

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS Veterans Health Administration Washington DC 20420

FIRST NAME LAST NAME ADDRESS 1 ADDRESS 2 CITY, STATE, ZIP

[Dear NAME OF CIVILIAN]:

You are invited to participate in the *Comparative Health Assessment Interview* (CHAI) Study, which is being conducted for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) by an independent research firm, Abt Associates, Inc.

The purpose of the CHAI Study is to understand how your health and well-being compares to the health and well-being of military Veterans. Your participation is critically important; your experiences are unique and you cannot be replaced by another person. Your name was randomly selected to represent thousands of others like yourself who considered military service when you did, but decided not to join the military. Please accept the enclosed \$1 token to thank you for reading this letter.

To participate in the study, please go to the CHAI Survey Website [CHAI SURVEY PARTICIPANT URL], sign in with your unique ID number [YOURID] and complete the survey questions.

Your participation is **voluntary**. After you complete the survey, you will **receive \$50** to compensate you for your time. You may also be eligible for the CHAI Child Study to be conducted later this year. The CHAI Child Study provides an **additional \$100** compensation.

The survey will take about 50 minutes to complete. You can skip any question you prefer not to answer and go to the next question. All of your answers will be kept **private** and **confidential**. Your individual answers will not be linked with your name or other identifying information in any reports of the survey data. If you choose not to participate in the study, please return the postage-paid postcard included with this letter.

For more information, please see the enclosed brochures, visit the CHAI Study Website at [CHAI STUDY URL], contact the CHAI Study [CHAI STUDY EMAIL] or call [CHAI STUDY PHONE NUMBER].

Thank you for your time and your contribution to this important research.

Sincerely,

[SIGNATURE]

Aaron Schneiderman, PhD, MPH, RN Principal Investigator Veterans Health Administration <u>Aaron.Schneiderman@va.gov</u> 202-266-4695 or 1-800-211-5272