



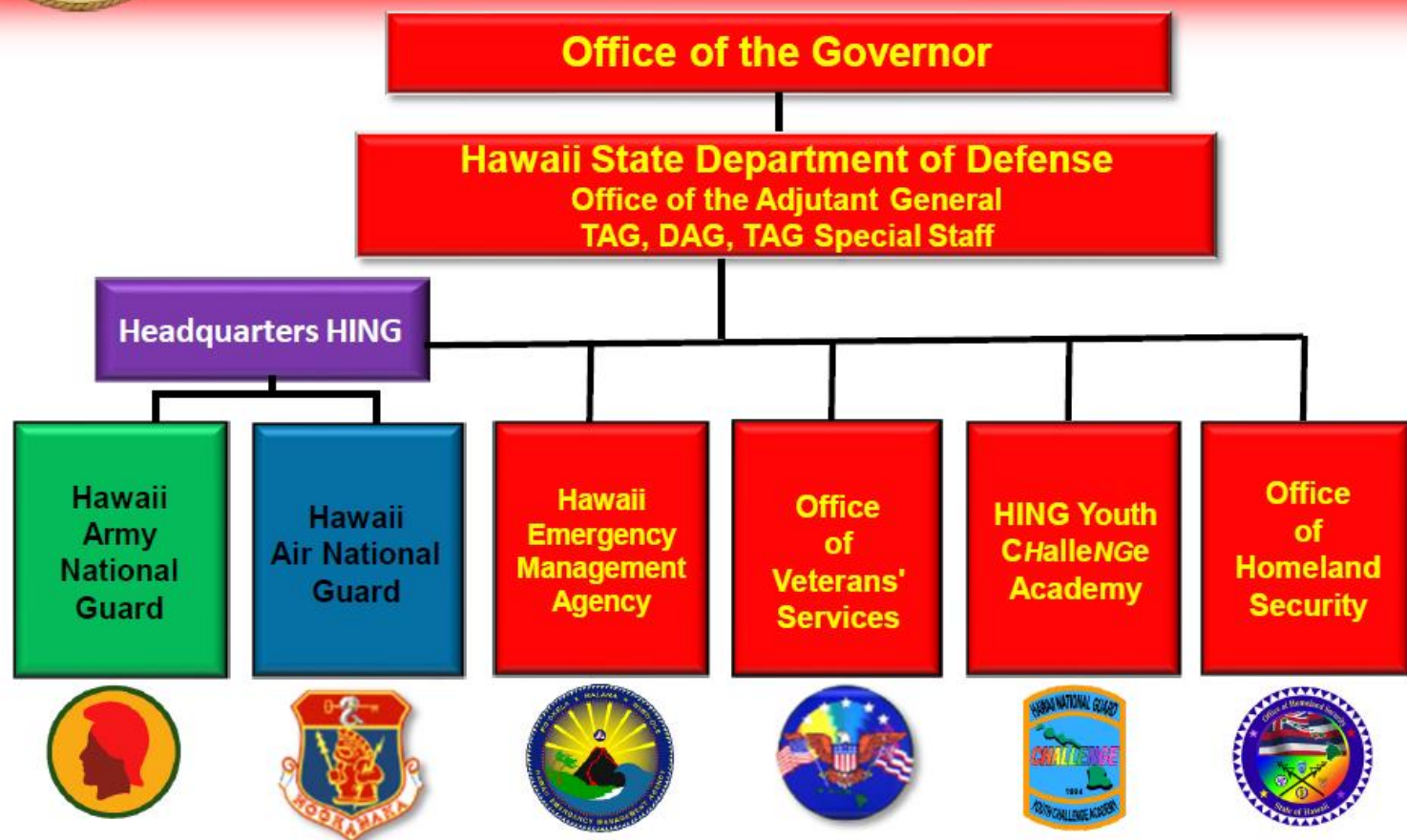
Office of Veterans' Services

Veterans' Services Branch

Jonathan Kimura
Veterans' Services Coordinator



Organizational Chart



Adjutant General
Maj. Gen. Kenneth S. Hara



Deputy Adjutant General/Cdr HIARNG
Brig. Gen. Stephen F. Logan

The Adjutant General
Director, HI-EMA
Director, OHS



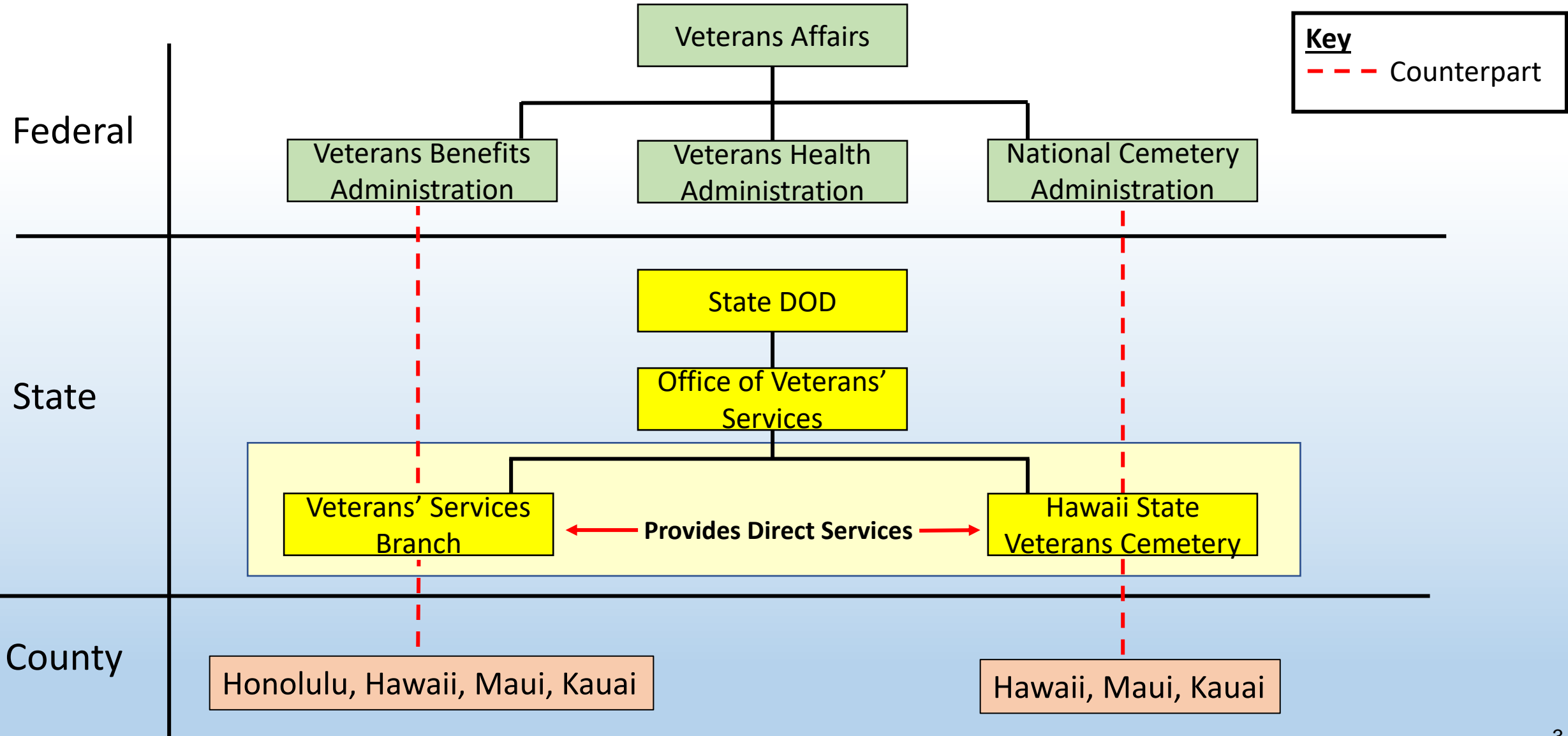
Command Senior Enlisted Leader
CMSgt Zandra Fox
Command Chief Master Sergeant

Personnel

State Personnel: 475 (253 permanent, 222 temporary)
 Active Guard Reserve: 450
 Federal Technicians/T5 Employees: 1,100
 HING Total Soldiers and Airmen: 5,600



Relational Structure





Services Provided by OVS

- Information and referral
- VA disability claims and appeals assistance
- Providing verification letter for State Vehicle Tax Exemption and Specialty License Plates
- Burial coordination assistance





Helpful Links

- Office of Veterans' Services (OVS) - <https://dod.hawaii.gov/ovs/>
 - Benefits and Services - <https://dod.hawaii.gov/ovs/benefits-and-services/>
 - Veteran Cemeteries - <https://dod.hawaii.gov/ovs/veteran-cemeteries/>
- Veterans Affairs (VA) - <https://www.va.gov/>
 - VA Benefits for Service Members - <https://www.va.gov/service-member-benefits/>

Note: Each benefit has their own eligibility criteria.



