

### How does the appeal process work?

When you file your notice of appeal (also called a NOA), the Clerk of the Court will assign your case a number – known as a docket number. The six-digit number will be different from your VA claim file number, your military service number and your Social Security number.

## How do I use that docket number to keep track of my case?

All of the docket information is available on the Court's website at uscourts.cavc.gov. Click on the "Docket Search" button on the left hand side of the menu. Enter in your docket (case) number and click "Search". This will take you to the Court's docket for your case. Finally, click on the docket number of your case for your information.

# If the Pro Bono Program evaluates my case, what will happen?

Once you return the required forms, we will review the forms and then (if you qualify) we will file an appearance on your case and screen your file in detail. If it is determined after this full review that we cannot find an issue in your case, our attorney team will let you know by letter, but they will still be available to answer questions about your case on our **Helpline**.



#### What is the Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program?

The Pro Bono Program was created by the U.S. Congress in 1992 to assist veterans or their family members with their appeal before the Court. The Veterans Consortium is the independent national nonprofit provider of free attorneys for these federal veterans appeals and operates the worldwide Pro Bono Program.

#### What if I have questions?

Give us a call! Feel free to contact us with questions about your case. You can get in touch with us at any time. Call us at **888-838-7727** or email us at <u>mail@vetsprobono.org</u>. You may also visit our website at <u>www.vetsprobono.org</u>.

#### Why Choose the Pro Bono Program?

We help you succeed: Our pro bono attorneys have a more than 80% lifetime win rate over the past 24 years (we succeed in over 8 out of every 10 cases, a great professional track record). We have helped nearly 13,000 veterans and their loved ones get justice.

We are free of charge: Our attorneys volunteer to work on your cases making our services **100% free.** No one from the Program will ever ask you for money or any portion of your benefits. We have provided free services worth nearly \$100 million in today's dollars.

**Specially trained & experienced:** Our attorneys have taken highly specialized training, and your attorney team will always include a lawyer who has successfully handled previous cases at the Court.





About Your Appeal...

Answers to your questions about the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims ("the Court")

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