



**NVLSP**  
NATIONAL VETERANS LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM

# LAWYERS SERVING WARRIORS® NEWSLETTER

VOL 1 • ISSUE 1 • APRIL 2018



- 04 WHAT WE DO
- 06 VICTORY LAP
- 12 THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY
- 13 THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEGAL REPRESENTATION



**NVLSP**  
NATIONAL VETERANS LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM

VOL. 1 ISSUE 1, APRIL 2018. A CELEBRATION OF PRO BONO PARTNERS OF THE LAWYERS SERVING WARRIORS®  
(LSW) PROJECT AT THE NATIONAL VETERANS LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM (NVLSP)

# 2 0 1 7 R E F L E C T I O N S

The National Veterans Legal Services Program (NVLSP) is introducing the Lawyers Serving Warriors Newsletter to recognize the pro bono partners who have contributed their time and effort to help service members and veterans. The newsletter expresses NVLSP's sincere appreciation for the legal work provided by attorneys nationwide to enable service members and veterans to obtain the benefits they deserve. This initial edition will highlight some of the victories obtained in 2017. The Lawyers Serving Warriors Newsletter will also thank attorney volunteers who accepted Lawyers Serving Warriors (LSW) cases and projects.

# What We Do

LSW ASSISTS SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS WITH APPLICATIONS FOR DISABILITY BENEFITS. BELOW ARE THE MOST COMMON TYPES OF CASES WE HANDLE.



Senior Staff Attorney David Sonenshine training attorneys at the National Law School Veterans Clinic Consortium Conference.

## **MILITARY MEDICAL RETIREMENT**

LSW pro bono volunteer attorneys represent both service members and veterans seeking a military medical retirement. Military medical retirement benefits include monthly tax-free military disability payment benefits, medical care through TRICARE for the veteran and his or her spouse for life, TRICARE for the veteran's children while they remain dependents, and a military retiree ID card that gives the veteran access to military bases and amenities.

While still on active duty, service members applying for a military medical retirement are provided a formal hearing during the Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES) process. Pro bono volunteer attorneys gather medical and lay evidence, prepare witnesses and present oral arguments. In addition, a 5 to 10 page brief is submitted.

Veterans who were improperly denied a military medical retirement during the IDES process can appeal by filing a brief at a military Board, such as the Board for Correction of Military Records. Pro bono volunteer attorneys review the evidence in the veteran's file and prepare a 12 to 15 page brief.

If unsuccessful, these cases may be appealed to federal court.

## **DISCHARGE UPGRADES**

LSW volunteer attorneys help veterans apply to upgrade their characterization of service from "Other Than Honorable" (OTH) to a more favorable characteriza-



Staff Attorney Bernadette Valdellon training attorneys at the National Law School Veterans Clinic Consortium Conference

tion such as Honorable or General (Under Honorable Conditions). The discharge upgrade may help veterans receive VA benefits and health care, improve employment opportunities, and restore reputation and self-esteem. The majority of the clients served through this project have Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injuries (TBI), or other mental health conditions that are related to military service. Pro bono volunteer attorneys submit a 12 to 15 page legal brief to a Board for Correction of Military Records or a Discharge Review Board. When applying to a Discharge Review Board, pro bono attorneys may advocate for the veteran at a personal appearance hearing.

### **PERSONALITY DISORDER DISCHARGES**

LSW pro bono attorneys assist veterans improperly separated based on an alleged personality or adjustment disorder. Administrative separations for personality or adjustment disorders are often wrongfully used by commanders to discharge service members, because the process is more expedient and has fewer protections for service members than the military disability evaluation system. Many service members administratively separated for a personality or adjustment disorder were improperly diagnosed, and in fact were suffering from a service-incurred mental disability, such as PTSD or TBI. These cases may involve a request for a discharge upgrade, an application for a military medical retirement or both.

### **COMBAT-RELATED SPECIAL COMPENSATION**

Medically retired veterans are eligible for an additional tax-free monthly benefit if their disabilities result from serving in combat. Pro bono volunteer attorneys assist veterans in completing the Combat-Related Special Compensation application form. LSW volunteer attorneys also submit a brief and additional evidence that demonstrates the veteran's disabilities satisfy the statutory definition of "combat-related."

### **MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA**

LSW pro bono attorneys represent veterans with claims for service-connection for PTSD or other mental conditions as a result of sexual trauma that occurred during military service. Volunteer attorneys submit a 7 to 10 page legal brief to the VA, asserting that the veteran's mental conditions are service-connected and should be compensated. When a veteran's condition is "service-connected," he or she receives a disability rating that corresponds with a tax-free monthly benefit check. Some Military Sexual Trauma cases may involve a personal appearance hearing.

### **APPEALS**

LSW pro bono attorneys file appellate briefs for veterans at the Board of Veterans' Appeals (BVA) and the US Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims (CAVC). At the BVA, volunteer attorneys write a 10 page legal brief and gather relevant medical and lay evidence in support of the veteran. Common issues include service connecting disabilities related to military service, earlier effective date for benefits, or higher disability ratings. If unsuccessful at the BVA, the cases proceed to the CAVC, at which briefs are usually 15 to 20 pages. Further appeal may be had to the Federal Circuit.

### **SYSTEMIC REFORM PROJECTS**

Systemic reform projects are an integral component of LSW pro bono partnerships. These projects include research memos, flyers, manuals, and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, as well as systemic litigation.

# Victory Lap

HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF HOW SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS WERE ASSISTED THROUGH THE DEDICATED WORK OF OUR PRO BONO PARTNERS. THESE VICTORIOUS DECISIONS WERE ISSUED IN 2017.

## MILITARY MEDICAL RETIREMENT

**Latham & Watkins** attorney **Sarah Nappi** filed a brief seeking a military medical retirement at the Physical Disability Board of Review on behalf of a veteran who served in the Army in Iraq. He experienced feelings of guilt for the death of a fellow soldier and had nightmares of his wartime experiences. He was diagnosed with PTSD, but the Department of Defense (DoD) gave him a very low rating of only 10%. The DoD gave him no rating at all for his low back pain and neck pain, denying him a military medical retirement. Convinced by Latham's advocacy, the Board increased the rating on the PTSD to 30%, awarded a 20% rating for chronic low back pain, and assigned a 10% rating to the neck condition, for a combined rating well above the 30% needed for a military medical retirement. With this award, the veteran will have access to high quality, free medical care for himself and his spouse for the rest of their lives.

**Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP** attorneys **Brian Otero**, **Sima Kazmir**, and **Kristen Madison** represented an Army combat veteran who deployed to Iraq in 2007. The veteran suffered from severe PTSD due to his exposure to many traumatic events in Iraq including fire fights and mortar attacks. The attorneys prepared a brief, gathered medical evidence, and assisted the



Senior Staff Attorney David Sonenshine and Equal Justice Works AmeriCorps Legal Fellow Jenna Goldberg training attorneys at the National Law School Veterans Clinic Consortium Conference

veteran in submitting an application to the Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR). The Board overturned previous decisions and granted the veteran a permanent disability retirement due to his PTSD, providing disability benefits and high quality, free medical care for the veteran, his spouse and their children until they reach the age of majority.

**Perkins Coie** attorney **Claire Brown** assisted a Navy Reservist, who survived military sexual trauma, in obtaining a permanent disability retirement for PTSD. After the Navy had proposed to revoke the veteran's temporary retirement, the veteran needed assistance

in preparing her case for a formal hearing before the Physical Evaluation Board. The firm helped the veteran in gathering medical evidence and other documents that would support the veteran's request for a permanent disability retirement. The firm also prepped the veteran and other witnesses for testimony during the hearing. The Board granted the veteran a permanent disability retirement, which secured disability compensation and health care for the veteran, her spouse, and three young children.