Eligibility for VA Disability Compensation

Event Related to Service

- Illness or injury from service
- Illness or injury before service - serving made it worse
- Disability related to service that appeared after you ended service.

Medical nexus

- Links the current condition to the in-service event

Current Condition

- Diagnosed Illness or Injury
- Chronic / Ongoing



Assistance Filing VA Benefit Claims

	Service Connection	Non-Service-Connected Pension
Service Member	Compensation	Wartime Era Pension
Spouse (Dependents)	Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)	Survivors (Widowers) Wartime Pension

Steps

1. Call OVS (ask for counselor assistance with filing a claim).
2. Sign Power of Attorney (POA) with OVS.
3. File claim.
4. If claim is denied, OVS can provide appeal assistance.
 - A. Legacy Appeals (*Prior to 19 Feb 2019*)
 - B. Appeals Modernization Act (AMA) (*from February 19, 2019 and on*)
 1. Supplemental Claim
 2. Higher-Level Review
 3. Appeal to Board of Veterans' Appeals (BVA)

Note: The BVA does not under the Veterans Benefits/Cemeteries Administrations



The Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act of 2022

The PACT Act:

- Expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and Post-9/11 eras.
- Expands eligibility for benefits for Veterans exposed to toxic substances.

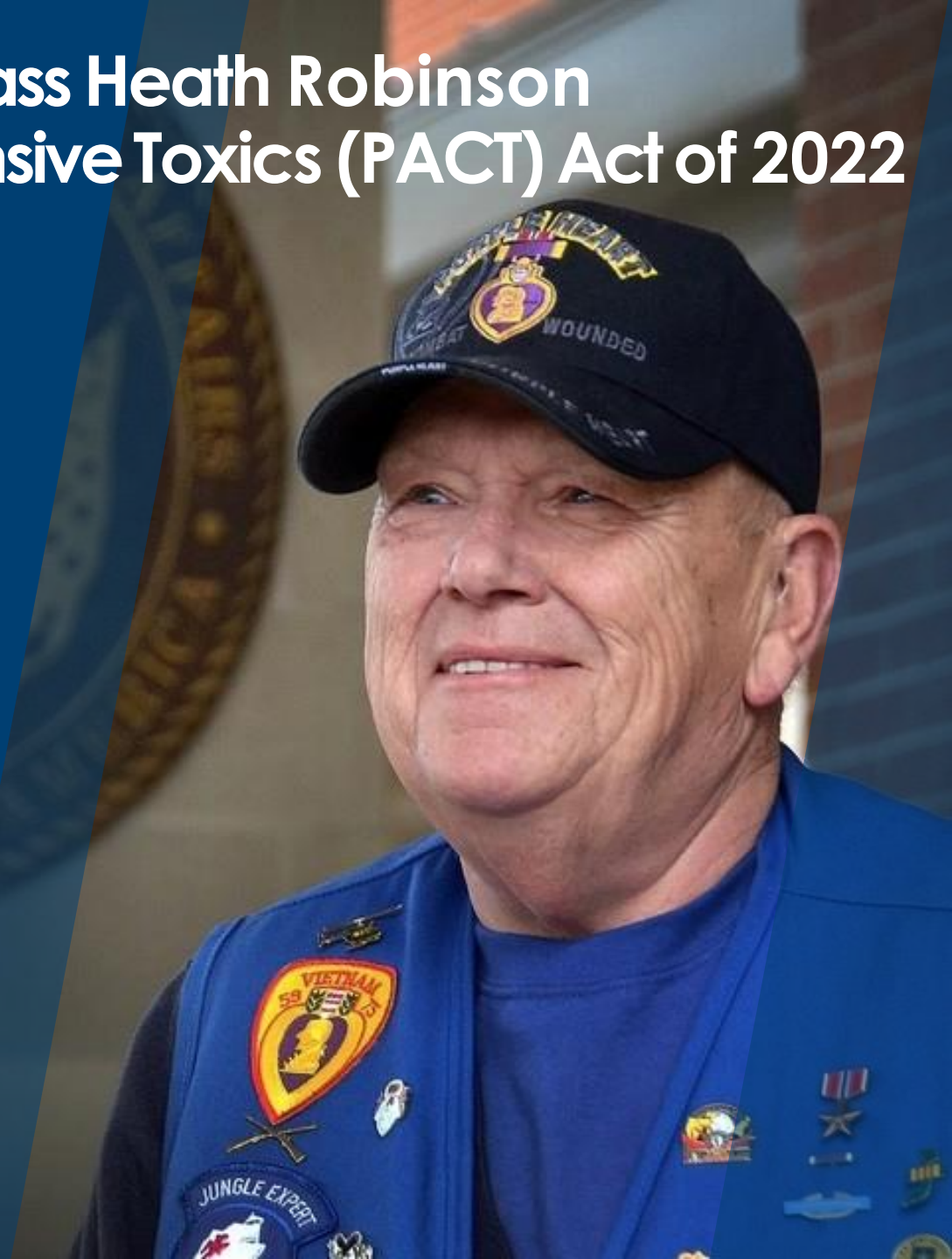


Choose **VA**

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs





PACT Act Key Components



The Act **expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures** and Veterans of the Vietnam era, Gulf War era, and Post-9/11 era.



VA **will improve the decision-making process** for determining what medical conditions will be considered for presumptive status.



Every enrolled Veteran **will receive an initial toxic exposure screening** and a follow-up screening every five years. Veterans who are not enrolled, but who are eligible to enroll, will have an opportunity to enroll and receive the screening.



VA health care staff and claims processors will receive **toxic exposure-related education and training**.



The Act **requires research studies** on the mortality of Veterans who served in Southwest Asia during the Gulf War; Post-9/11 Veteran health trends; and Veteran cancer rates.



The Act will help VA **build a stronger, more skilled workforce** to meet the growing demand for benefits and services.



The Act **authorizes 31 new facilities** across the country, providing greater access to VA health care.





