



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

February 6, 2015

JAMAR D LITTLE
7920 S MANISTEE
CHICAGO IL 60617

In reply, refer to:
328/AO
File Number: 360782144
Jamar Little

Dear Jamar Little:

We made a decision regarding your entitlement to VA benefits.

Your claim was processed under the fully developed claim program.

This letter tells you what we decided. It gives the evidence used and reasons for our decision. We have also included information about what to do if you disagree with our decision and who to contact if you have questions or need assistance.

What We Decided

We made the following decision(s) regarding your claimed issue(s):

Issue/Contention
tibia and fibula condition, right leg
Explanation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Service connection for tibia and fibula condition, right leg is denied since this condition neither occurred in nor was caused by service.

Issue/Contention
skin condition
Explanation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Service connection for skin condition is denied since this condition neither occurred in nor was caused by service.While your service treatment records reflect complaints, treatment, or a diagnosis similar to that claimed, the medical evidence supports the conclusion that a persistent disability was not present in service. The evidence does not show a current diagnosed disability.

File Number: 360782144

LITTLE, JAMAR D

Issue/Contention
right ankle condition
Explanation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Service connection for right ankle condition is denied since this condition neither occurred in nor was caused by service.• Your service treatment records do not contain complaints, treatment, or diagnosis for this condition. The evidence does not show a current diagnosed disability.

Issue/Contention
left ankle condition
Explanation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Service connection for left ankle condition is denied since this condition neither occurred in nor was caused by service.• While your service treatment records reflect complaints, treatment, or a diagnosis similar to that claimed, the medical evidence supports the conclusion that a persistent disability was not present in service. The evidence does not show a current diagnosed disability.

Issue/Contention
stomach ulcer
Explanation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Service connection for stomach ulcer is denied since this condition neither occurred in nor was caused by service.

Are You Entitled to Additional Benefits?

Did you know you may be eligible for a VA guaranteed mortgage with no down payment (potentially exempt from a funding fee depending on your rating)? For more information about this benefit, or to determine and print your Loan Guaranty Certificate of Eligibility, please visit the eBenefits website at <http://www.ebenefits.va.gov>.

If you served overseas in support of a combat operation you may be eligible for mental health counseling at no cost to you at the Veteran's Resource Center. For more information on this benefit please visit <https://www.myhealth.va.gov/mhv-portal-web/>.

The VA provides Blind Rehabilitation services to eligible blind, low vision, or visually impaired Veterans to help them regain their independence and quality of life. The veteran's blindness, low vision, or vision impairment does NOT have to be related or caused by military service. If you need help with your vision loss, please contact your nearest Visual Impairment Services

File Number: 360782144
LITTLE, JAMAR D

Team Coordinator (VIST) at the eye clinic at your nearest VA Medical Center. For more information, go to www.va.gov/blindrehab/.

Evidence Considered

In making our decision, we considered:

- DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, from June 23, 2006 through December 1, 2006
- Service Treatment Records covering active duty period from June 23, 2006 through December 1, 2006
- Service Personnel Records covering active duty period from June 23, 2006 through December 1, 2006
- VA Form 21-526EZ Veteran's Fully Developed Claim, received July 8, 2014

What You Should Do If You Disagree With Our Decision

If you do not agree with our decision, please download and complete VA Form 21-0958, *Notice of Disagreement*. You can download the form at <http://www.va.gov/vaforms> or you can call us at 1-800-827-1000. You have *one year from the date of this letter to appeal the decision*. The enclosed VA Form 4107, *"Your Rights to Appeal Our Decision,"* explains your right to appeal.

What is eBenefits?

eBenefits provides electronic resources in a self-service environment to Servicemembers, Veterans, and their families. Use of these resources often helps us serve you faster! Through the eBenefits website you can:

- Submit claims for benefits and/or upload documents directly to the VA
- Request to add or change your dependents
- Update your contact and direct deposit information and view payment history
- Request a Veterans Service Officer to represent you
- Track the status of your claim or appeal
- Obtain verification of military service, civil service preference, or VA benefits
- And much more!