**Akin Gump** attorneys **Paul Butler** and **Mack Coleman** assisted a Navy Petty Officer who survived military sexual assault, which resulted in her suffering PTSD, Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), and gastrointestinal problems. She was very frightened to go to a hearing before the military to seek a military medical retirement. With the firm's advocacy, she was able to avoid a traumatizing hearing and still obtain a military medical retirement, with a 70 percent disability rating for her PTSD and a 90 percent disability rating overall, through a VA Ratings Reconsideration. The firm's advocacy directly increased the amount of benefits that the Navy Petty Officer will receive by over \$5,000 annually.

**Latham & Watkins** attorneys **Alan Avery**, **Cassius Sims** and **Drew Valentine** filed a brief in the Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES) process for a Navy electrician who had been awarded numerous good conduct medals, a Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, A Navy Arctic Service Medal, and a Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal. He suffered from fibromyalgia which resulted in "daily widespread pain" that did not abate with medication. The Department of Defense (DoD) had assigned him a rating of 20% for his fibromyalgia, below the needed 30% for a medical military retirement. The brief argued that the low rating was contrary to the evidence and the applicable law. DoD was persuaded to increase the rating, granting a military medical retirement which confers disability benefits and health care.



Senior Staff Attorney David Sonenshine and Staff Attorney Esther Leibfarth presenting a "Know Your Rights" training at Fort Belvoir

### **DISCHARGE UPGRADE/ PERSONALITY DISORDER**

**Morgan Lewis** attorneys **Asa Herald**, **Philip Sarid** and **Bryant Mendel** filed a brief seeking a discharge upgrade at the Board for Correction of Naval Records on behalf of a 70-year-old veteran who served in the Marine Corps in Vietnam. In service, he was diagnosed with a personality disorder, and he was discharged for misconduct with an Other than Honorable discharge. Subsequently, he was diagnosed with PTSD. The Board held that the PTSD existed at the time of his misconduct and outweighed the severity of the misconduct. The veteran was awarded a discharge upgrade, which makes him eligible for VA disability compensation and other VA benefits.

### **DISCHARGE UPGRADE/LGBTQ**

**DLA Piper** attorney **Cole Schlabach** filed a brief seeking a discharge upgrade at the Army Board for Correction of Military Records on behalf of a woman who served in the Army as a Multichannel Communications Equipment Operator from 1981 to 1985, stationed in Germany, Texas, and Georgia. She attained the rank of sergeant and was awarded multiple Army Achievement Medals, a Good Conduct Medal, and a Sharpshooter badge. After a report that she kissed a female soldier, she was demoted

---

and discharged “because of homosexuality” under Other Than Honorable Conditions. The Board recognized that the laws regarding discharge for homosexuality have changed and concluded that current standards should be “applied to previously-separated Soldiers as a matter of equity.” The veteran received a discharge upgrade to an honorable discharge, a change in the reason for separation to Secretarial Authority, and a reinstatement to her rank as sergeant.

### **MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA**

**Dechert** attorneys **Lily North** and **Tom Vartanian** filed a brief at the Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Office and the Board of Veterans’ Appeals seeking service connection for PTSD with Major Depressive Disorder for a veteran who was subjected to military sexual trauma by a superior officer while stationed in Germany from 1977 to 1979. The VA noted that new and material evidence submitted with the brief “confirms” that her PTSD resulted from the stress of the military sexual trauma and therefore “service connection is now warranted.” Convinced by the brief, the VA rated her PTSD at 70%. After Dechert filed a supplemental brief, the rating was increased to 100%. She will receive a monthly disability compensation benefit of over \$3,000 going forward, with a back award to 2009, when she initially filed her claim.

**Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP** attorneys **Timothy Biller** and **Christopher Alderman** filed a brief at the Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Office seeking service connection for PTSD for a veteran who was subjected to military sexual trauma by a fellow soldier while on a training exercise in Canada in 1990. The veteran had previously been denied service connection in 2014 on the grounds that his record was not consistent with that of a survivor of MST. Convinced by the firm’s brief, the VA rated his PTSD at 50%. The veteran will receive approximately \$1,000 more per month in monthly disability compensation benefits going forward, with a back award to 2014.

### **COMBAT-RELATED SPECIAL COMPENSATION (CRSC)**

**DLA Piper** attorney **Saori Kaji** assisted a combat Veteran in applying for CRSC. The veteran served in the Army as an Infantryman, and was deployed to Afghanistan. Following his deployment to Afghanistan, the veteran was medically retired from the Army due to his PTSD and residuals of TBI including a cognitive disorder. Following the submission of an application and brief, the veteran was awarded CRSC for PTSD, migraines, hearing loss, and a cognitive disorder, which were all caused by his service in Afghanistan.

A team of volunteers from **Merck & Co., Inc.** successfully assisted a client to obtain a significant Combat Related Special Compensation award – a lump sum of \$56,000 and an additional \$765/month going forward. Merck attorney **David King**, together with **Dawn Lundin** and **Annette Kaminski** from Merck’s Quality organization, provided assistance to an Army National Guard veteran in connection with combat-related physical and psychological injuries sustained while on convoy duty between Kuwait and Baghdad in 2003 and 2004. The application was challenging due to prior determinations by the VA that some of the client’s injuries were not service related. The volunteer Merck team had to work with the veteran to locate additional supporting documentation and draft a persuasive argument to overcome the prior determinations.

**Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP** attorney **Charles Harris** appealed a denial of CRSC to the Court of Federal Claims for a Gulf War veteran who was decorated with several awards, including the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Kuwait Liberation Medal. The Court remanded the case to the Army, which then agreed that the veteran had numerous combat-related disabilities, including loss of his left foot, problems with his knee, ankle and back, PTSD, and post-traumatic headaches. The veteran was awarded \$383/month in prospective CRSC benefits and a retroactive award of approximately \$41,000.





Director of Pro Bono Rochelle Bobroff and Senior Staff Attorney David Sonenshine presenting a “Know Your Rights” training at Walter Reed

### THE BOARD OF VETERANS’ APPEALS (BVA)

**Faegre** attorneys **David Stark** and **Kate Middleton** represented a veteran who served in the Air Force during the Vietnam War era and was exposed to aircraft that had Agent Orange contamination. In 2011, he filed a claim for service connection for diabetes and cancer. In June 2015, a new regulation instituted a presumption of service connection for individuals who served on aircraft that sprayed Agent Orange during the Vietnam War. However, the VA refused to make the new regulation retroactive, and as a result, veterans were not able to get benefits for the period prior to the regulation based on the presumption. The firm wrote a brief arguing that the veteran met the criteria for exposure to a toxin as an injury, qualifying for service connection back to 2011. The Board agreed, resulting in additional benefits of approximately \$170,000.

**Morgan Lewis** attorneys **Carol Field** and **Ann Stewart** represented a Gulf War veteran suffering from service-connected anxiety, submitting new evidence and arguments demonstrating the severity of the veteran’s disability. The firm’s brief convinced the Board that the anxiety resulted in total occupational and social impairment, for a 100% rating. With further advocacy, the attorneys succeeded in obtaining an increased rating for his service-connected right femur disability. He has

received approximately \$272,000 in a back award and an increase in future benefits of approximately \$3,200 per month.

Attorneys **Ting-Ting Kao** (**White & Case**) and **Charles Broll** (**Nestle**) represented a Navy veteran who injured his knee in 1986 during physical training while serving on active duty. In 2007, he slipped on ice and fell, requiring surgery on the service-connected knee. The veteran sought temporary total disability for at least one month of convalescence. The attorneys’ brief demonstrated that the evidence and law supported a finding of temporary total disability, and the BVA agreed, granting the benefits.

**Orrick** attorney **Rabi David** represented an Army veteran who suffered from PTSD from his service in Korea. An earlier Board decision had assigned the veteran only a 50% rating for PTSD. The brief pointed out the legal errors in the prior decision and marshalled the substantial evidence supporting a rating of 70%. In its new decision, the Board was persuaded to increase the PTSD rating to 70%. With this higher rating as well as his other service-connected disabilities, he met the criteria for a total disability rating based on individual unemployability due to service-connected disability. The veteran received a retroactive check of \$109,792.24.