Gulf War Era and Post-9/11 Eligibility

If a Veteran served in any of these locations and time periods, they are eligible for the new Gulf War-related presumptions. This includes the airspace above any of these locations.



On or After August 2, 1990:

- Bahrain
- Iraq
- Kuwait
- Oman
- Qatar
- Saudi Arabia
- Somalia
- The United Arab Emirates (UAE)



On or After September 11, 2001:

- Afghanistan
- Djibouti
- Egypt
- Jordan
- Lebanon
- Syria
- Uzbekistan
- Yemen





Conditions Presumed to be Service-Connected

As of August 10, 2022, a long list of new conditions are presumed to be service-connected due to various in-service toxic exposures. **APPLY NOW** at [VA.gov/PACT](https://va.gov/PACT) to expedite your claim and benefits.

- Asthma (diagnosed after service)
- Brain cancer
- Chronic bronchitis
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
- Chronic rhinitis
- Chronic sinusitis
- Constrictive bronchiolitis or obliterative bronchiolitis
- Emphysema
- Gastrointestinal cancer of any type
- Glioblastoma
- Granulomatous disease
- Head cancer of any type
- High blood pressure (hypertension)
- Interstitial lung disease (ILD)
- Kidney cancer
- Lymphomatic cancer of any type
- Lymphoma of any type
- Melanoma
- Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS)
- Neck cancer
- Pancreatic cancer
- Pleuritis
- Pulmonary fibrosis
- Reproductive cancer of any type
- Respiratory (breathing-related) cancer of any type
- Sarcoidosis





Health Care Enrollment Eligibility

Veterans who served in the following locations and time periods can enroll in VA health care **NOW**:

- **Republic of Vietnam** (between January 9, 1962 and May 7, 1975)
- **Thailand at any US or Royal Thai base** (between January 9, 1962 and June 30, 1976)
- **Laos** (between December 1, 1965 and September 30, 1969)
- **Certain Provinces in Cambodia** (between April 16, 1969, and April 30, 1969)
- **Guam or American Samoa or their territorial waters** (between January 9, 1962 and July 31, 1980)
- **Johnston Atoll, or a ship that called there** (between January 1, 1972 and September 30, 1977)



Vietnam-era Veterans are now able to apply for two new Agent Orange presumptive conditions:

- **Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS)**
- **Hypertension (high blood pressure)**



Special Enrollment Period: October 1, 2022 - October 1, 2023
for Post-9/11 combat Veterans who separated or discharged **between September 11, 2001**
and October 1, 2013. Enrollment is free, there are no annual costs, and care may be free as well!





