and Belinda Allen



Education and Outreach Components (l to r): Bart Stichman; Ronald B. Abrams, director; Meg Bartley; Louis J. George; Not shown, Teddi LeaBough

Chief Financial Officer



Evelyn J. Anderson is the chief financial officer for the National Veterans Legal Services Program, having held the position since January 1998. From 1989 to 1997, Ms.

Anderson served as the director of finance for the Agent Orange Class Assistance Program, a class action court settlement administered by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York. In this capacity, she managed the distribution of the settlement proceeds in the form of grants made to community-based organizations and higher-learning institutions nationwide. Prior to relocating to the Washington, D.C., area, Ms. Anderson served as financial manager to various nonprofit organizations in New York City.

CODIRECTORS OF THE CONSORTIUM

Director, Outreach and Education Components



Meg Bartley, Esq., is the director of Outreach and Education for the Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program. A senior staff attorney at the National Veterans Legal Services

Program (NVLSP), Ms. Bartley is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University (BA 1981, *cum laude*) and the Washington College of Law at the American University (JD 1993, *cum laude*).

Ms. Bartley trains lawyers and non-lawyers in the area of veterans law. She is editor of the quarterly NVLSP publication *The Veterans Advocate: A Veterans Law and Advocacy Journal*, and she represents veterans and their dependents before the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. She previously served as judicial clerk for the Honorable Jonathan R. Steinberg of the United States Court of Veterans Appeals (now the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims) from 1993–1994.

She is the author or a co-author of numerous monographs and publications on veterans law, including the *Veterans Benefits Manual* (Lexis Law Publishing); *The Elderlaw*

Portfolio Series: Veterans Benefits for the Elderly (Little, Brown, 1996); *The Department of Veterans Affairs' Obligations Toward Claimants: Analysis of the Veterans Claims Assistance Act of 2000* (Clearinghouse Review, July–August 2001); and *Consideration of Pain and Other Factors in Rating VA Disabilities* (Clearinghouse Review, July–August 1996).

Director, Case Evaluation and Placement Component



Brian D. Robertson, Esq., director, Case Evaluation and Placement Component, is an attorney with the Paralyzed Veterans of America. He became the director of the

Component in October 1994, after a brief period as its deputy director. He was a career Naval officer, retiring after 23 years of service, including more than 18 years as a Navy judge advocate.

Mr. Robertson is a 1971 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and a 1976 graduate of the University of Maryland School of Law. He also has an MA from the University of Southern California. He is past chair of the Veterans Law Section of the Federal Bar Association and serves on the Board of Governors of the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims Bar Association.



NVLSP Mentors: Stephanie Forester, Meg Bartley, Nancy Foti



DAV Mentors: Ronald L. Smith, Donald E. Purcell



PVA Mentors: William S. Mailander; Linda E. Blauhut; Not Shown, Michael P. Horan

CHANGES AT THE COURT



The U.S. Court of Veterans' Appeals, 1990

The End of the Court's

beginning arrived with the last day of September when Chief Judge Donald L. Ivers and Chief Judge Jonathan R. Steinberg, the last members of the Court's founding bench, stepped into retirement.

For Chief Judge Ivers, retirement marked the culmination of more than 20 years of service in the field of veterans affairs and law, which began in 1985 when he assumed the duties of general counsel of the Veterans Administration and later acting general counsel of the Department of Veterans Affairs. An Army veteran with active service in the United States, Germany, and Vietnam between 1963 and 1968, Chief Judge Ivers retired from the U.S. Army Reserve with the rank of lieutenant colonel. After six years of private practice, the future Chief Judge entered the world of public service, beginning with the Federal Highway Administration and later the Department of Transportation.

At his retirement ceremony, his colleague Judge John J. Farley III (ret.) noted Judge Ivers' distinguished military service, commanding presence, and great sense of humor. He

also observed the Judge Ivers was a man who had served and would continue to serve his country and who loved his family, the law, and veterans.

After serving as Chief Judge briefly, Judge Jonathan R. Steinberg retired with Chief Judge Ivers. Following his clerkship to then-Circuit Judge Warren Burger, Judge Steinberg served as an attorney advisor and later as deputy general counsel with the Peace Corps. Upon leaving the Peace Corps, he embarked on a distinguished career on Capital Hill, serving on several committees and ultimately holding the position of chief counsel and staff director for the Committee on Veterans' Affairs prior to being appointed to the Court.

Noted for his intense legal writing and in-depth analysis of issues, Judge Steinberg was always an unfailing gentleman and respected jurist. Sadly, the avid cyclist sustained serious injuries shortly after his last day on the bench. While the ultimate prognosis is good, the road back will be a hard one. The Pro Bono Program sends Judge Steinberg every good wish for a complete recovery.

"This is a note to say thank you to you and your staff for doing a great service for Veterans. Lastly, Attorney [Jones] has given me excellent legal representation for which I will be forever appreciative."