**Cozen** attorneys **Robert Bowman** and **Robert Lee** assisted a 70-year-old Marine Corps veteran who served in the Vietnam War. While he had been assigned a 70% PTSD rating with major depressive disorder, he was denied a total disability rating based on unemployability due to service-connected disabilities. New evidence was submitted regarding the veteran’s educational and occupational history. The brief explained how all the evidence in the file met the criteria. The Board agreed that the evidence regarding occupational history supported a finding in favor of the veteran. He received a retroactive award of \$184,849.16, and an extra \$1,576.84 per month prospectively.



Staff Attorney Esther Leibfarth and Senior Staff Attorney David Sonenshine training Latham and Watkins attorneys

**Step toe & Johnson** attorneys **Dane Jacques** and **Bibek Pandey** represented a Vietnam War Army Veteran, who was service-connected for PTSD. The attorneys argued that his headaches were due to his PTSD and therefore should be found to be service connected. Their brief presented numerous studies demonstrating that PTSD causes headaches. The Board weighed conflicting medical opinions regarding whether the veteran's headaches were caused by his PTSD and then concluded that reasonable doubt should be resolved in favor of the Veteran. The Board held that the headaches were service-connected as secondary to the PTSD. The veteran received a retroactive check of \$9,799.38 and will now receive an extra \$105.61 per month.

### **APPEALS AT THE COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS (CAVC)**

**Covington** attorneys **Benjamin Block** and **Weiss Nusraty** represented a Marine Corps veteran suffering from PTSD. He had been assessed a rating of 50% for his PTSD. The brief explained that the BVA inadequately considered the evidence. The Court agreed that the Board's conclusions were contrary to the evidence and that the Board failed to comply with the regulations for evaluating the evidence. The Court awarded the veteran a 70% rating for his PTSD.

**Kirkland** attorneys **Akshay Deoras** and **Kyle Calhoun** assisted an Army veteran who served in Vietnam and was presumed to have been exposed to Agent Orange. He was service connected for several conditions, including PTSD. He suffered a stroke approximately 40 years later, but a VA doctor concluded it was less likely than not related to his Agent Orange exposure and PTSD. The brief argued that the BVA had failed to provide an adequate statement or reasons for its decision, improperly dismissing the veteran's claim as based on "his own lay opinion." The brief noted that the veteran's appeal was based on medical examinations and "voluminous scientific studies evidencing possible connections" between his PTSD, Agent Orange exposure and the resultant stroke. The Court agreed that the Board failed to provide an adequate statement of its reasons and remanded the case for further consideration.

**Sidley Austin** attorneys **Erik Carlson** and **Ellen Robbins** represented an Army veteran who served in Vietnam and was awarded the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and the Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Stars. As a veteran, he suffered from depression. A VA medical examination in July 2013 stated that the veteran did not have depression, but his treatment records diagnosed him with "chronic depression." A subsequent VA examination in December 2014 found that he suffered from depression. The BVA found that the July 2013 exam had "greater probative weight" than the other evidence and denied his claim. The brief argued that the Board's decision failed to provide an adequate statement of reasons when discounting the favorable medical evidence. The Court agreed and remanded the case for the Board to issue a new decision. The Court further instructed the BVA to address whether an additional medical opinion would be warranted due to the conflicting evidence.

**WilmerHale** attorneys **Daniel Halston** and **David Rollins-Boyd** assisted a Vietnam era veteran who

---

served in both the Air Force and Marine Corps. During his service, the veteran injured his back. His back problems worsened over time, and he had five back surgeries. The fifth surgery in January 2010 left him with severe low back pain, and his treatment notes indicate he was prevented from engaging in usual daily activities. He filed a claim for temporary total disability due to convalescence for the period following the fifth surgery. The BVA denied the claim, reasoning that he was not instructed to stay in bed or in his home. The firm's CAVC brief argued that the BVA's statement of reasons was inadequate. Following the submission of the brief, the VA agreed to remand the case, vacating the prior decision on the grounds that it contained an inadequate statement of reasons. All agreed that the BVA applied an incorrect standard, focusing on confinement to the bed or home. The Joint Motion for Remand instructed the BVA to determine whether at least one month was needed for the veteran to recover from the surgery and regain a healthy or normal state.

#### **EQUAL JUSTICE WORKS APPEALS DELAY WRIT PROJECT**

**Covington** attorneys **Jason Workmaster** and **Kevin Barnett**, assisted by **Northrop Grumman** attorney **Jeff Robb**, filed a petition for extraordinary relief for a Post 9/11 Navy veteran. As she was being discharged in September 2011, the veteran filed claims for several disabilities. The VA denied her claims, and she began the process of appealing the VA's decision in September 2012. By December 2013, she had done everything required of her for her appeal to be reviewed by the Board of Veterans' Appeals, but after four years the VA had taken no action. Shortly after her pro bono attorneys filed the petition with the CAVC to compel the VA to certify a veteran's appeal so that her appeal could be heard by the Board of Veterans' Appeals, the VA certified her appeal and her claim is ready for review by the Board of Veterans' Appeals. If her claims are granted by the VA, she will be entitled to monthly compensation and no-cost medical treatment for her disabilities.

**Covington** attorneys **Patrick Stanton** and **Susan Cassidy**, assisted by **Northrop Grumman** attorney **Dianne Coombs**, filed a petition for extraordinary relief for an order from the CAVC requiring the VA to certify the veteran's appeal so that it could be reviewed by the Board of Veterans' Appeals. On June 28, 2013, the veteran filed a claim for service connection of three disabilities: hemorrhoids, chronic sinusitis, and allergic rhinitis. The VA denied his claim in February 2014, and the veteran began the appeals process shortly thereafter. The veteran perfected his appeal, after several procedural steps, on September 23, 2014. On June 30, 2017, after almost three years of waiting, the VA had still taken no action until his pro bono attorneys filed a petition at the U.S. CAVC to compel the VA to certify his appeal so that it could be heard by the Board of Veterans' Appeals. Less than two weeks later, on July 10, 2017 and before the CAVC could respond to the petition, the VA certified the veteran's appeal and it is now under review at the BVA. If the VA grants his claim, he could be entitled to hundreds of dollars per month in disability payments.

**Covington** attorneys **Einar Stole** and **Ian Brekke**, assisted by **Northrop Grumman** attorney **Kate Connelly**, filed a petition for extraordinary relief for a Vietnam veteran suffering from a lung mass condition and degenerative joint disease of the lumbar spine, for which he filed a VA disability claim in March 2012. His claim was denied by the VA in September 2013, and he began the process of appealing the VA's decision in October 2013. The VA failed to take any action on his claim from May 2014 until his pro bono attorneys filed the petition at the CAVC to compel the VA to certify his appeal so that it could be heard by the Board of Veterans' Appeals. The VA has since certified his appeal and now it is ready for review. If the VA grants his claim, he could be entitled up to \$2,000 per month in tax-free compensation in addition to no cost health care.

