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Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposals, Submissions, and Approvals: Veteran/Beneficiary

Claim for Reimbursement of Travel Expenses; OMB No. 0798

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Comment on ICR-Veteran/Beneficiary Claim for Reimbursement of Travel Expenses; Newell, Jack

Submitter Information

Name: Jack Newell

Address:

York, SC, 29745

Email: happypappy@comporium.net

Phone: 803 280 7345

General Comment

My name is Jack Lee Newell Jr. and my last four of my Social Security number is: 5008. I have been trying everything the VA has told me to do to get my Travel Pay. In way more times I have not getting my Travel Pay then I have gotten it. In the past, I use to go to a pay window, turned in the appointment dates, time and travel address and any other info the VA asked for to get my travel pay. Then it went to a kiosk when I put in the info asked for and sometime I would get some of my Travel Pay. Next the information needed went into a computer at my home on my computer and sometimes I would get my Travel Pay but most of the time I got nothing. Now the computer info will not even take my Travel Pay and keeps kicking me out of the computer because of the VA. Two years ago, I had to get the Vets Advocates and a U.S. Congressman involved to try and get them to get my Travel Pay. I got about 1/3 of the Travel Pay due me. Last year, I had about \$900.00 due me or there about and got almost none of it. I also talked and texted the head of the travel pay dept. as well as going to the Columbia S.C. vet hospital to talk to the Vets Advocates in person and the travel pay office and the head of the Travel Pay office.

I have spent my time and my gas money to go to the Columbia, S.C Vets hospital to turn in my Travel Pay info to the tune of 185 miles round trip many times. Then came the Community Care and I still have to get a paper showing I was at a Community Care appointment on time and at my appointment dates and then go back to the Vets hospital to bring the copy of that paper and fill out the Travel Pay form, again having to drive 185 miles round trip just to give the Travel pay office the Docs. they ask for. More times than not I still don't get all of my Travel pay. I know for a fact that many other Vets has had to do the same thing.

I have done everything the VA has ask of me and I still have not gotten any where near the Travel Pay

owed me. I personally think that the VA will do everything in their power to NOT pay the Vets the money owed or the people in charge of the Travel Pay has no clue as to what they are doing. I realize that there are many thousands of Vet's having trouble just like me. I know that thousands of Vet's have to try and get their Travel Pay and that the people over the Travel Pay offices around the U.S. are overwhelmed with the amount of the Vet's that are bogging the system trying to get paid. If you are not going to pay the Vet's their Travel Pay, quit lying to them and just tell them they are not going to get paid. Either that or hire more people needed and train them so that they have a lucid thought as to what their job is.

The U.S. Government hired 87,000 IRS agents, gave them fire arms and taught them how to use them. If the Government can do that, surely to God, then could hire a few thousand people to pay the Vets their Travel Pay. I am not a person that takes NO for an answer. The U.S. Navy taught me how to be a warrior and I'm going to war with the VA until I have one foot in the grave. I may come back as a ghost and keep warring with them until they get it right. I didn't mean to write a book on the subject but by God the Vet's of this country need to be better taken good care of. I've said my rant and I hope someone with compassion will do something about all the bull crap.