Vietnam Veteran

PRIVATE BAR RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE

PRIVATE BAR RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE

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Linda E. Blauhut
Michael P. Horan
Jennifer Mogy



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JANUARY 1, 2005 – DECEMBER 31, 2005

TABLE A: CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENSES (UNAUDITED)

2005 Grant Funds Authorized by Congress	\$ 1,100,000.00 a
2005 Funds Retained by Legal Services Corporation	\$ 0.00
2005 Funds Released to Program by LSC	\$ 1,100,000.00
Grant Funds Available From 2004 Grant Year	\$ 240,015.00
2005 Grant Funds Available	\$ 1,340,015.00
Interest Earned on 2004 Grant Year Funds	\$ 1,508.00
Interest Earned on 2005 Grant Year Funds	\$ 7,360.00
Total Funds Available in Grant Year 2005	\$ 1,348,883.00 b
Total Program Expenses in 2005	\$ 1,081,495.00
Excess of Total Grant Funds over Expenses	\$ 267,388.00

a. See Pub.L.No 109-114 Stat. 2393 (11/30/2005), which provides in relevant part: "United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims-Salaries and Expenses: For necessary expenses for the operation of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims as authorized by 38 U.S.C. sections 7251-7292, \$18,795,000.00 of which \$1,260,000.00, shall be available for the purpose of providing financial assistance as described, and in accordance with the process and reporting procedures set forth, under this heading in Public Law 102-229."

b. This amount does not include any monetary sums that were donated to the Program by law firms, veterans, or from other sources. These donated funds are detailed in a separate schedule and are not commingled with grant funds received from the Legal Services Corporation.

TABLE B: CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF DONATED FUNDS & SERVICES (UNAUDITED)

Reported/Estimated Organizational Contributions

The American Legion	\$ 25,800.00
Disabled American Veterans	\$ 110,000.00
National Veterans Legal Services Program	\$ 6,777.00
Paralyzed Veterans of America	\$ 175,719.80
Covington & Burling	\$ 125,415.00
Baker Botts, L.L.P.	\$ 550.00
Total Value of Organizational Contributions	\$ 443,575.00 c
Total Value of Non-organizational Contributions	\$ 3,440,120.30
Total Program Donated Funds and Services	\$ 3,883,695.30

c. These funds have been retained by NVLSP, as grant administrator, for use in the program year beginning in January 2006.

TABLE C: STATEMENT OF GRANT INCOME & EXPENSES (UNAUDITED)

Revenue	
Grant Funds Carried Forward (Prior Years)	\$ 240,015.00
2005 Grant Funds Made Available by LSC	\$ 1,100,000.00
Interest Earned on Prior Grant Year Funds	\$ 1,508.00
Investment Income on Current Year Funds	\$ 7,360.00
Total Funds Available in Grant Year 2005	\$ 1,348,883.00 a
Expenses	
Program Services	
Executive Board	\$ 0.00 b
Case Evaluation and Placement Component	\$ 824,554.00
Outreach Component	\$ 24,437.00
Education Component	\$ 144,111.00
Direct Representation Component	\$ 54,944.00
Total Program Services Expenses	\$ 1,048,046.00
General and Administrative	
Executive Board	\$ 0.00 b
Case Evaluation and Placement Component	\$ 18,389.00
Outreach Component	\$ 2,176.00
Education Component	\$ 12,884.00
Direct Representation Component	\$ 0.00
Total General and Administrative Expenses	\$ 33,449.00
Total 2005 Grant Expenses	\$ 1,081,495.00
Excess of Total Grant Funds Over Expenses	\$ 267,388.00 c

a. In addition to grant funds, all of the participating organizations in the Consortium donated services and/or goods to the Program. The total estimated value of donated goods and services (including nonorganizational contributions to the grant) in 2005 is more than \$3,440,000.00). These donated goods and services are detailed in separate schedules.

b. All Executive Board member personnel costs and other costs associated with activities of the Executive Board were donated. The Executive Board met 12 times during the grant year (and several Executive Board members also attended additional meetings to prepare and review financial statements and annual budget submissions). The average Executive Board meeting length was two hours.

c. These funds have been retained by NVLSP, as grant administrator, for use in the program year beginning in January 2006.