# Thank You

NVLSP EXPRESSES DEEP APPRECIATION FOR THE CONTRIBUTIONS THAT ENABLE US TO SERVE WARRIORS. YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT MAKES IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO ASSIST WOUNDED SERVICE MEMBERS, DISABLED VETERANS, LGBTQ VETERANS, AND SURVIVORS OF MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA. WE ARE TRULY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR GENEROSITY THROUGHOUT ALL OF 2017. WE LIST BELOW SPONSORSHIP OF THE NVLSP ANNUAL EVENT.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

### **DIAMOND SPONSORS**

(\$50,000+)  
WilmerHale

### **PLATINUM SPONSORS**

(\$30,000 TO \$49,999)  
Covington & Burling  
Merck  
Morgan Lewis

### **GOLD SPONSORS**

(\$15,000 TO \$29,999)  
DLA Piper  
Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP  
Kirkland & Ellis  
Latham & Watkins  
Reed Smith  
Sidley Austin

### **SILVER SPONSORS**

(\$10,000 TO 14,999)  
HP Inc.  
Verizon

### **BRONZE SPONSORS**

(\$5,000 TO \$9,999)  
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP  
Cozen O'Connor  
Dechert  
HP Enterprise  
Intel Corp.  
Katten Muchin Rosenman  
Orrick  
Perkins Coie

### **COPPER SPONSORS**

(\$2,500 TO \$4,999)  
Buckley Sandler  
Crowell & Moring  
Drinker Biddle  
Faegre Baker Daniels  
Paul Hastings  
Step toe & Johnson  
White & Case  
Winston & Strawn

### **DONOR**

(\$1,000 TO \$2,499)  
Ballard Spahr  
Microsoft  
Nixon Peabody

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEGAL REPRESENTATION

NVLSP EXTENDS OUR HEARTFELT APPRECIATION TO ALL THE FIRMS WHO HAVE ACCEPTED CASES AND PROJECTS IN 2017. LSW HANDLED OVER 470 MATTERS IN 2017, WHICH WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT PRO BONO SUPPORT. BELOW WE LIST THE NAMES OF ATTORNEYS WHO ACCEPTED MATTERS IN 2017 BY CASE TYPES AND PROVIDE A SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK DONE BY PARTNERING FIRMS.

### KIRKLAND & ELLIS

59 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contact: Julie LaEace*

Kirkland is one of LSW's leading partners for cases at the US Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. Kirkland's DC attorneys joined LSW at a clinic at Fort Belvoir, advising 30 service members going through the Integrated Disability Evaluation System process. In addition, Kirkland is drafting a manual for LSW to guide pro bono attorneys handling Military Sexual Trauma cases.

#### *Appeals*

Eliot Adelson  
Patrick Arnett  
Chris Bartolomucci  
Hannah Bedard  
Benjamin Behrendt  
Jacob Boyars  
Kyle Calhoun  
Alexandra Caritis  
Kevin Cassidy  
Yungmoon Chang  
Akshay Deoras  
James Dolphin  
Matthew Downer  
Leah Eubanks  
Alan Fu  
Brian Gold  
Paul Hendrickson

Yi-Chin Ho  
Stephen Iacovo  
Erin Johnston  
Helena Kiepura  
David Klein  
Mark Kovner  
Emily Kustina  
Rui Li  
Jennifer Liu  
Guy Macarol  
Nathan Mammen  
Sean McEldowney  
Emily Merki  
Chris Mizzo  
Craig Murray  
Jeff O'Connor  
Patrick Philbin  
Jenny Pierce  
Craig Primis  
Christine Rea  
Tiffany Rowe  
Barrett Schitka  
Leslie Schmidt  
Jessica Schultz  
Alexandra Schwarzman  
Luke Smith  
Paul Tanaka  
Tommy Tobin  
Jon-Michael Wheat

#### *Military Sexual Trauma*

Carolyn Aiken  
Katherine Bryan  
Mahalia Burford  
Michael Chung

Sarah Forney  
Anthony Gin  
Stefanie Gitler  
Lesley Hamilton  
Chris Keegan  
Jayeeta Kundu  
Rui Li  
Michael Mahoney  
Anna Mathai  
Kelli Mulder  
Amy Peters  
Bryan Stephany  
Adam Teitcher  
Michelle Williamson

#### *Clinics*

Toby Chun  
Subash Iyer  
Helena Kiepura  
Aaron Newell  
Brandon Stone

#### *Projects*

Matthew Antinossi  
Kate Bryan  
Michael Chiswick-Patterson  
Stefanie Gitler  
Jenna McCord  
Sanjana Rishi  
Anna Rotman  
Carrie Schroll  
Christopher Saki  
Harrison Stanwyck  
Paul Weeks  
Kenneth Young

---

**LATHAM & WATKINS**

52 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contacts:*

Andrea Hogan, Joseph Nance,  
Jonathan Stone, Taiga Takahashi

Latham & Watkins is LSW's leading partner for military medical retirement cases. Latham represented several service members going through the Integrated Disability Evaluation System process. Latham also filed numerous briefs seeking a disability retirement for veterans at the Board for Correction of Military Records and Physical Disability Board of Review. Moreover, Latham is appealing unfavorable board decisions to Federal District Court. Latham's assistance further extends to discharge upgrade cases, projects, and appeals at the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

*Medical Retirement*

Ravi Antani  
Ken Askin  
Alan Avery  
Lucas Balchun  
Shira Epstien  
David Frazier  
Drew Gardiner  
Elena Hera  
Paul Hunt  
Adam Johnson  
Peter Knight  
James Ktsanes  
Shaun Lee  
Sue Logan  
Maureen Long  
Steven Mach  
Amit Makker  
Sean McMahan  
Scott McPhee  
Nate McPherson  
David Meckler

Dan Meron  
David Mulliken  
Austin Murnane  
Joseph Nance  
Sarah Nappi  
Drew Parkes  
Phil Perry  
Peter Prial  
Ariel Rogers  
Ed Shapiro  
Paul Singarella  
Cassius Sims  
Jonathan Stone  
Taiga Takahashi  
Whitney Tantisuwanna  
Evan Thomas  
Drew Valentine  
Peter Viola  
Bill Voge  
Bailey Wilson  
Chris Yates  
Marc Zubick

*Discharge Upgrades*

Kamilah Alexander  
Gene Elrod  
Julie Holloway  
Pat Justman  
Marc Langer  
Mitchell London  
Jake Ryan  
Roger Schwartz  
Alex Sevald

*Federal District Court*

Ravi Antani  
Amanda Betsch  
Alice Fisher  
Kaithlyn Fulcher  
Scott Herlihy  
Bradley Hyde  
Erin Brown Jones  
Ian Petersen  
Jake Ryan  
Barry Sabin  
Samantha Seikkula  
Grant Strother  
Darryl Steensma  
Tom Watson

*Appeals*

David Derrick  
James Erselius  
Vishal Ganesan  
Daniel Gherardi  
Max Grant  
Jason Heidemann  
Joseph Lee  
Claudia O'Brien  
Karen Silverman  
Kyle Smith

*Projects*

Stephen Berry  
Alan Billharz  
Amit Makker  
Nate McPherson  
Dan Meron  
David Mulliken  
Joseph Nance  
Colleen Smith  
Jonathan Stone

**COVINGTON WITH  
NORTHROP GRUMMAN**

43 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contacts*

*Covington:*

Sharmaine Heng, Kelly Voss

*LSW Pro Bono Contact*

*Northrup Grumman:*

Jill Palmer

Covington and Northrup Grumman are sponsoring NVLSP's Equal Justice Works Appeals Delay Writ Project. Covington and Northrup Grumman filed several writs of mandamus at the US Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims (CAVC) regarding delays in the processing of appellate claims at the Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA). In addition, Covington is

LSW's partner in filing class action litigation at the CAVC regarding these delays. Covington is also one of LSW's leading partners for individual appeals at the CAVC and BVA.

