

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CONGRESSWOMAN

Dear Kansas Veteran,

There simply aren't words to properly thank you for your service to this state and this country. Your commitment, courage and sacrifice have indeed made this the land of the free.

As the wife and daughter of veterans, one of my highest priorities in office is to serve the veterans of the Kansas Second District. It was unfortunate how seriously under-funded previous Congresses and the President had left our veterans. Shortly after being sworn into office, I was proud to vote for \$5.2 billion in emergency appropriations for the Veterans' Administration. This emergency action was absolutely critical to stop the bleeding of VA funding.

But there is more. The 110th Congress has passed a historic \$6.7 billion increase for veterans. This is the largest increase in the history of the VA, and \$3.8 billion over the amount proposed by the President.

I will continue to fight in Washington for full and mandatory funding of the VA, and am committed to performing the oversight needed to ensure that these funds make a day-to-day difference in veterans' lives.

My office has put together this brochure for commonly-asked questions. ***If your question isn't answered, or if you'd like assistance in dealing with the VA, please do not hesitate to contact my constituent service offices at 785-234-8111 (Topeka) or 620-231-3011 (Pittsburg).*** We look forward to hearing from you!

With warm regards,



Nancy Boyda
Member of Congress

P.S. Unfortunately, due to mail security, postal mail can take up to four weeks to reach my office in Washington, so please send an e-mail or fax for a quicker response.

CONTACT CONGRESSWOMAN NANCY BOYDA AT:

Topeka Office

510 SW 10th Avenue, Topeka, KS 66612
Phone: (785) 234-8111
Fax: (785) 234-9111

Pittsburg Office

The Stilwell Hotel
701 N. Broadway, Suite A, Pittsburg, KS 66762
Phone: (620) 231-3011
Fax: (620) 231-4011

Washington, D.C. Office

1711 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: (202) 225-6601
Fax: (202) 225-7986

Website: www.boyda.house.gov

For more information on the constituent services highlighted in this brochure, please visit our website: www.boyda.house.gov, where you can also sign-up to receive our weekly electronic newsletter.

CONGRESSWOMAN
NANCY BOYDA

A Call to ARMS

(Advice for Resolving Military Situations)



Congresswoman Nancy Boyda presents medals to a constituent after his family reached out to the office seeking help recovering lost medals.

My offices are here for you.

If you have any questions during any step of the claims process, call 785-234-8111 (Topeka) or 620-231-3011 (Pittsburg)

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.



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Some Frequently Asked Questions and Additional Resources:

HOW DO I START A VA CLAIM?

As your representative in Congress, one of my most important duties is to help you resolve your problems and concerns with the federal government. In order to help me *better help you*: **The fastest way to file any type of claim for benefits – including health care and disability – is to contact your veterans' service organization.** Their expertise can make the complicated claims system much easier to navigate.

Veterans Service Organizations Directory
www1.va.gov/vso/index.cfm

You can also contact your nearest VA hospital and asked to be transferred to your VSO.

Colmery-O'Neil VAMC • Topeka
785-350-3111

Dwight D. Eisenhower VAMC • Leavenworth
913-682-2000

Robert J. Dole VAMC • Wichita
316-685-2221

AM I ELIGIBLE FOR EDUCATION BENEFITS UNDER THE GI BILL?



To check your eligibility, contact the Veterans Representative in the Registrar Office of your college or university. Veterans Representatives are trained to certify your enrollment as well as to answer specific questions regarding your GI Bill account.

More information is available by calling
1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551)
or at www.gibill.va.gov

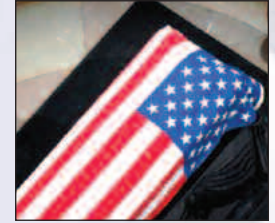
WHAT IS VETERANS' PREFERENCE FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT?



If a veteran is disabled or served in the Armed Forces during specific times, that veteran is entitled to either a 5- or 10-point hiring preference over others in nearly all federal jobs. Certain forms may be required to confirm your service, such as a DD-214, Report of Separation, or an SF-15 Application for 10-Point Veteran Preference.

More information is available by calling
1-866-4-USA-DOL
or at www.dol.gov/vets

WHAT BURIAL BENEFITS ARE AVAILABLE?



Our government offers many benefits to aid survivors with providing proper respects to the fallen, including Military Honors, Burial Flags, Burial Allowances and Survivor Benefits. Your funeral service director can coordinate your wishes.

A complete listing of benefits is available at
www.cem.va.gov

HOW CAN I RETRIEVE MY MILITARY RECORDS?



My offices are always here to help you with military record requests. In fact, we get many calls for assistance in obtaining military service records, from veterans and from next of kin. Another resource for this information is the National Archives, which has created an online system for records requests.

For more information,
call 314-801-0800
or visit www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel