



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Board of Veterans' Appeals Washington, DC

August x, 2020

XXXXXX
WI 53210

In reply, refer to:
014\JAS
File Number:
XXXXXXXXXX

Dear Mr./Ms. XXXXX:

You have elected an in-person video hearing with a Board of Veterans' Appeals' Veterans' Law Judge (VLJ). Due to the continued impacts of COVID-19 and the delayed re-opening of VBA's Regional Offices, ***the Board expects significant delays in scheduling video hearings.***

To avoid delays, **we highly encourage you to consider a virtual tele-hearing.**

What are Virtual Tele-Hearings? You can choose to have your virtual tele-hearing from *any* location, including at your home, similar to tele-health appointments. You will need a computer, tablet, or mobile device with a reliable internet connection, a camera, and a microphone (which most mobile phones have.) Family members and/or caregivers may assist you and your representative can join you in the virtual tele-hearing room. *The Board has immediate openings for virtual tele-hearings.*

The enclosed provides additional information on the Board's virtual tele-hearing program.

How do you change to a virtual tele-hearing?

We encourage you to contact your representative and advise them you would like to change.

If you choose to opt into Virtual hearing, please call 1-800-xxx-xxxx no later than September 30, 2020. If you choose to remain in the video hearing queue, no actions are required. **Be aware that remaining in the video hearing queue may cause delays of more than a year which will also delay your decision.**

If you no longer want a hearing, please send a written request to withdraw or cancel your hearing to the Board as soon as possible.

If you have any questions about your appeal, contact your representative (if you have one) or visit va.gov/decision-reviews/get-help. To check the status of your appeal, visit va.gov/claim-or-appeal-status/.

Sincerely,

Cheryl L. Mason
Chairman, Board of Veterans' Appeals