#### *Appeals*

Jay Alexander  
Isaac Belfer  
Ben Block  
Ian Brekke  
Brian Castello  
Kathryn Cahoy  
Jennifer Cieluch  
Carolyn Corwin  
Adam Crews  
Timothy Greszler  
Timothy Hester  
Chris Higby  
Pierre Hines  
Jad Khazem  
Kevin King  
Joseph Kresse  
Jeff Lerner  
Jihong Lou  
Caitlin Meade  
Kate Mitchell-Tombras  
Meghan Monaghan  
Allan Moore  
John Niles  
Han Park  
Ingrid Rechten  
Krysten Rosen  
Dan Russell  
Alexandra Scott  
Michael Stern  
Einar Stole  
Shannon Tucker  
Robert Zhou

#### *Writ Certification*

(\*with Northrup Grumman)

Robert Ariatti\*  
Kevin Barnett  
Bart Barre\*  
Isaac Belfer  
Ian Brekke  
Bryan Byrd

Kathryn Cahoy  
Susan Cassidy  
Anjali Chaturvedi\*  
Kate Connelly\*  
Dianne Coombs\*  
Melissa Cox  
Stephen Dee  
Chris Higby  
Diane Hinrichs\*  
Maureen Kelly\*  
Lori Morrison\*  
John Niles  
Ingrid Rechten  
Jeff Robb\*  
Evan Sherwood  
Mary Snyder\*  
Patrick Stanton  
Einar Stole  
Anuj Vohra  
Jason Workmaster

#### *Class Action*

Ben Block  
Isaac Belfer  
Kathryn Cahoy  
John Niles  
Ranganath Sudarshan

#### *Projects*

Ben Block  
Charlie Buffon  
Will Hudson  
Brandon Johnson  
John Niles  
Shannon Tucker

### **DLA PIPER WITH INTEL CORPORATION**

*37 matters*

#### *LSW Pro Bono Contact*

*DLA Piper: Margaret Austin, Lisa Dewey, Richard Gruenberger*  
*LSW Pro Bono Contact Intel: Michele Huntinger*

DLA Piper is LSW's leading partner for Combat-Related

Special Compensation cases, assisting dozens of veterans in obtaining additional benefits for injuries incurred during combat. Intel Corporation assisted DLA Piper.

#### *Combat-Related Special Compensation (\*with Intel)*

Carissa Bouwer  
Virginia Callahan  
Maggie Craig  
Jennifer Cumming  
Andrew Day  
Amanda Fitzsimmons  
Tonya Gauff  
Kristy Grace  
Ashley Green  
John Griffith  
Joseph Guarinio  
Joseph Hanson  
Jonathan Hicks  
Matt Holian  
Rayan Kashtan  
Todd Keller  
Jennifer Lacroix  
Deborah Lewin  
Jacquelyn Loyd  
Ryan MacPherson  
Megan Michaels  
Gianni Minutoli  
James Noblett  
Stella Odisho\*  
Patrick Park  
Donavan Powell  
Peter Rice  
Sean Robinson  
Jesse Steinbach  
Sangwon Sung  
Joanna Sykes-Saaverdra  
Linda Thomas  
John Wei  
Sydney White

#### *Projects*

Ryan Compton  
Jeremiah Wolsk

---

**MORGAN LEWIS WITH  
EXELON CORPORATION**

32 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:*

Morgan Lewis, Rachel Strong,  
Namita Mani, Andrea Fitanides  
*LSW Pro Bono Contact Exelon  
Corporation: Jeanne Dworetzky,  
Jill Flack*

Morgan Lewis is LSW's leading partner for discharge upgrade cases. Morgan Lewis joined with Exelon Corporation at a discharge upgrade clinic, assisting 15 veterans who are seeking to change their discharge characterization. In addition, Morgan Lewis is drafting a manual for LSW to guide pro bono attorneys handling discharge upgrade cases. Morgan Lewis is also assisting service members going through the Integrated Disability Evaluation System process and has accepted several research projects.

*Combat-Related Special Compensation*

Andrew Devkar  
Rich Goldman  
Eric Grote  
Charles Horn  
Paul Raymond

*Discharge Upgrades*

Todd Buck  
Giovanna Cinelli  
Grant Eskelsen  
Heather Feingold  
Bob Gaybrick  
Victor Ghidu  
Charles Horn  
Donald Huddler  
Jeff Killian  
Jen Klass  
Christian Kozlowski  
John Matthews  
Sean McMahan  
Ken Nunnenkamp

Jerry Parker  
Patrick Rehfield  
J.R. Scherr  
Dan Skees  
Kathryn Sutton  
Charles Thebaud  
John Zele

*Clinics (\*with Exelon  
Corporation)*

Elizabeth Baird  
Stephen Burdick  
Giovanna Cinelli  
Bradford Cangro  
David Curtin  
Stephen Dixon  
Jeanne Dworetzky\*  
Grant Eskelsen  
Bill Edwards\*  
Mary Freeze  
Jill Flack\*  
Carly Grey  
Gary Guy\*  
Charles Horn  
Vinetta Kamath  
Nicolas Kim  
Jonathan Maier  
Laura McCollin-Morris  
Tracey Milich  
Tom Reinert  
Daniel Skees  
Jennifer Solomon\*  
Sam Souza  
Kathryn Sutton  
Chris Wilson\*  
Pam Wu  
Beau Yanoshik  
John Zele

*Medical Retirement*

Scott Clausen  
Brad Fagg  
Al Shay

*Projects*

Samuel Bryant  
Mani Edmond  
Tom Gede  
Jacob Harper

Sherrri Hoffmon  
Patrick Rehfield  
Erald Sakiqi  
Edmond Seferi  
Benjamin Stein  
Josh Sterling

**HUNTON ANDREWS KURTH LLP**

27 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:*

Tim McHugh, Kevin Gaunt,  
Toni Poole

Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP has assisted LSW on a wide variety of cases, including Combat-Related Special Compensation, military sexual trauma, military medical retirement and personality disorder cases. Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP joined LSW at a clinic at Walter Reed Medical Center, advising 8 service members going through the Integrated Disability Evaluation System process. Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP drafted an LSW flyer highlighting the types of cases handled by LSW, which we have utilized extensively in outreach activities to service members, veterans and pro bono partners.

*Combat-Related Special  
Compensation*

Mike Fee  
Tim McHugh  
Tom O'Dea

*Medical Retirement*

Terence Connor  
Mike Fee  
Kevin Gaunt  
Tim McHugh

*Military Sexual Trauma*

Britt Anderson  
Erin Barrett



Shannon Daily  
Jeff Dunifon  
Kevin Elliker  
Meghan Garrant  
Seven Gourley  
Maeve Olney  
Jenna Rode

*Discharge Upgrades*

Hannah Flint  
Susan Wiltsie

*Personality Disorder Discharges*

Ben Ackerly  
Chris Alderman  
Charles Gall  
Kevin Gaunt  
Laura Marshall  
Allie Strauss  
Daniel Uyesato

*Clinics*

Lea Brigtsen  
Mike Fee  
Tim McHugh

*Projects*

Charles Gall  
Tim McHugh  
Todd Mikolop  
Henry Nickel  
Tom O'Dea  
Michael Reed  
Rebecca Saran  
Trey Sibley  
Brian Tanenbaum

**FAEGRE BAKER DANIELS**

22 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contacts:*

*Candace Whitaker, Monica Fennell,  
Kelly Tautges*

Faegre is one of LSW's leading partners for cases involving wrongful separation for a personality disorder. Faegre is drafting a manual for LSW to

guide pro bono attorneys handling personality disorder cases. Faegre is also one of LSW's leading partners for appeals at the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

*Appeals*

Haroon Anwar  
Emily Damman  
Jeff Hedlund  
Kaitlin Hinkley  
Lindsey Hogan  
Angela Hughes  
Kristina Kendall  
Shaun Lemmon  
Julie Letwat  
RoxAnn Mack  
Kate Middleton  
Kelly Middleton  
Michael Nader  
Robin Rank  
Daniel Roy  
Joel Sayres  
Devon Swanson  
David Weinstein  
Lane Womack  
Nathaniel Zylstra

*Discharge Upgrades*

Carita Austin  
Martha Lemert  
Matthew McCubbins  
Hudnall Pfeiffer

*Personality Disorder Discharges*

Brandee Caswell  
Ted Budd  
Helen Chacon  
Joy Chung  
Megan Farooqui  
Katharine Fenn  
Michael Gallo  
Andrew Geier  
Susan Haag  
Leslie Hayden  
Sarah House  
Sarah Kellner  
Ted Koehler

Chantell Kramme  
Cynthia Lee  
Martha Lemert  
Elizabeth Little  
Sari Long  
Daniel Lund  
RoxAnn Mack  
Matthew McCubbins  
Sean Metherell  
Kate Middleton  
Stacey Nelson  
Sean Powell  
Rich Reichstein  
Frank Swain  
Kellen Wittkop  
Lane Womack

*Projects*

Ted Budd  
Sari Long  
Kate Middleton  
Frank Swain

**COZEN O'CONNOR**

21 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:*

*Melinda deLisle*

Cozen O'Connor is one of NVLSP's leading partners for appeals at the Board of Veterans' Appeals. Cozen O'Connor is also one of NVLSP's leading partners for cases seeking service connection for PTSD and other mental health disabilities caused by military sexual trauma.

