



2024 Report

National Veterans Legal Services Program

Pro Bono Program
Lawyers Serving Warriors®

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NVLSP Staff



“
 We have once again set a new standard for legal advocacy on behalf of service members, veterans, and their families.
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Each year, the dedication of our pro bono partners sets a new benchmark in the fight for justice for our nation’s veterans. This year marks a historic milestone for Lawyers Serving Warriors® (LSW), the pro bono program of the National Veterans Legal Services Program (NVLSP). Thanks to the work of our staff, partner law firms, and corporate legal departments across the country, we have once again set a new standard for legal advocacy on behalf of service members, veterans, and their families.

In 2024, our pro bono partners provided a record-breaking 105,700 hours of legal assistance—valued at more than \$94 million—marking an unprecedented level of support. These extraordinary numbers represent real, life-changing outcomes: veterans receiving long-overdue benefits, families gaining financial stability, and service members accessing the care they need.

The impact of our work extends far beyond legal wins. It restores dignity, offers hope, and reaffirms our collective responsibility to those who sacrificed for our country.

While we celebrate these achievements, we must also recognize that there is a need for more work to be done. With the continued commitment of our pro bono partners, we remain steadfast in our mission.

Thank you for your partnership, and we look forward to another year of making a difference together.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Wright".

Paul Wright
 Executive Director
 National Veterans Legal Services Program



“

The success stories featured in this report highlight the profound difference made by our volunteers.

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I am delighted to share the 2024 NVLSP Lawyers Serving Warriors® Pro Bono Report, celebrating a record-breaking year of placements and the incredible dedication of our pro bono partners. This year, we set a new record by placing 630 full-scope direct veteran representation matters, surpassing last year's total by over 140 placements. Additionally, we achieved a remarkable milestone with 1,463 brief services, limited scope file reviews, and projects, nearly doubling the placements from 2023.

Our pro bono volunteers have shown exceptional dedication and legal advocacy, significantly impacting the lives of veterans. The success stories featured in this report highlight the profound difference made by our volunteers, from securing medical retirements and Combat-Related Special Compensation to advocating for discharge upgrades, TSGLI benefits, and service-connected disability benefits at the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

Our achievements this year are a testament to the collaborative spirit and dedication of our pro bono partners.

Together, we have set new records and expanded our impact, ensuring that veterans receive the benefits they have earned through their service.

We extend our deepest gratitude to all our volunteers for their tireless efforts and look forward to continuing this vital work in the years to come.

Thank you for your unwavering support and partnership in helping veterans. We hope this report inspires both new and existing volunteers to join us in our mission to serve those who have served our nation.

Rochelle Bobroff
 Director of Lawyers Serving Warriors®, Pro Bono Program of the
 National Veterans Legal Services Program

Our Mission

The National Veterans Legal Services Program (NVLSP) is a national nonprofit organization that has worked since 1981 to ensure that the government delivers to our nation's 18 million veterans and active duty personnel the benefits to which they have earned because of disabilities resulting from their military service to our country.

What We Do

The National Veterans Legal Services Program's Pro Bono Program, Lawyers Serving Warriors® (LSW), assists service members and veterans with applications for benefits, both at the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs. Keep reading for the most common types of cases we handle.



Medical Retirement

Medical retirement from the military occurs when a service member has a physical and/or mental disability that significantly interferes with their ability to perform military duties. The condition must be severe enough to be considered "unfitting." Multiple disabilities can be included, and the total disability rating must be 30% or more. Medical retirement benefits include monthly tax-free military disability payments, medical care through TRICARE for the veteran and their spouse for life, TRICARE for the veteran's dependents, and a military retiree ID card that grants access to military bases and amenities. Veterans who were improperly denied a medical retirement can appeal by filing a brief at the Board for Correction of Military or Naval Records. LSW pro bono volunteer attorneys prepare a 12 to 15-page brief and evidentiary support. If unsuccessful, these cases may be appealed to federal court.



Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC)

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 (CRSC) application form and submit a 5 to 10-page brief with evidence demonstrating the veteran's disabilities meet the statutory definition of "combat-related." CRSC is an extra payment in addition to any military disability retirement pay and/or VA disability compensation the veteran may be receiving each month.