TABLE D: CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PROGRAM (UNAUDITED)

Organizational Contributions

The American Legion

Unreimbursed Personnel Expenses	\$ 21,000.00 a
Other Services	\$ 4,800.00
Total American Legion Contributions	\$ 25,800.00

Disabled American Veterans

Unreimbursed Personnel Expenses	\$ 87,500.00 b
Other Services	\$ 22,500.00 c
Total DAV Contributions	\$ 110,000.00

National Veterans Legal Services Program

NVLSP Publications	\$ 3,450.00
Unreimbursed Personnel Expenses	\$ 3,327.00 d
Total NVLSP Contributions	\$ 6,777.00

Paralyzed Veterans of America

Unreimbursed Support for the Grant:

Value of donated mentoring services	\$ 8,076.59
Partial cost of production of 2005 annual report	\$ 26,044.10
Unreimbursed support for Direct Representation Component	\$ 132,610.33
Unreimbursed support for Executive Board	\$ 7,902.78
Miscellaneous grant administration	\$ 400.00
Total PVA Contributions	\$ 175,033.80

Covington & Burling

Donated Services	\$ 125,415.00
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Baker Botts LLP

Donated Services	\$ 96,995.00
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Total Organizational Contributions	\$ 540,020.80 e
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Non-organizational Contributions

Donated Pro Bono Legal Services	\$ 3,439,320.30 f
Donated Services – DC Bar Pro Bono Program	\$ 800.00 g
Total Value of Nonorganizational Contributions	\$ 3,440,120.30

Total Donated Funds and Services	\$ 3,883,145.30
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- a. The American Legion provided an experienced veterans law specialist part-time to the Case Evaluation and Placement Component at no cost to the grant. The value of this service was not reported at the request of The American Legion but is conservatively estimated at \$21,000 per year (by comparison to comparable services billed to the grant).
 - b. The Disabled American Veterans provided an experienced veterans law specialist full time to the Case Evaluation and Placement Component at no cost to the grant. The value of this service was not reported at the request of the Disabled American Veterans but is conservatively estimated at \$ 87,500 per year (by comparison to comparable services billed to the grant).
 - c. Includes the value of mentoring time (approximately hours, based on the 2005 Laffey matrix rate for a lawyer with 4-7 years' experience), time spent in preparing for and attending Executive Board meetings and functions; and the cost of hosted Executive Board meetings.
 - d. Value of donated time of NVLSP representative performing Executive Board functions, including the value of mentoring time and the cost of hosted Executive Board meetings.
 - e. Does not include time spent in Executive Board activities by Legal Services Corporation or Court personnel.
 - f. This figure was calculated by multiplying the number of non-VCAA cases placed with pro bono lawyers (122) by the average number of hours for a pro bono lawyer to complete a case (92.4 hours), as reported by pro bono lawyers completing cases in 2005, and multiplying that product by the 2005 Laffey matrix hourly rate for a lawyer with 4-7 years' experience (\$313/hour).
 - g. A training class was conducted by the Education Component on one occasion in Washington, D.C., through the auspices of the DC Bar Pro Bono Program. Incidental costs related to training (such as mailings, printing of announcements, the fair market value of classroom space, food and beverages, and personnel costs) are all donated by the DC Bar Pro Bono Program to the Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program.
- * It should be noted that the Program's 2004 Annual Report erroneously reported a donated legal services value of \$1,445,785. In fact this figure was low due to the use of a hourly fee scale of \$220.00 an hour, when in fact the figure used should have been \$299 per hour (based on the Laffey Matrix). When recalculated, the correct figure for donated services from the Program's attorneys was \$1,964,953.25.*



Each of the constituent veterans service organizations, as well as the representative of the private bar chairing the Executive Board, makes various contributions to the Program during the course of the year. The Program has also received in-kind contributions from the District of Columbia Bar Pro Bono Program. Several private law firms have contributed portions of fees received under the Equal Access to Justice Act in pro bono cases handled by those firms through the Program. The principal private cash donations received by the Program through December 31, 2005, are reflected in Table E.

TABLE E: PREVIOUS YEAR'S PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PROGRAM

Arnold & Porter Foundation	\$	14,805.11
Baker Botts, L.L.P.	\$	550.00
Covington & Burling	\$	14,200.00
Crowell & Moring	\$	12,029.27
Daniel Delaney	\$	10.00
Robert D. Fagan, Jr.	\$	20.00
Foley & Lardner	\$	4,000.00
Lieberman & Mark, L.L.P.	\$	1,000.00
Marshall Potter, Esq.	\$	200.00
Patton Boggs, L.L.P.	\$	9,000.00
Natalie V. Rawding	\$	100.00
Esther R. Scherb, Esq.	\$	2,000.00
Steptoe & Johnson, L.L.P.	\$	4,000.00
Jack Travis	\$	1,000.00
Donald H. Ziegenbein	\$	20.00

TABLE F: 2005 SUMMARY OF PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS (UNAUDITED)

Contributions available as of 1/1/2005 (Audited)	\$	58,621.00
Contribution received as of 12/31/2005	\$	8,000.00
Interest earned 1/1/2005–12/31/2005	\$	871.00
Total contributions/interest	\$	67,492.00
Expenses paid from contributions 1/1/2005–12/31/2005	\$	125.00
Contributions available as of 12/31/2005	\$	67,367.00





The Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program
www.vetsprobono.org

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