*Appeals*

Michael Broadbent  
Ryan Bottegal  
Robert Bowman  
Blake Coblentz  
J.C. Ditzler  
Shauna Ehlert  
Don Kassilke  
Ana Kentz

Brian Kint  
William Knowles  
Raymond Kresge  
Robert Lee  
Aaron Lukas  
Jodi McDougall  
Stephen Miller  
Armeen Mistry  
Stephen Pate  
Martin Pavane  
Vincent Pozzuto  
Rene Quashie  
Josh Stein

*Military Sexual Trauma*

Mark Anderson  
Erica Crowl  
Tracy Eggleston  
Gary Gassman  
Christopher Kentra  
Jodi McDougall  
Evan Nogay  
Mark Quist  
Karl Schulz  
Alexa Sebia  
David Terry  
Jonathan Walton  
Adam Wiley  
Brian Williams

*Personality Disorder Discharges*

Wayne Rohde

*Projects*

Ryan Blaney  
Mark Lazaroff

**SIDLEY AUSTIN**

19 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:*

*Emily Wexler, Mark Herzog*

Sidley Austin has assisted LSW on a wide variety of cases, including appeals at the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims and Board of Veterans' Appeals

as well as military sexual trauma, military medical retirement and personality disorder cases. Sidley is also lead counsel with NVLSP on several class action litigation suits pending in federal courts.

*Appeals*

Kathryn Alessi  
Kaitlyn Findley  
Michael Franzinger  
Allison Fulton  
Isaac Greaney  
Tom Kayes  
Geoffrey King  
Claudia Kraft  
Stephen Liang  
Patrick Loi  
David Lyons  
Eric Mattson  
Andrew O'Neill  
Jesselyn Pe  
Joseph Regalia  
Ellen Robbins  
Li Shen  
William Williams  
Corey Winer

*Combat-Related Special Compensation*

John Levi  
Jeffrey McIntosh  
Brad Meissen  
Vincent Onorato  
Margaret Schwartz  
David Siegel

*Medical Retirement*

Mark Poole  
Russell Sharp  
Emily Wexler

*Military Sexual Trauma*

Jason Burch  
Jeffrey Steen  
Gerard Russello  
Anna Weinberg

*Personality Disorder Discharges*

Dana Angood  
Simon Saddleton  
Scott Stein  
Richard Young

*Projects*

Linton Childs  
Dina Yavich

**WILMERHALE**

16 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contacts:*

*Chris Herrling, Stephanie Koko*

WilmerHale is one of LSW's leading partners for appeals at both the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims and Board of Veterans' Appeals. They have also handled several Combat-Related Special Compensation cases.

*Appeals*

Reed Abrahamson  
Zack Beasley  
Jeannette Boot  
Rachel Cohen  
Jared English  
Nicole Ewart  
Rommy Flores  
Aaron Friedman  
Becky Girolamo  
Daniel Halston  
Gail Hyman  
Lauren Lifland  
Webb Lyons  
William McElwain  
Jaclyn Moyer  
Bill McLucas  
Travis Miscia  
Timothy Perla  
David Rollins-Boyd  
Howard Shapiro  
Russell Spivak  
David Yin

---

*Combat-Related Special Compensation*

Leila Ameli-Grillon  
Amy Doberman  
Jeremy Moorehouse  
Libby Ragan  
Vera Shmidt  
Wayne Stoner

**PERKINS COIE**

13 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contacts:*

Leah Medway, Alexandra Bromer

Perkins Coie has assisted LSW on a wide variety of cases, including Combat-Related Special Compensation, military sexual trauma, military medical retirement and personality disorder cases. Perkins Coie is also pursuing litigation on behalf of a veteran at the Court of Federal Claims appealing the denial of a military medical retirement case.

*Federal District Court*

Lee Curtis  
Eric Aaserud

*Combat-Related Special Compensation*

Steven Hedberg  
Steve Koh

*Discharge Upgrades*

Alexandra Bromer  
John Isacson  
Gina Kim

*Medical Retirement*

Claire Brown  
Howard Cabot  
Laura Hamilton  
Michael House

*Military Sexual Trauma*

Christie Buschmann  
Gina Kim

*Personality Disorder*

*Discharges*  
Jack Lyman

*Projects*

Claire Brown  
Alexandra Bromer

**STEPTOE & JOHNSON**

11 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:*

Barbara Kagan

Steptoe & Johnson is one of LSW's leading partners for appeals at the Board of Veterans' Appeals (BVA). Steptoe is drafting a manual for LSW to guide pro bono attorneys handling BVA cases.

*Appeals*

Kim Allen  
Shaun Boedicker  
Shawn Davisson  
Kendall Enyard  
Dane Jaques  
Rebecca Lipe  
Michael McCauley  
Michael Navarre  
Bibek Pandey  
Steven Ross  
Derek Smith  
Steven Wheelless

*Projects*

Catherine Cockerham  
Larry Katzman  
Jessica Maneval  
Ryann Muir

**NIXON PEABODY**

10 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:*

Stacey Slater

Nixon Peabody is representing several veterans seeking Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) and is investigating systemic issues in denials of CRSC. Nixon Peabody is also handling discharge upgrade cases and appeals at the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

*Combat-Related Special Compensation*

Steve Feirman  
Bonnie Glatzer  
Pierce Han  
Erin Kansy

*Discharge Upgrades*

Tom Brett  
Ed Quinones  
Steven Richard

*Appeals*

Dana Campbell

*Projects*

Greg Deschenes  
Brian Donnelly  
Leslie Hartford  
Jenny Holmes  
Meghan Kruger  
Kurt Mellon

**PAUL WEISS**

6 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contacts:*

B.J. Jensen, Emily Goldberg,  
Peter Slag, Chelsea Sahai

Paul Weiss is a new partner with LSW, starting out with a military medical retirement case. Paul Weiss is also engaging in a file analysis for 5 discharge upgrade cases with extensive records for review.

---

*Medical Retirement*

Andrew Forman  
Matt Rosenbaum

*Discharge Upgrade File Review*

Lauraine Avallone  
Brent Beck  
Joshua Beil  
Wendi Litt  
Adebola Olufowobi  
Brenda Perina  
Nilda Rivera  
Eddie Shrem  
Abraham Strasser

**HOLLAND & HART**

9 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:*  
Teague Donahey

Holland & Hart is one of LSW's leading partners for appeals at the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

*Appeals*

Lois Baar  
Jonathan Bender  
Teague Donahey  
John Ludlum  
Tim Lukas  
Jack Palma  
Bailey Schriber  
Craig Stewart  
Nikolas Stoffel  
Kurt Tyler

**PAUL HASTINGS**

9 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:*  
Josh Christensen, Kelly Winslow

Paul Hastings has assisted LSW with appeals at the Board of Veterans' Appeals, personality

disorder cases, a discharge upgrade case and a medical retirement case.