Health Care Enrollment Eligibility

WHO: All Veterans enrolled in VA health care

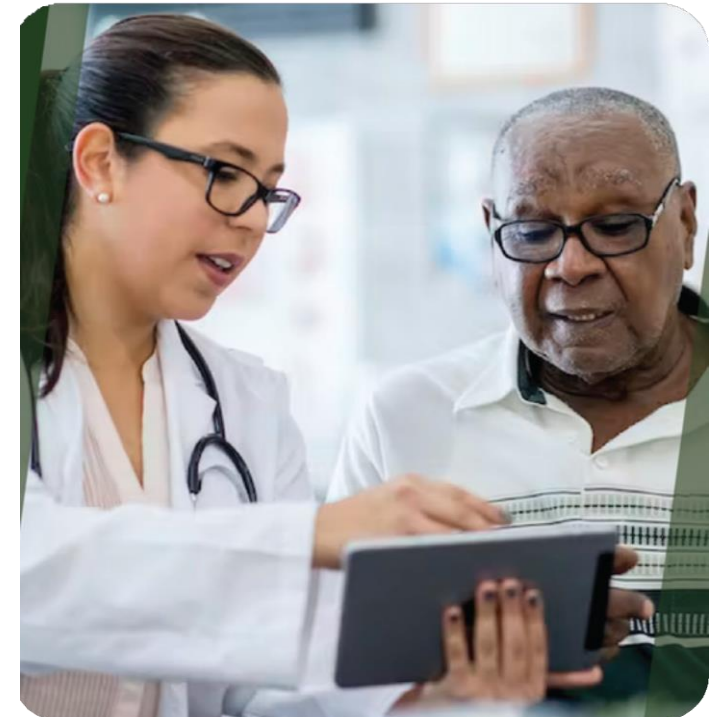
WHAT: A quick (5-10 minute) series of questions to identify and document any potential exposures to toxins during military service

WHEN: At least one every 5 years

WHERE: VA medical centers and clinics

WHY: Supports Veteran long-term health plans and informed, whole-health care

HOW: Veterans can ask about the screening at their next VA appointment





Filing Claims to Receive Benefits

Veterans can file a claim for the new presumptive conditions:

- **New Claim**—Veteran has never filed for the presumptive condition
- **Supplemental Claim**—the presumptive condition was previously denied but is now considered to be presumptive

- If VA denied one of the new presumptive conditions in the past but the Veteran may now be eligible for benefits, VA will try to contact them. There is no need to wait to file a Supplemental Claim.
- VA is prioritizing the claims of Veterans with cancer to make sure they get timely access to the care and benefits they need.
- **Pending Claims:** If a Veteran's condition was added to the list of **presumptive conditions*** after the claim was filed, VA will consider it on a presumptive basis.



*Presumptive conditions do not require proof that the military service caused the condition. Veterans only need to meet the service requirements and have a current diagnosis of the presumptive condition. Veterans should submit any supporting documentation to assist with their claim.





Other Affected Veterans and Survivors

What about additional benefits and care for other Veterans and their survivors?



Under the PACT Act, survivors may be eligible for VA benefits, including Dependency and Indemnity Compensation and Burial benefits.

- [Dependency and Indemnity Compensation](#)
- [Burial Benefits](#)



Get the care and benefits you EARNED and DESERVE!

Apply at [VA.gov/PACT](https://www.va.gov/PACT) today.





Contact Info

OAHU

Oahu (Tripler Army Medical Center)

459 Patterson Road
E-Wing, Room 1-A103
Honolulu, HI 96819

Ph: (808) 433-0420

Central Email: OVS@hawaii.gov

Web: <http://dod.hawaii.gov/ovs/>

Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery

45-349 Kamehameha Hwy.
Kaneohe, HI 96744
PH: (808) 369-3575

NEIGHBOR ISLANDS

Hawaii (Hilo)

1304 Kekuanaoa St., #L-102
Hilo, HI 96720-4568
PH: (808) 369-3538

Hawaii (Kailua-Kona)

81-1032 Nani Kupuna Place
Kealahou, HI 96750
PH: (808) 844-6664

Maui, Molokai, and Lanai

Office of Veterans' Services
333 Dairy Rd., Suite 203
Kahului, HI 96732
PH: (808) 369-3541

Kauai

3215 Kauai Veterans Memorial Hwy., Suite #2
Lihue, HI 96766
PH: (808) 369-3535