Enrolling in eBenefits is easy. Just visit www.eBenefits.va.gov for more information. If you submit a claim in the future, consider filing through eBenefits. Filing electronically, especially if you participate in our fully developed claim program, may result in a faster decision than if you submit your claim through the mail.

If You Have Questions or Need Assistance

If you have any questions or need assistance with this claim, you may contact us by telephone, e-mail, or letter.

File Number: 360782144

LITTLE, JAMAR D

If you	Here is what to do.
Telephone	Call us at 1-800-827-1000. If you use a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD), the Federal number is 711.
Use the Internet	Send electronic inquiries through the Internet at https://iris.va.gov .
Write	VA now uses a centralized mail system. For all written communications, put your full name and VA file number on the letter. Please mail or fax all written correspondence to the appropriate address listed on the attached <i>Where to Send Your Written Correspondence</i> chart, below.

In all cases, be sure to refer to your VA file number 360782144.

If you are looking for general information about benefits and eligibility, you should visit our web site at <http://www.va.gov>, or search the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) at <http://iris.va.gov>.

We have no record of you appointing a service organization or representative to assist you with your claim. You can contact us for a listing of the recognized Veterans' Service Organizations and/or representatives. Veterans' Service Organizations, which are recognized or approved to provide services to the Veteran community, can also help you with any questions.

Thank you for your service,

Regional Office Director

Enclosure(s): VA Form 4107
 Where to Send Your Written Correspondence

After careful and compassionate consideration, a decision has been reached on your claim. If we were not able to grant some or all of the VA benefits you asked for, this form will explain what you can do if you disagree with our decision. If you do not agree with our decision, you may:

- appeal to the Board of Veterans' Appeals (the Board) by telling us you disagree with our decision
- give us evidence we do not already have that may lead us to change our decision

This form will tell you how to appeal to the Board and how to send us more evidence. You can do either one or both of these things.

NOTE: *Please direct all new evidence to the address at the top of our letter. Do not send evidence directly to the Board until you receive written notice from the Board that they received your appeal.*

WHAT IS AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD OF VETERANS' APPEALS?

An appeal is your formal request that the Board review the evidence in your VA file and review the law that applies to your appeal. The Board can either agree with our decision or change it. The Board can also send your file back to us for more processing before the Board makes its decision.

HOW CAN I APPEAL THE DECISION?

How do I start my appeal? To begin your appeal, write us a letter telling us you disagree with our decision. This letter is called your "Notice of Disagreement." If we denied more than one claim for a benefit (for example, if you claimed compensation for three disabilities and we denied two of them), please tell us in your letter which claims you are appealing. ***Send your Notice of Disagreement to the address at the top of our letter.***

What happens after VA receives my Notice of Disagreement? We will either grant your claim or send you a Statement of the Case. A Statement of the Case describes the facts, laws, regulations, and reasons that we used to make our decision. We will also send you a VA Form 9, "Appeal to Board of Veterans' Appeals," with the Statement of the Case. You must complete this VA Form 9 and return it to us if you want to continue your appeal.

How long do I have to start my appeal? You have one year to appeal our decision. ***Your*** letter saying that you disagree with our decision must be postmarked (or received by us) within one year from the date of ***our*** letter denying you the benefit. In most cases, you cannot appeal a decision after this one-year period has ended.

What happens if I do not start my appeal on time? If you do not start your appeal on time, our decision will become final. Once our decision is final, you cannot get the VA benefit we denied unless you either:

- show that we were clearly wrong to deny the benefit ***or***
- send us new evidence that relates to the reason we denied your claim

Can I get a hearing with the Board? Yes. If you decide to appeal, the Board will give you a hearing if you want one. The VA Form 9 we will send you with the Statement of the Case has complete information about the kinds of hearings the Board offers and convenient check boxes for requesting a Board hearing. The Board does not require you to have a hearing. It is your choice.

Where can I find out more about appealing to the Board?

- You can find a "plain language" booklet called "How Do I Appeal," on the Internet at: http://www.bva.va.gov/How_Do_I_Appeal.asp. The booklet also may be requested by writing to: Mail Processing Section (014), Board of Veterans' Appeals, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420.
- You can find the formal rules for appealing to the Board in the Board's Rules of Practice at title 38, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20. You can find the complete Code of Federal Regulations on the Internet at: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/index.html>. A printed copy of the Code of Federal Regulations may be available at your local law library.

