



## IT'S BASEBALL SEASON

### A BASEBALL WORD SEARCH

D G N R J D Y Q K B D T T M R R Y U J X T  
 E R W T L W T M B D O E D U A V M R B X M  
 D O T L L D Y W P B U D L I O P K X T Q Q  
 A U X L T L B D G Y B G N B I E E N B P K  
 O N J M X L T D Q R L D R R U V K Z J P G  
 L D Y Y Z S W T Y M E Z E A O O D I O J G  
 S E K P J Y U W G L P B D L N P D T R L N  
 E R G V K P Y I A Q L J G Q T D S K G T D  
 S M N T T V J Y C D A T O H C T S M L I S  
 A T K N N J T E R I Y M I U R L H L A A Z  
 B A S E B A L L N P D R T O T O E M A B B  
 S B J R F P A L O X D E H T M F O A A M L  
 L P K O I E N P L B E S S E B N I S N B R  
 I M U R T X F J A A J L R Q D L E E R U M  
 D L T S Z L J S C X B U G R U S Y N L K P  
 E R B Z Y L E Y U Q N T B N L E R W R D Y  
 T N U B K L Y B R N R L S O I Y E X L G L  
 K R K B L R Y L V K M M A A K S T Z R B B  
 T Q N G A M W M E B Q D T M F Y J Q E R Z  
 J K M G W G L Z N J E B N L L V T K Q R J  
 J Q N J D Y D Z N D R B V T J X R P Y Z V

DOUBLE PLAY  
 GLOVE  
 BASEBALL  
 POP FLY  
 RAIN DELAY  
 THIRD BASE  
 HOME RUN  
 STEAL  
 SUICIDE SQUEEZE  
 BUNT  
 BAT  
 BALK  
 FASTBALL  
 CURVE  
 STRIKE OUT  
 GROUNDER  
 SLIDE  
 FOUL  
 WALK  
 CLEANUP  
 SINGLE  
 DOUBLE  
 TRIPLE  
 BASES LOADED  
 GRAND SLAM  
 SHORTSTOP  
 UMPIRE  
 DIAMOND  
 OUTFIELD

## Patience and persistence pays off big with the VA

In VA cases, patience and persistence pays off. Sometimes it pays off really well. We recently were able to establish that the VA had made a serious error in turning down our client's claims in the 1960's. He had gone into the service shortly after high school in 1961. He did not do well in the service and during his brief service, in 1962, he was diagnosed with "emotional instability reaction" and was given an administrative discharge.

He repeatedly tried to get VA benefits on his own for many years, starting in the 1960's. Finally, in 2008 he came to Jackson & MacNichol. It took several appeals to the Board and to the Court but we obtained 100 percent benefits on his current claim with several years of back benefits. We also filed a claim to reopen his previous denials under a special provision in VA law for reopening claims for Clear and Unmistakable Error. After multiple denials by the Board of Veterans Appeals, we won. Our client received a letter from the VA that included the following language:

### Summary of the Case:

In a Rating Decision dated August 21, 2018, benefits were awarded for the following issue(s): Entitlement to an earlier effective date for service connection of schizoaffective disorder and cognitive disorder, NOS is granted because a clear and unmistakable error was made; therefore, a 100 percent evaluation is assigned effective August 2, 1966. **The amount of past-due benefits, which is computed from the effective date of the award through the date of the decision, is \$693,676.17.**

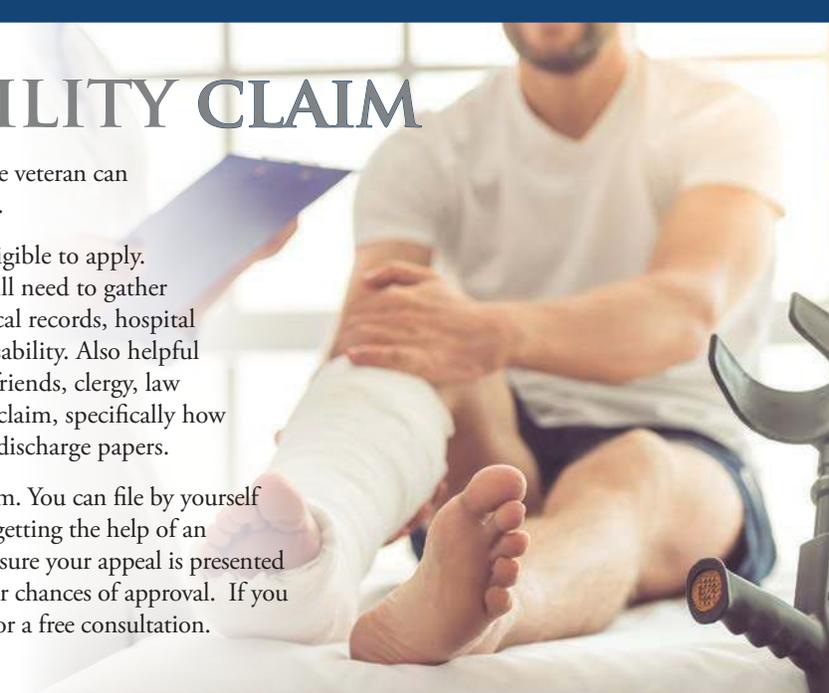


# How to file a VA DISABILITY CLAIM

The United States strives to take care of our disabled veterans. Any eligible veteran can make a claim through the Department of Veteran's Affairs for disability.

The first step in making a VA disability claim is to find out if you are eligible to apply. To do so, you can visit [www.VA.gov](http://www.VA.gov) or contact our office. Next, you will need to gather any evidence you'll need to file your claim. You will want any VA medical records, hospital records, and medical records from private doctors that relate to your disability. Also helpful in the claims process are supporting statements from family members, friends, clergy, law enforcement personnel, or those you served with that can explain your claim, specifically how and when your injury happened. The VA will also want to review your discharge papers.

Once all of the supporting evidence is gathered, it is time to file your claim. You can file by yourself but if your claim is denied or only partially granted you should consider getting the help of an accredited attorney. Having a professional on your side can help to make sure your appeal is presented in the most complete and thorough way possible, which will increase your chances of approval. If you would like to speak with us about your appeal, please contact our office for a free consultation.



**Jackson & MacNichol** **COMMUNITY CONNECTION**

## Our thanks to our veterans

*Please join us in honoring all members of the armed services on Armed Forces day on May 18, 2019 and in honoring those who have fallen in the service of our country on Memorial Day on May 27, 2019.*



VISIT US ONLINE AT  
[WWW.VETERANSBENEFITS.COM](http://WWW.VETERANSBENEFITS.COM)

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The information included in this newsletter is not intended as a substitute for professional legal advice. For your specific situation, please call the appropriate legal professional.

## Veterans' Law Q&A

*When one person has a question about Veterans' Law, there are probably many more people with the same question. That's why we print answers to common questions in our newsletter on a regular basis. If you have a general question about Veterans benefits, send it to us and you may see it in a future issue.*

**Q** What is a "blue water" sailor and why is it important?

**A** A "blue water" sailor is a navy veteran who served on ships off the coast of Vietnam during the Vietnam war. The "blue" designation is to distinguish those sailors from "brown" water sailors who were on small craft in the inland waterways of Vietnam. The distinction was important because the VA gives brown water sailors the presumption of exposure to Agent Orange, making them eligible for disability benefits for diabetes, ischemic heart disease, and many cancers. "Blue" water sailors have not had that presumption of exposure unless they could show they went ashore. However, the Federal Circuit has now changed the rules. Call us today if you were a "blue water" sailor whose benefits have been denied.

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