What We Do



Discharge Upgrades

LSW volunteer attorneys help veterans apply to upgrade their characterization of service, for example from “Other Than Honorable” (OTH) to a more favorable characterization such as Honorable or General (Under Honorable Conditions). This upgrade can help veterans receive VA benefits and health care, improve employment opportunities, and restore their reputation and self-esteem. Many veterans served through this project have Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injuries (TBI), or other mental health conditions related to military service, or are survivors of Military Sexual Trauma. Pro bono volunteer attorneys prepare a 10 to 15-page legal brief for submission 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 virtual personal appearance hearing.



NVLSP staff gathered at 2024 Annual Benefit Reception. From left to right: NVLSP Staff Attorneys Matt Handley and Amy Fulmer, Senior Pro Bono Coordinating Attorney Erin Mee, Executive Director Paul Wright, Director of Pro Bono Program Lawyers Serving Warriors® Rochelle Bobroff, Staff Attorney Abigail Reynolds, Senior Managing Attorney Esther Leibfarth and Staff Attorney Zach Outzen.



Discharge Upgrade File Review

Many veterans apply to NVLSP for free legal assistance to upgrade their discharge characterization. To help NVLSP screen these applicants, pro bono volunteers conduct file reviews for veterans awaiting case screening. NVLSP screens each applicant to determine if there is a meritorious argument before referring the matter to a pro bono partner.

The discharge upgrade file review project involves volunteers reviewing and analyzing veteran files to expedite NVLSP's screening process. This primarily administrative task can be completed by attorneys or non-attorneys. Volunteers create a Word table or Excel spreadsheet cataloging the client files and return the work product within about one month. The project is remote and can be completed anywhere. The estimated time commitment is 10-15 hours per project, and volunteers may work in teams.

What We Do



Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Traumatic Injury Protection Program (TSGLI)

LSW pro bono attorneys represent traumatically injured service members and veterans seeking TSGLI benefits. This benefit provides short-term financial assistance in the form of lump sum payments ranging from \$25,000 to \$100,000. LSW's program—the first and only TSGLI pro bono assistance program in the country—offers free legal assistance and representation to TSGLI applicants filing initial claims or appeals.

LSW volunteer attorneys help traumatically injured service members and veterans obtain medical and lay evidence, complete claims and appeals forms, and draft 10 to 15-page briefs demonstrating the applicant's entitlement to TSGLI benefits. Volunteers may also assist applicants in challenging denied claims directly in federal court, engaging in litigation to obtain improperly denied benefits.



NVLSP Senior Pro Bono Coordinating Attorney Erin Mee and NVLSP Board of Directors Co-Chair and Morgan Lewis Partner Amy Schuh, speak at NVLSP's 2024 Annual Benefit Reception.



Appeals at the Board of Veterans' Appeals

LSW pro bono attorneys file appellate briefs for veterans at the Board of Veterans' Appeals (BVA). Volunteer attorneys have approximately 90 days or less to write a 10-page legal brief and gather relevant medical and lay evidence in support of the veteran. Common issues include service-connected disabilities related to military service, earlier effective dates for benefits, or higher disability ratings. BVA Remand matters do not involve oral arguments. Volunteers working on BVA Remand appellate briefs must apply for VA accreditation or already be accredited to work on these matters.



Systemic Reform Projects, Amicus Briefs and Comments

Systemic reform projects are an integral component of LSW pro bono partnerships. These projects include research memos, flyers, manuals, and FOIA requests, as well as systemic litigation. Volunteers also assist NVLSP with appellate amicus briefs and comments on proposed regulations.

\$94M

NVLSP's life-changing pro bono work was valued at over \$94 million in 2024.