*Appeals*

Daniel Emam  
Emily Erdman  
Farhad Fatakia  
Eric Hernandez  
Ira Klein  
Samantha Sheehan

*Personality Disorder Discharges*

Josh Christensen  
Discharge Upgrades  
Jane Lee  
Medical Retirement  
Samantha Sheehan

**BALLARD SPAHR**

8 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contacts:*  
Pavy Bacon, Mary Gay Scanlon

Ballard Spahr is one of LSW's leading partners for discharge upgrade cases. They also are representing NVLSP in two FOIA projects.

*Discharge Upgrades*

Pavy Bacon  
Phillip Choi  
Christopher Cognato  
Joanna Jiang  
Steven R. Johnson  
Shelah Lynn  
William Melendez Diaz  
Marc Segal

*Projects*

Martin Bryce  
Darjush Boushehri  
Christopher Cognato  
Richard Fineman

Eileen Quigley  
John Sanders  
Victoria Siesta

**MERCK**

8 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:*  
Christine Kanellidis,  
Barry McCoy

Merck is one of LSW's leading partners for Combat-Related Special Compensation cases. Merck recently partnered with Reed Smith for two military medical retirement cases.

*Combat-Related Special Compensation*

Donna Basile  
Michele Bornstein  
Irene Burke  
Maria Gogal  
Ryan Hansen  
Alexandria Jardine  
David King  
Michael Knaack  
Joseph Koerwer  
Matt Leff  
Marc Barry McCoy  
Eric Meade  
Stephanie Ricardo  
Blair Shaw  
Michelle Sisko  
Joelle Solomon  
Tanya Torres  
Letitia Walker  
Ashley Watson  
Paul Werde  
Xiao Xia Yao  
Irene Zimmerman

*Medical Retirement*

Jim Holston  
Dionna Litvin  
Alice Marshall

---

---

**REED SMITH**

8 matters

*Pro Bono Contact: Chris Walters*

Reed Smith has assisted LSW with military medical retirement and military sexual trauma cases as well as a research project. Reed Smith is partnering with Merck on two medical retirement matters.

*Medical Retirement*

Nicole Aiken-Shaban  
Phil Danziger  
Mike Falk  
Mark Francis  
Bob Frank  
Melissa Geist  
Devin Griffin  
Jim Hultquist  
Luke Liben  
Julia Lopez

*Military Sexual Trauma*

Rebecca Durham  
Emily Garrison  
Tom Marrinson  
David Pollock

*Projects*

Kevin Hara  
Meredith Hartley  
Robert Jaworski  
Meghan Kalmar  
Jesse Miller  
Vincent Townsend  
Christopher Walters

**WINSTON & STRAWN**

8 matters

*LSW Pro Bono contact:  
Greg McConnell*

Winston & Strawn has assisted LSW with several discharge upgrade cases

and appeals at the Board of Veterans' Appeals as well as a Combat-Related Special Compensation case.

*Appeals*

Rich McCarty  
Michael Melbinger  
Eric Schlichter  
Ray Wuslich  
Brittani Yriariti

*Combat-Related Special Compensation*

Peter Osyf

*Discharge Upgrades*

John Alison  
Ryan Pavel  
John Sanders

**HOGAN LOVELLS**

7 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:  
Elizabeth Lockwood,  
T. Weymouth*

Hogan Lovells has accepted personality disorder, military medical retirement and Board of Veterans' appeals cases as well as a research project.

*Medical Retirement*

Dan Graulich  
Michael Mason  
Keith O'Doherty  
Bill Regan  
Adilene Rosales  
Marta Thompson

*Personality Disorder Discharges*

Ted Ellett  
Allison Funk  
Tom Pettit  
Allison Pugsley  
Mike Theis

Lee Whitesell  
Mike Zubrow

*Appeals*

Christian Chandler  
Ben Clark

*Projects*

Aaron Crane  
Sachin Desai

**AKIN GUMP**

6 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contacts: David Mack Coleman, Abby Kohlman, Brooke Padgett*

Akin Gump has assisted LSW with several cases seeking a military medical retirement in the Integrated Disability Evaluation System process as well as a discharge upgrade case.

*Medical Retirement*

Adam Axler  
Marisa Browndorf  
Paul Butler  
Mack Coleman  
Michael DiLernia  
Dave Fitzgerald  
Erica Holland  
Robert Huffman  
Kerry McCormick  
Jen Padinske  
Dennis Pereira  
Carolyn Perez  
Steve Schulman  
Ian Shavitz  
Kelly Stephenson  
Jonathan Underwood  
John Vukicevich

*Discharge Upgrades*

Mack Coleman  
Levi Stoneking  
Phyllis Young

---

**DECHERT**

6 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:*  
Paul Lee

Dechert has assisted LSW with appeals at the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, military sexual trauma cases, a research project and a FOIA project.

*Appeals*

Phil Garber  
Nathan Hoffman  
Christine Isaacs  
Jeff Masters  
Ralph Mazzeo  
Lily North  
Tom Vartanian

*Military Sexual Trauma*

Stephanie Chaung  
Joe Escher  
Phil Garber  
Jeremy Senderowicz  
Maggie Reis

*Projects*

David Attanasio  
Stephanie Capistrone  
Colleen Evans  
Christopher Harvey  
Tatiana Sainati  
Nicholas Sanville

**K&L GATES**

6 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contacts:*  
Nick Ranjan, Erin Koepfel

K&L Gates has handled several cases at the Board of Veterans' Appeals as well as a military sexual trauma case.

*Appeals*

Julie Bellville  
Jennifer Bruneau  
Lacey Gehm  
Sabrina Rearick

*Military Sexual Trauma*

Kelly Flanigan  
Nick Ranjan

**WHITE & CASE WITH NESTLE**

6 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:*  
Matt Frutig, Elizabeth Black,  
Patrick Rickerfor

White & Case has assisted LSW with several cases at the Board of Veterans' Appeals, partnering with Nestle.

*Appeals (\* with Nestle)*

Deema Abini  
Lori Bowen\*  
Charles Broll\*  
Patrick Dorsey  
Matt Frutig  
Angela George\*  
Ting-Ting Kao  
Douglas Keaton\*  
Ron Kendler  
January Kim  
Susan Lore\*  
Felicia Peluso\*  
Stephanie Pham-Quang\*  
Mike Prewitt\*  
Melissa Schaller\*  
Lee Soffer\*

**JONES DAY**

4 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:*  
Miguel Eaton

Jones Day has assisted NVLSP

with appeals, including at the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

*Appeals*

Miguel Eaton  
Roman Darmer  
Aryane Garansi  
Stephen Morrison  
Geoffrey Oliver  
Allison Davis Tuck  
Jack Williams

**KATTEN MUCHIN ROSENMAN**

4 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contacts:*  
Jane Cavanaugh, Jerry Hall

Katten Muchin Rosenman has assisted at the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

*Appeals*

Karen Dine  
Jerry Hall  
Sarah Ma

**BUCKLEY SANDLER**

3 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:*  
Stephanie Schlatter

Buckley Sandler has accepted a medical retirement case and two research projects.

*Medical Retirement*

Tom Dowell  
John Hendele  
Andrew Schilling

*Projects*

Tom Dowell  
John Hendele  
Joshua Kotin  
Donald Meier

---

Andrew Schilling  
Christopher Witeck

**CROWELL & MORING**

3 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:*  
Susan Hoffman

Crowell & Moring is handling three appellate matters at the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims and Board of Veterans' Appeals.

*Appeals*

Charles Austin  
David Bodenheimer  
David Chung  
Christian Curran  
Joseph Records  
David Robbins  
Larry Wescott

**MAYER BROWN**

3 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:*  
Marcia Maack

Mayer Brown is representing veterans in military sexual trauma cases.

