

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission

Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Pub. L. 92-463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that the Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission has scheduled a town hall meeting for February 15, 2006, at the Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront, 333 First Street South, St. Petersburg, Florida. The town hall meeting will begin at 7 p.m. and end at 9 p.m. A one half day business session of the Commission has been scheduled for February 16, 2006 at the same location. The half day meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 11:30 a.m. Both meetings are open to the public.

The purpose of the Commission is to carry out a study of the benefits under the laws of the United States that are provided to compensate and assist veterans and their survivors for disabilities and deaths attributable to military service.

The Commission's visit to St. Petersburg will be the first of eight fact-finding, data-gathering site visits throughout the United States. The St. Petersburg/Tampa area was selected based upon criteria that included the concentration of veterans, active-duty service members and National Guard and Reserves, and the co-location of Veterans Benefits Administration, Veterans Health Administration, and Department of Defense (DoD) facilities, with particular interest in transition activities. The goal of this visit is to allow the commissioners the opportunity to tour local Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and DoD facilities; examine the processes in place, which assist veterans in their efforts to obtain their benefits; and to present veterans, survivors and the general public with an opportunity to learn about the work of the Commission and to offer comments in a face-to-face forum.

The agenda for the half day meeting will include updates of the research work plans and work in progress by the Center for Naval Analyses (CNA) and the Institute of Medicine (IOM), an overview of the Tampa VA Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center, and an opportunity for public comments.

Interested persons may attend either or both meetings and present oral statements to the Commission. Oral presentations will be limited to five minutes or less, depending on the number of participants. Interested

parties may provide written comments for review by the Commission prior to the meeting, by e-mail to veterans@vetscommission.intranets.com or by mail to Mr. Ray Wilburn, Executive Director, Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission, 1101 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., 5th Floor, Washington, DC 20004.

Dated: January 26, 2006.

By Direction of the Secretary.

E. Philip Riggins,

Committee Management Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Privacy Act of 1974

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

ACTION: Notice of establishment of new system of records.

SUMMARY: The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552(e)(4)) requires that all agencies publish in the **Federal Register** a notice of the existence and character of their systems of records. Notice is hereby given that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is establishing a new system of records entitled "Veteran Canteen Service (VCS) Payroll Deduction System-VA" (117VA103).

DATES: Comments on this new system of records must be received no later than March 8, 2006. If no public comment is received, the new system will become effective March 8, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Written comments concerning the proposed system of records may be submitted by: Mail or hand-delivery to Director, Regulations Management (00REG1), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Room 1068, Washington, DC 20420; fax to (202) 273-9026; or e-mail to VAregulations@mail.va.gov. All comments received will be available for public inspection in the Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Room 1063B, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays). Please call (202) 273-9515 for an appointment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chief Financial Officer, Veterans Canteen Service, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420; telephone 314-845-1301.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Description of Proposed Systems of Records

The VCS Payroll Deduction System allows VA employees, also known as customers, who participate in the program to pay for purchases in VCS canteens through deduction from their pay. It is used to track purchases, payments, refunds, balances, payment status, and other information for these customers.

II. Proposed Routine Use Disclosures of Data in the System

VA is proposing to establish the following Routine Use disclosures of information maintained in this system:

1. VA may disclose information from this system of records to a private debt collection agent for the purpose of collecting unpaid balances from customers who have left VA employment without making full payment for purchases made under the program.

2. VA may disclose information from this system of records to the U.S. Treasury Offset Program (TOPS) for the purpose of collecting unpaid balances from customers who have left VA employment without making full payment for purchases made under the program.

VA needs to be able to collect unpaid balances from customers who have left VA employment without making full payment to VCS for purchases made under the program.

3. Disclosure may be made to the Federal Labor Relations Authority, including its General Counsel, when requested in connection with investigation and resolution of allegations of unfair labor practices, in connection with the resolution of exceptions to arbitrator awards when a question of material fact is raised and matters before the Federal Service Impasses Panel.

The release of information to FLRA from this Privacy Act system of records is necessary to comply with the statutory mandate under which FLRA operates.

4. Disclosure may be made to officials of labor organizations recognized under 5 U.S.C. chapter 71 when relevant and necessary to their duties of exclusive representation concerning personnel policies, practices, and matters affecting working conditions.

5. Disclosure may be made to officials of the Merit Systems Protection Board, including the Office of the Special Counsel, when requested in connection with appeals, special studies of the civil service and other merit systems, review of rules and regulations, investigation of