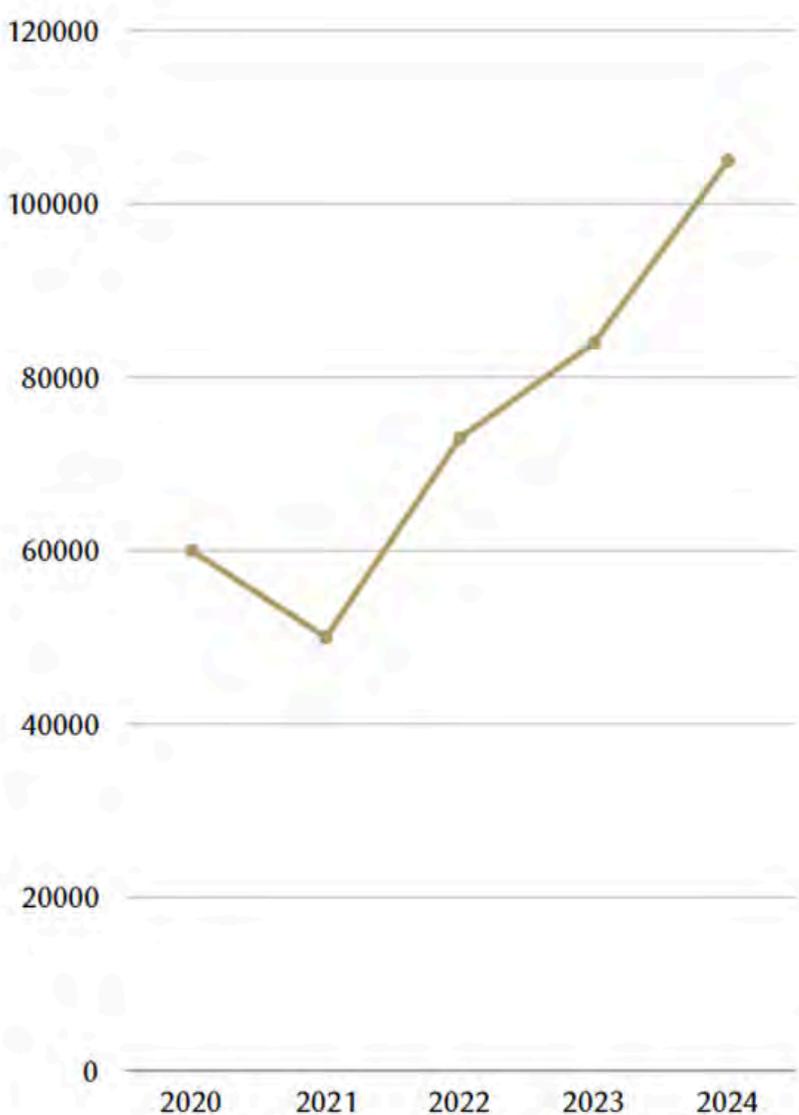
105,700 Hours

Our pro bono attorneys and partners dedicated a record-breaking 105,700 hours in pro bono assistance.



Pro Bono Hours

Below is an overview, by year, of the number of hours pro bono volunteers at LSW law firm and corporate partners worked on LSW-referred pro bono matters.



