

2024 TDVS Annual Training “Leading the Nation – Tennessee Veteran Advocacy”

Chattanooga Convention Center, 1 Carter Plaza, Chattanooga, TN 37402
September 30 – October 2, 2024

Monday	Day 1 – September 30, 2024	Location	Speaker	Speaker Contact Information
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Networking and Partner Availability	Pre-Function Space		
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Registration	Pre-Function Space	Regional Directors	
1:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Welcome, Introduction, Opening Remarks	Ballroom E/F	Tommy Baker, Commissioner, TDVS Dennis Wimer, Director, IN Department of Veterans Affairs & President, National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs	tommy.baker@tn.gov tn.veterans@tn.gov tn.gov/veteran dwimer1@dva.in.gov in.gov/dva nasdva.us
1:30 pm – 1:45 pm	Veterans Health Administration Updates from Across Tennessee - VISN Perspective	Ballroom E/F	Gregory Goins, Network Director, VA MidSouth Healthcare Network (VISN 9)	visn9communications@va.gov
1:45 pm – 2pm	Break (Coffee & Tea & Water) & Transition			
2 pm – 2:45 pm	Veterans’ Health Administration Updates from Across Tennessee Question & Answer Availability	Catchment Area Break Out		

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		Tennessee Valley – Ballroom E/F	Daniel Ducker, Executive Director, Tennessee Valley Health Care System	daniel.ducker@va.gov
		Memphis – Room 7	Joseph Vaughn Executive Director, Lt. Col. Luke Weathers, Jr. VA Medical Center	joseph.vaughn@va.gov
		Mountain Home – Room 8	Daren Giancola, Assistant Director, James H. Quillen VA Medical Center	daren.giancola@va.gov
2:45 pm – 3:00 pm	Break (Coffee, Tea, Water & Light Snack) & Transition			
3:00 pm – 3:15 pm	Nashville VA Regional Office Welcome	Ballroom E/F	Charles Moore, Executive Director Nashville Regional Office	dir.vbanas@va.gov
3:15 pm – 3:30 pm	Introduction to NVLSP and TDVS Partnership	Ballroom E/F	Paul Wright, Executive Director, NVLSP	paul.wright@nvlsp.org

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3:30 pm – 5 pm	Navigating the VA’s Modernized / AMA Review System	Ballroom E/F	Louis George, Special Counsel, NVLSP	louis.george@nvlsp.org
	Day 1 Events Complete			
Tuesday	Day 2 – October 1, 2024	Location	Speaker	Speaker Contact Information
6:00 am -8:00 am	Breakfast – Scenic City Classic	Room 4/5/6		
8:00 am - 8:15 am	Welcome, Introductions Opening Remarks Partner Presentation – Tennessee Military Department	Ballroom E/F	Warner Ross II, Major General, The Adjutant General & Commissioner TN Department of Military	tn.gov/military
8:15 am - 8:30 am	Partner Presentation – Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development	Ballroom E/F	Jeffery Dent, State Director Veteran Services, Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development	jeffery.dent@tn.gov tn.gov/workforce
8:30 am – 9:50 am	VA Updates: Debt Management Center (DMC) and Medical Disability Examination Office (MDEO)	Ballroom E/F	John (Randy) Detty, Assistant Director Data and Operations, MDEO	john.detty@va.gov

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			Jory Sullivan, Supervisory Financial Admin Specialist, DMC	jory.sullivan@va.gov
9:50 am – 10:00 am	Break (Coffee, Tea, Water)			
10:00 am – 11:30 am	Basics of the Fiduciary Process	Ballroom E/F	Elizabeth “Liz” Tarloski, Staff Attorney, NVLSP	elizabeth.tarloski@nvlsp.org
11:30 am -1:00 pm	Lunch – South of the Border	Room 4/5/6		
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm	VA Senior Leader Updates	Ballroom E/F	The Honorable Joshua Jacobs Under Secretary for Benefits Advaith Thampi Strategic Advisor & VSO Liaison, Office of the Chairman, Board of Veterans’ Appeals Zaneta Adams, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Intergovernmental Affairs	martin.caraway@va.gov advaith.thampi2@va.gov zaneta.adams@va.gov

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2:30 pm to 3:30 pm	Introduction to Tennessee’s New Claims Management System	Ballroom E/F		
3:30 pm – 3:45 pm	Break (Coffee, Tea, Water & Light Snack) & Transition to Break Out Rooms	Pre-Function Space		
3:45 pm – 5:00 pm	Break Out Sessions	Break Out Room(s)		
	Track A: AMA: Small Group Practical Exercise	Room 7	Louis George, Special Counsel, NVLSP	Louis.george@nvlsp.org
	Track B: C&P Exams – Practical Application Session	Room 8	Ashley Thompson, VSO, Jackson Field Office, TDVS	ashley.d.thompson@tn.gov
	Track C: Duty to Assist and Locating Records	Room 9	Elizabeth “Liz” Tarloski, Staff Attorney, NVLSP	elizabeth.tarloski@nvlsp.org
	Track D: Pension: Practical Application Session	Room 10	Suzanna Ellis Training Officer TDVS Lisa Ware Quality & Appeals Specialist TDVS	suzanna.ellis@tn.gov lisa.ware@tn.gov
	Day 2 Events Complete			
Wednesday	Day 3 – October 2, 2024	Location	Speaker	Speaker Contact Information

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6:00 am – 8:00 am	Breakfast – Chattanooga Continental Breakfast	Room 4/5/6		
8:00 am – 8:15 am	Welcome, Introduction, Opening Remarks Partner Presentation – TN Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services	Ballroom E/F	Marie Williams, Commissioner TN Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services	tn.gov/behavioral-health
8:15 am – 8:30 am	Break (Coffee, Tea & Water) & Transition to Break Out Rooms			
8:30 am – 9:45 am	Break Out Sessions	Break Out Room(s)		
	Track A: Reviewing a Claims File & VA Systems (VBMS/Caseflow) Tips <i>*On Site VA Systems Access Troubleshooting</i>	Room 7	Ron Dvorsky Training Director Appeals & Accreditation Division, TDVS Liza Quinn Appeals Advocate, TDVS	ronald.dvorsky@tn.gov liza.quinn@tn.gov
	Track B: Women Veterans and the VA	Room 8	Elizabeth “Liz” Tarloski, Staff Attorney, NVLSP	elizabeth.tarloski@nvlsp.org
	Track C: Montgomery County Veteran Services Outreach Portal <i>Advocacy Best Practice</i>	Room 9	Hector Santos, Director, Montgomery County Veterans	hlsantos@mcgtn.net



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			Service Organization	
	Track D: Toxic Exposure Risk Activity (TERA) Claims	Room 10	Louis George, Special Counsel, NVLSP	Louis.george@nvlsp.org
9:45 am – 10:00 am	Break (Coffee, Tea & Water) & Transition			
10:00 am – 10:30 am	Closing Comments, Announcement of 2025 Conference Dates and Location, Publication of 2025 Training Schedule	Ballroom E/F	Tommy Baker, Commissioner, TDVS	tn.veterans@tn.gov tn.gov/veteran
	Annual Conference Events Complete			

**All Times Are EST

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