

**NVLSP**  
NATIONAL VETERANS LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM

# INTRODUCTION AND MOA BETWEEN TDVS AND NVLSP

© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. www.nvlsp.org

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## PAUL WRIGHT





- Executive Director
- Deputy Executive Director (2/2019-7/2021)
- Army JAG Corps and Air Force Veteran

© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. www.nvlsp.org

---

---

---

---


---


---

---

---

## LOU GEORGE





- Special Counsel, focusing on matters at CAVC and Training
- VSO liaison
- Began prior tenure at NVLSP in 1998, served as Staff Attorney and Senior Staff Attorney before being named Director of Training and Publications (2013-2015)
- Previously worked at BCMR of the Coast Guard, BVA, and SSA

© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. www.nvlsp.org

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## LIZ TARLOSKI



- Staff Attorney, focused on Training, BVA representation, and CAVC litigation
- Previously a Staff Attorney at Legal Aid of Southeastern PA (LASP) - Veterans Advocacy Project
- Served as a Visiting Professor of Practice at the William & Mary Law School Lewis B. Puller, Jr. Veterans Benefits Clinic

© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. www.nvlsp.org



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## WHAT IS NVLSP?

- Nonprofit Veterans Service Organization
- Founded in 1981
- Works to ensure that the gov't delivers to Vets and active duty personnel the benefits to which they are entitled because of disabilities resulting from their military service

© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. www.nvlsp.org



---

---

---

---

---

---


---

---

## WHAT IS NVLSP?

- Individual representation at CAVC, Federal Circuit, other courts
- Class actions
  - Including: *Nehmer, Wolfe, Beaudette*
- Represents Burn Pit claimants at the RO/BVA

© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. www.nvlsp.org



---

---

---

---


---

---

---

---

## WHAT IS NVLSP?



- Since 1981, our successful litigation has resulted in over **\$5.4 billion** in disability, death, and medical benefits being awarded to hundreds of thousands of veterans and their survivors that had been unfairly denied
- All representation completely free!
  - No fees taken from client's VA benefits

© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. www.nvlsp.org7

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## WHAT IS NVLSP?



- In-person trainings
- Webinars
  - 10 per year on different topics in veterans law
  - Library of past webinars
- Online Basic Training Course on Veterans Benefits

© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. www.nvlsp.org8

---

---

---

---


---

---

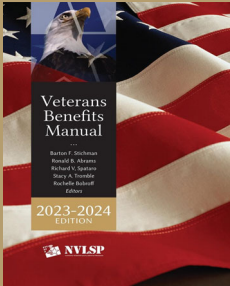
---

---

## WHAT IS NVLSP?



- Veterans Benefits Manual
- Federal Veterans Laws, Rules and Regulations

© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. www.nvlsp.org9

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

---


# WHAT IS NVLSP?




NVLSP  
NATIONAL VETERANS LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM

- **NVLSP VA Benefit Identifier App**
  - Helps Vets and VSOs figure out what VA disability benefits they might be entitled to
  - **3 WAYS to Access:**

app.nvlsp.org



Download on the  
App Store



ANDROID APP ON  
Google play

© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. www.nvlsp.org

10

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# WHAT IS NVLSP?



NVLSP  
NATIONAL VETERANS LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM

- **Lawyers Serving Warriors – free legal assistance through network of volunteer attorneys:**
  - Discharge upgrades
  - Military medical retirement
  - CRSC applications
  - TSGLI applications and appeals of denied claims

© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. www.nvlsp.org

11

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# WHAT IS NVLSP?



NVLSP  
NATIONAL VETERANS LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM

- **Legislative Impact**
  - Works with key Congressional committees and provides testimony to advance legislative solutions for issues impacting Vets
  - Has met with Congressional staffers regarding the PACT Act, Agent Orange Act, Blue Water Vietnam Veterans Act, Caregiver Issues, etc.
  - Submitted statements for the record on hearing relating to toxic exposures and burn pits

© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. www.nvlsp.org

12

---

---

---

---


---

---


---

---

## NVLSP-TDVS MOA



- Since June 2019, NVLSP and TDVS have had an MOA
- Current MOA set to expire in Sept. 2027, but can be extended



© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. [www.nvlsp.org](http://www.nvlsp.org)