*Military Sexual Trauma*

Vanessa Browder  
John Conlon  
Emma Kurose  
Matt Marmolejo  
Ginny Melvin  
Max Del Rey  
Xiyin Tang

**ORRICK**

3 matters

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:*  
Rene Kathawala

Orrick is handling military sexual trauma cases and a Board of Veterans' Appeals case.

*Appeals*

Rabi David

*Military Sexual Trauma*

Patricia Eichar  
Kyle Howard

**DRINKER BIDDLE**

1 matter

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:*  
Corey Kestenberg,  
Sarah Pheasant

Corey Kestenberg of Drinker Biddle is assisting with a discharge upgrade case.

**FANNIE MAE**

1 matter

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:*  
David Kalinski

David Kalinski and Kenneth Perry are handling a case at the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

**HP INC.**

1 matter

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:*  
Theresa Klusendorf

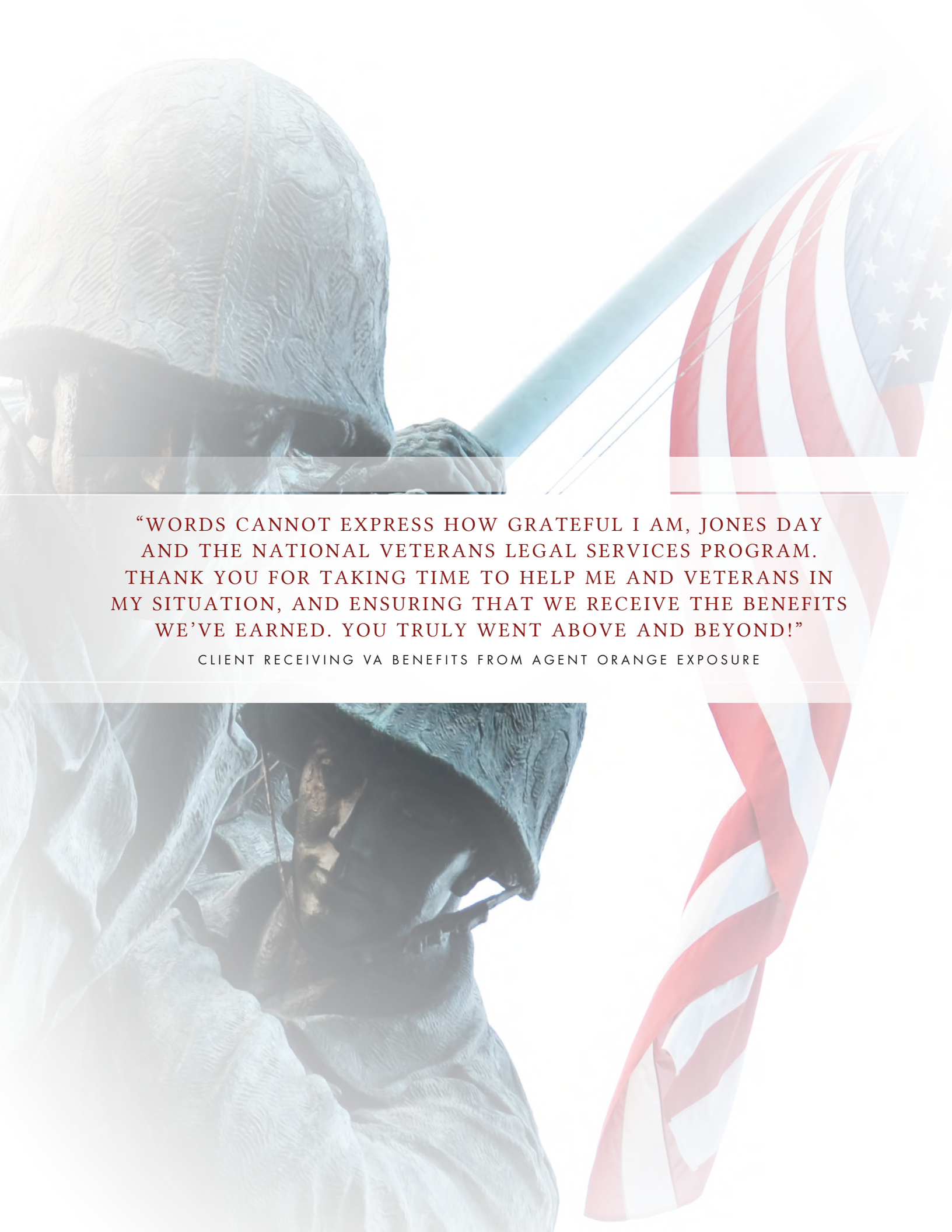
Rob Donaldson is representing a veteran with a Combat-Related Special Compensation case.

**TROUTMAN SANDERS**

1 matter

*LSW Pro Bono Contact:*  
Terri Hendley

Terri Hendley, Amir Shachmurove, Anup Shah, and Olaf Wilson are seeking documents for LSW through a FOIA request project.



“WORDS CANNOT EXPRESS HOW GRATEFUL I AM, JONES DAY AND THE NATIONAL VETERANS LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM. THANK YOU FOR TAKING TIME TO HELP ME AND VETERANS IN MY SITUATION, AND ENSURING THAT WE RECEIVE THE BENEFITS WE’VE EARNED. YOU TRULY WENT ABOVE AND BEYOND!”

CLIENT RECEIVING VA BENEFITS FROM AGENT ORANGE EXPOSURE



## NVLSP STAFF

**BART STICHMAN**

*Executive Director*

**ROCHELLE BOBROFF**

*Director of Pro Bono*

**AMY ODOM**

*Director of Litigation*

**RICHARD SPATARO**

*Director of Training and Publications*

**ANA REYES**

*Director of Development*

**PAMELA GOLDSMITH**

*Director of Communications*

**EVELYN ANDERSON**

*Chief Financial Officer*

**PATRICK BERKSHIRE**

*Staff Attorney*

**GEORGE BURTSEV**

*Office Assistant*

**KATY CLEMENS**

*Staff Attorney*

**KEVIN CHANDLER**

*Office Manager*

**JILL DAVENPORT**

*Appellate Attorney & Litigation Training Manager*

**MONICA DRAPER**

*Staff Accountant*

**DANIELLA FUREY**

*Training & Webinar Coordinator*

**JENNA GOLDBERG**

*Equal Justice Works AmeriCorps Legal Fellow*

**CHRISTINE HILL**

*of Counsel*

**ALEXIS IVORY**

*Staff Attorney*

**ANN KENNA**

*Staff Attorney*

**RAYMOND KIM**

*Staff Attorney*

**ESTHER LEIBFARTH**

*Staff Attorney*

**AMIE LEONARD**

*Staff Attorney*

**KATHERINE MANN**

*Development Associate*

**MICHAEL MARQUET**

*Graduate Law Fellow*

**ERIN MEE**

*Pro Bono Coordinator*

**CAITLIN MILO**

*Staff Attorney*

**ANGELA NEDD**

*Administrative Assistant*

**SERENA NGUYEN**

*Staff Attorney*

**NNAMDI OKOLI**

*Staff Attorney*

**DORRIE POPOVSKI**

*Intake Specialist*

**ERIC SCHMITZ**

*Staff Attorney*

**PAUL SCHWEN**

*Equal Justice Works Fellow*

**DAVID SONENSHINE**

*Senior Staff Attorney*

**MICHAEL SPINNICCHIA**

*Staff Attorney*

**STACY TROMBLE**

*Deputy Director of Litigation*

**BERNADETTE VALDELLON**

*Staff Attorney*

**ALIE VENUTI**

*Project Manager & Staff Attorney*

**THOMAS WRIGHT**

*Staff Attorney*



**NVLSP**  
NATIONAL VETERANS LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM



---

1600 K ST NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20006 · (202) 265-8305 · FAX (202) 265-8305 · EMAIL: [INFO@NVLSP.ORG](mailto:INFO@NVLSP.ORG)