

housing services must occur on "Indian Tribal property." Of those eligible entities in the first funding priority, that are legally fundable, the highest scoring applicants will be funded first until approximately \$2 million is awarded. Applicants not funded in this priority will be considered in the third funding priority as applicable.

**Funding priority 2.** Applicants whose projects are physically located in Puerto Rico, and any territory or possession of the United States are the second funding priority. Eligible entities whose projects are located in these areas will be considered in the second funding priority. Of those eligible entities in the second funding priority, that are legally fundable, the highest scoring applicants will be funded first until approximately \$1 million is awarded. Applicants not funded in this priority will be placed in the third funding priority.

**Funding priority 3.** VA is encouraging interested, state and local governments, faith-based, and community-based organizations to apply for funding under this NOFA. Eligible entities that are state and local governments, Indian Tribal governments, faith-based, and community-based organizations, along with those applicants not selected in the first or second funding priority will be considered in the third funding priority as applicable. Of those eligible entities that are legally fundable, the highest-ranked applications for which funding is available, will be conditionally selected for eligibility to receive a capital grant in accordance with their ranked order until funding is expended (approximately \$7 million).

**Methodology:** VA will review all capital grant applications in response to this NOFA as follows: VA will group the applicants into the funding priorities categories. Applicants will then be ranked within their respective funding category based on score and any ranking criteria set forth in that funding category only if the applicant scores at least 600 cumulative points and must receive points under criteria from paragraphs (b), (c), (d), (e), and (i) of Section 61.13.

The highest-ranked application for which funding is available, within the highest funding category, will be conditionally selected in accordance with their ranked order until VA reaches the projected amount of funding for each category. If funds are still available after selection of those applications in the highest priority group VA will continue to conditionally select applicants in lower priority categories in accordance with the selection method set forth in the final rule Section 61.14.

**Application Requirements:** The grant application requirements will be specified in the application package. Applicants should be careful to complete the proper application package. Submission of the incorrect or incomplete application package will result in the application being rejected at threshold. The packages include all required forms and certifications. Selections will be made based on criteria described in the application, Final Rule, and NOFA. Applicants who are conditionally selected will be notified of any additional information needed to confirm or clarify information provided in the application. Applicants will then be notified of the deadline to submit such information. If an applicant is unable to meet any conditions for grant award within the specified time frame, VA reserves the right to not award funds and to use the funds available for other grant and per diem applicants.

Dated: April 13, 2006.

**Gordon H. Mansfield,**

*Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission; Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Public Law 92-463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that the Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission has scheduled a town hall meeting for May 10, 2006, at the Sheraton St. Louis City Center Hotel & Suites, The Colonnade Ballroom, 400 South 14th Street, St. Louis, Missouri. The town hall meeting will begin at 7 p.m. and end at 9 p.m. The meeting is open to the public.

The purpose of the Commission is to carry out a study of the benefits under the laws of the United States that are provided to compensate and assist veterans and their survivors for disabilities and deaths attributable to military service.

The Commission is conducting the fourth of eight fact-finding site visits throughout the United States. The St. Louis area was selected based on criteria that include the concentration of veterans, active-duty service personnel, and members of the National Guard and Reserves. Those criteria also include the location of Veterans Benefits Administration, Veterans Health Administration, and Department of Defense (DoD) facilities with particular

interest in transition activities. The goal of this visit is to allow the commissioners the opportunity to tour local VA and DoD facilities; examine the processes in place which assist disabled veterans, service members, and survivors in their efforts to obtain benefits; and present these individuals and the general public with an opportunity to learn about the work of the Commission and to offer comments in face-to-face forums.

Interested persons may attend the meeting and present oral statements to the Commission. Oral presentations will be limited to five minutes or less, depending on the number of participants. Interested parties may provide written comments for review by the Commission prior to the meeting or at any time, by e-mail to [veterans@vetscommission.intranets.com](mailto:veterans@vetscommission.intranets.com) or by mail to Mr. Ray Wilburn, Executive Director, Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission, 1101 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., 5th Floor, Washington, DC 20004.

Dated: April 14, 2006.

**E. Philip Riggan,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Veteran's Disability Benefits Commission; Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Public Law 92-463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that the Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission has scheduled a meeting for May 18-19, 2006, at the Holiday Inn National Airport, 2650 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA. The meeting will begin each day at 8 a.m. On May 18, the meeting will end at 5 p.m., and on May 19 the meeting will end at 3 p.m. The meeting is open to the public.

The purpose of the Commission is to carry out a study of the benefits under the laws of the United States that are provided to compensate and assist veterans and their survivors for disabilities and deaths attributable to military service.

The agenda for the session on May 18 will include an overview of the Department of Veterans Affairs National Compensation and Pension Exam Program located in Nashville, Tennessee, with additional briefings by QTC, Veterans Benefits Administration and Veterans Health Administration to address the process, quality, timeliness and cost of compensation and pension

examinations. The agenda will also feature a report of the Commission's site visits to Illinois and Missouri, and the Government Accountability Office will present its findings of the disability benefits available to Federal, state and local employees who serve the public in high-risk occupants and are injured in the line of duty. The agenda for the session on May 19 will feature updates on the progress of the studies being conducted by the Institute of Medicine (IOM) and the Center for Naval Analyses

(CNA), to include the results of CNA's literature review, and a continuing discussion of Social Security Disability Income.

Interested persons may attend and present oral statements to the Commission. Oral presentations will be limited to five minutes or less, depending on the number of participants. Interested parties may provide written comments for review by the Commission prior to the meeting, by e-mail to

*veterans@vetscommission.intranets.com* or by mail to Mr. Ray Wilburn, Executive Director, Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission, 1101 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., 5th Floor, Washington, DC 20004.

Dated: April 13, 2006.

By Direction of the Secretary.

**E. Philip Riggin,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

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