13

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

---

## CAVC REPRESENTATION



- NVLSP provides pro bono representation at the CAVC to claimants represented by TDVS who were erroneously denied benefits by BVA
- VA POA stays with TDVS while case at CAVC

© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. [www.nvlsp.org](http://www.nvlsp.org)

14

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

---

## CAVC REPRESENTATION



- NVLSP attorneys are accredited by TDVS
- NVLSP screens BVA decisions to identify BVA errors
- NVLSP offers pro bono representation to claimant
  - Letter to claimant w/TDVS letter of introduction

© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. [www.nvlsp.org](http://www.nvlsp.org)

15

---

---

---

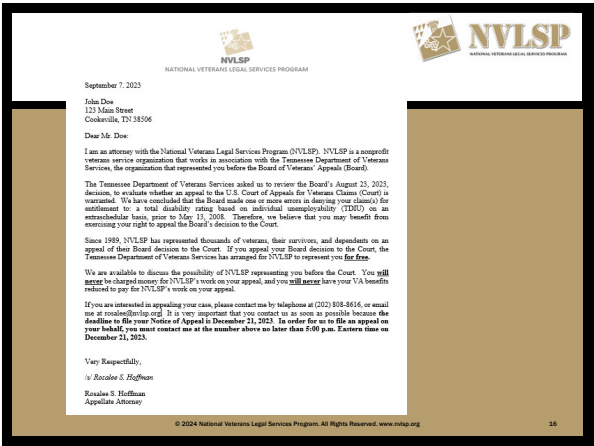
---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

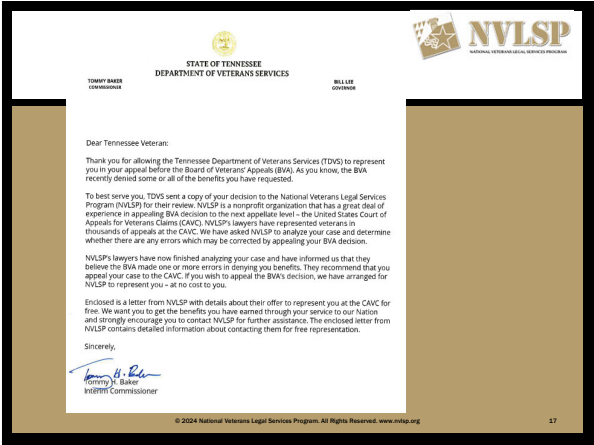
---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## CAVC REPRESENTATION

- After CAVC case is completed
  - Closing letter to claimant with
    - Advice for remand proceedings
    - Copy of JMR / CAVC decision
  - Copy to TDVS (Liza Quinn and Travis Murphy)

© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. www.nvlsp.org 18

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

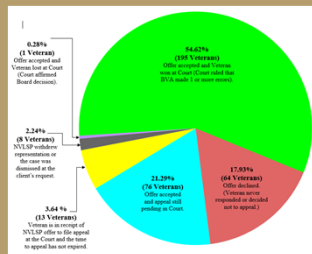
---

---

## CAVC REPRESENTATION



- From 2019 through September 2024, NVLSP has offered to represent 357 TDVS claimants at CAVC



© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. www.nvlsp.org

19

## BVA REPRESENTATION



- NVLSP will find pro bono attorney to represent appellant at BVA for some cases remanded by CAVC:

- BVA likely to make decision without further remand
- NVLSP-trained/VA-accredited attorney in LSW pro bono network
- Client gives permission

© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. www.nvlsp.org

20

## BVA REPRESENTATION



- NVLSP will inform TDVS if claimant agrees
- TDVS keeps POA
- NVLSP will mentor pro bono attorney, who will:
  - Draft BVA brief
  - Help claimant obtain supporting lay and medical evidence, if necessary/possible

© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. www.nvlsp.org

21

TRAINING & CONSULTATION



- Up to 8 hours of in-person training
- 4 free webinar trainings
- Consultation with TDVS senior officials on:
  - Legal issues
  - Advocacy strategy
  - Individual benefits claims

© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. [www.nvlsp.org](http://www.nvlsp.org)

22

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

QUESTIONS





© 2024 National Veterans Legal Services Program. All Rights Reserved. [www.nvlsp.org](http://www.nvlsp.org)

23

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---