Can I get someone to help me with my appeal to the Board? Yes. You can have a veterans' service organization representative, an attorney-at-law, or an "agent" help you with your appeal. But you are not required to have someone represent you. It is your choice.

- Representatives who work for accredited veterans' service organizations know how to prepare and present claims and will represent you. You can find a listing of these organizations on the Internet at: <http://www.va.gov/vso>.
- A private attorney or an "agent" can also represent you. If applicable, your local bar association may be able to refer you to an attorney with experience in veterans' law. VA only recognizes attorneys who are licensed to practice in the United States or in one of its territories or possessions. An agent is a person who is not a lawyer, but who VA recognizes as being knowledgeable about veterans' law. Contact us if you would like to know if there is a VA accredited agent in your area.

Do I have to pay someone to help me with my appeal to the Board? It depends on who helps you. The following explains the differences.

- Veterans' service organizations will represent you for free.
- Attorneys or agents can charge you for helping you under some circumstances. Paying their fees for helping you with your appeal to the Board is your responsibility. If you do hire an attorney or agent to represent you, one of you must send a copy of any fee agreement to the following address within 30 days from the date the agreement is executed: Office of the General Counsel (022D), 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. *See* 38 C.F.R. 14.636(g). If the fee agreement provides for the direct payment of fees out of past-due benefits, a copy of the agreement must also be filed with us at the address at the top of our letter. *See* 38 C.F.R. 14.636(h)(4).

CAN I GIVE VA ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE?

Yes. You can send us more evidence to support a claim whether or not you appeal to the Board. **If you want to appeal, though, do not forget the one-year time limit!**

If you have more evidence to support a claim, it is in your best interest to give us that evidence as soon as you can. We will consider your evidence and let you know whether it changes our decision. Please keep in mind that we can only consider new evidence that: (1) we have not already seen and (2) relates to your claim. You may give us this evidence either in writing or at a personal hearing.

In writing. To support your claim, you may send documents and written statements to us at the address on the top of our letter. Tell us in a letter how these documents and statements should change our earlier decision.

At a personal hearing. You may request a local hearing with us at any time. This hearing is separate from any Board hearing you might ask for later if you appeal. We do not require you to have one. It is your choice. At this hearing, you may speak, bring witnesses to speak on your behalf, and hand us written evidence. If you want a hearing, send us a letter asking for a hearing. Use the address at the top of our letter. We will then:

- arrange a time and place for the hearing
- provide a room for the hearing
- assign someone to hear your evidence
- make a written record of the hearing

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I GIVE VA EVIDENCE?

We will review the record of the hearing and other new evidence, together with the evidence we already have. We will then decide if we can grant your claim. If we cannot grant your claim and you appeal, we will send the new evidence and the record of any local hearing to the Board.

Where to Send Your Written Correspondence		
Location of Residence		Address to Send all Written Correspondence
Alabama Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia Florida Georgia Indiana Kentucky Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Mississippi New Hampshire New Jersey New York North Carolina Ohio Pennsylvania	Rhode Island South Carolina Tennessee Vermont Virginia West Virginia Puerto Rico Europe Asia Australia Africa Canada Palau Marshall Islands The U.S. Virgin Islands Federated States of Micronesia	Department Of Veterans Affairs Evidence Intake Center PO BOX 4444 Newnan, GA 30271-0020 Or fax your information to: Toll Free: 844-531-7818 DID: 248-524-4260
Alaska Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Louisiana Hawaii Idaho Illinois Iowa Kansas Oklahoma Oregon Minnesota Missouri Montana Nebraska Nevada	New Mexico North Dakota South Dakota Texas Utah Washington Wisconsin Wyoming Mexico Central America South America The Caribbean The Philippines American Samoa Guam Northern Mariana Islands	Department Of Veterans Affairs Evidence Intake Center PO BOX 4444 Janesville WI 53547-4444 Or fax your information to: Toll Free: 844-822-5246 DID: 608-373-6690

