



# APPEAL TO BOARD OF VETERANS' APPEALS

**IMPORTANT:** Read the attached instructions before you fill out this form. VA also encourages you to get assistance from your representative in filling out this form.

**PULL FILE**

1. NAME OF VETERAN (Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial)	2. CLAIM FILE NO. (Include prefix)	3. INSURANCE FILE NO., OR LOAN NO.
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4. I AM THE:

VETERAN       VETERAN'S WIDOWER       VETERAN'S CHILD       VETERAN'S PARENT

OTHER (Specify)

5. TELEPHONE NUMBERS		6. MY ADDRESS IS: (Number & Street or Post Office Box, City, State & ZIP Code)
A. HOME (Include Area Code)	B. WORK (Include Area Code)	

7. IF I AM NOT THE VETERAN, MY NAME IS:  
(Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial)

8. HEARING

**IMPORTANT:** Read the information about this block in paragraph 6 of the attached instructions. This block is used to request a Board of Veterans' Appeals hearing. **DO NOT USE THIS FORM TO REQUEST A HEARING BEFORE A VA REGIONAL OFFICE HEARING OFFICER.**

Check one (and only one) of the following boxes:

A.  I DO NOT WANT A BVA HEARING.

B.  I WANT A BVA HEARING IN WASHINGTON, DC.

C.  I WANT A BVA HEARING AT A LOCAL VA OFFICE BEFORE A MEMBER, OR MEMBERS, OF THE BVA.  
(Not available at Washington, DC, or Baltimore, MD, Regional Offices.)

9. THESE ARE THE ISSUES I WANT TO APPEAL TO THE BVA: (Be sure to read the information about this block in paragraph 6 of the attached instructions.)

A.  I WANT TO APPEAL ALL OF THE ISSUES LISTED ON THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE AND ANY SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENTS OF THE CASE THAT MY LOCAL VA OFFICE SENT TO ME.

B.  I HAVE READ THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE AND ANY SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT OF THE CASE I RECEIVED. I AM ONLY APPEALING THESE ISSUES: (List below.)

RIGHT KNEE INJURY

10. HERE IS WHY I THINK THAT VA DECIDED MY CASE INCORRECTLY: (Be sure to read the information about this block in paragraph 6 of the attached instructions.)

My service medical records show my injury of my right knee service connected. My records show I have had problems with my knee since 1976. My right knee has effected my health, my job, and my activities.

(Continue on the back, or attach sheets of paper, if you need more space.)

11. SIGNATURE OF PERSON MAKING THIS APPEAL	12. DATE  3 Aug 04	13. SIGNATURE OF APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVE, IF ANY (Not required if signed by appellant. See paragraph 6 of the instructions.)	14. DATE
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## APPEAL HEARING OPTIONS

- I request a local hearing with a Montgomery VA Regional Office Decision Review Officer.
- I request a BVA hearing to be held by a BVA Board member visiting the Montgomery VA Regional Office.
- I request a video conference hearing before a BVA Board member via telephone/television hook-up at the Montgomery VA Regional Office.  
I hereby waive my right to an in-person hearing before a BVA Board member.
- I request a hearing before BVA in Washington, DC

### Hearings are Not Required

A hearing is not necessary for us to process your appeal. You may ask for a hearing if you feel you need the opportunity to present more evidence about your appeal. However, you may prefer to mail any evidence you want us to consider. If you do mail your evidence, we will evaluate it. If the evidence warrants, we can change our previous decision. If the evidence is presented at a hearing, a decision will be made after the hearing. Either way, the evidence will be placed in your record.

### Types of Hearings

There are four types of hearings available to you. 1) Local hearings before a Regional Office Decision Review Officer. 2) Hearings before a Member of BVA visiting the regional office, which you have requested; 3) Video conference hearings at this office with BVA; 4) Hearings in Washington, DC, before the BVA.

VA cannot reimburse you for any expenses you have for any of these hearings.

*Local Hearings by Regional Office Decision Review Officer* - These hearings are held in the regional office by a Decision Review Officer. It is not necessary to wait for the BVA Board member to visit the regional office, or to go to Washington, DC, for a BVA hearing. Also, after the hearing, the Decision Review Officer will evaluate the evidence you present and make a decision on your appeal without waiting to send the case to BVA. If you're not satisfied with the Decision Review Officer's decision, your appeal still goes to BVA. Even if you first have a local hearing, you can still have a BVA hearing.

*BVA "In-Person" Hearings* - These hearings are held by BVA at regional offices. Names are added to the waiting list in the order that requests are received. **Your request stays on the list until your hearing is scheduled, unless you ask for it to be withdrawn.** It may take more than a year before your name comes up for a BVA hearing. Your appeal will not be considered by BVA until after your hearing is held and a transcript of the results is added to your records.