105k

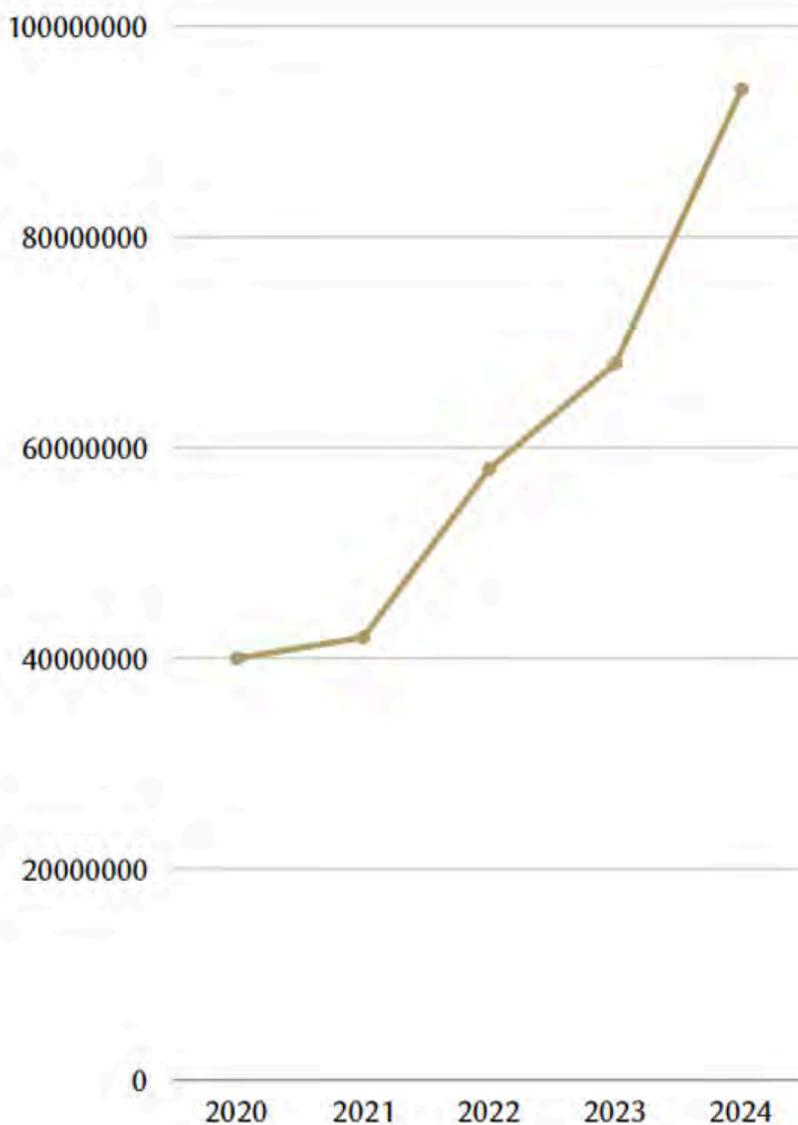
pro bono hours in
2024

↑75%

increase in pro bono
hours since 2020

Pro Bono Value

Below is an overview, by year, of the value of the pro bono work by volunteers from LSW law firm and corporate partners. The value has more than doubled since 2020.



\$94M

pro bono value in
2024

↑135%

increase in pro bono
value since 2020

LSW Clinics

LSW engaged in extensive outreach, conducting 28 clinics for veterans, service members, and our pro bono partners, serving 350 veterans and service members. Below are highlights of the clinics conducted.

28
Clinics

Clinics

The topics included CRSC, discharge upgrades, discharge upgrade file reviews, IDES, medical retirement and TSGLI.

350
Veterans
and Service
Members

Veterans

350 veterans were provided with brief service, advice, and individual consultations.

LSW Trainings

LSW engaged in extensive outreach, with LSW attorneys conducting 39 live trainings for 1,154 attendees at partner law firms and corporations throughout 2024. LSW further provided trainings to NVLSP state agency partners and other community organizations serving veterans.

39

Live Trainings

LSW trainings addressed CRSC, discharge upgrades, discharge upgrade file reviews, IDES, medical retirement and TSGLI.

1,154

Attendees

Attendees came from partner law firms and corporations, state agency partners and other community organizations serving veterans.

Victory Lap

This section highlights the life-changing pro bono victories achieved for veterans, service members, and their families through the dedicated work of LSW pro bono volunteers. We are deeply grateful for the tireless efforts of LSW pro bono volunteers that led to victorious decisions issued in 2024.

NVLSP Mentoring Attorneys: Shara Abraham, Rochelle Bobroff, Amy Borgersen, Renee Burbank, Sarah Champion, Margaret Costello, Brandy Disbennett-Albrecht, McCall Dupree, Amy Fulmer, Lou George, Alec Ghezzi, Matthew Handley, Rosalee Hoffman, Cinthia Johnson, Esther Leibfarth, Kenny Meador, Erin Mee, Sherrie Moreira, Chris Murray, Anita Nigam-Ritchie, Zach Outzen, Grace Paul, Jeffrey Price, Abigail Reynolds, Bart Stichman, Elizabeth Tarloski, Stacy Tromble and Lora Vineberg.

Class Action

Medical Retirement

In November 2020, [Dechert LLP](#) and NVLSP filed a class action lawsuit, [Springs v. Del Toro](#), which challenged the Navy's unlawful practice that denied medical retirement benefits to more than 3,300 Navy and Marine Corps veterans for over 15 years. The lawsuit claimed that the Navy's failure to provide disability ratings for conditions that contributed to unfitness unjustly deprived class members of critical medical retirement benefits. The Navy moved to remand only the named plaintiffs' cases for further administrative proceedings. Dechert and NVLSP argued that a recent NVLSP case at the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, [Sissel v. Wormuth](#), required the Navy to provide disability ratings for all contributing conditions for the entire class in [Springs](#). The court denied the Navy's initial motion to remand and instructed the Navy to consider the impact of [Sissel](#). The Navy then agreed to recalculate all class members' combined disability

ratings by adding the VA rating assigned at discharge to class members' contributing conditions and to notify class members of the outcome of the resulting review. The District Court entered an order on March 23, 2024, remanding all class members' cases for the Navy to supply revised ratings, with status reports to the court every 180 days. The [Dechert](#) litigation team was led by partner [Christina G. Sarchio](#) and included associates [Phillip Garber](#) and [Christopher J. Merken](#) in addition to paralegal [Michael Lebair](#).



NVLSP Issues [updated FAQs on Springs v. Del Toro Category II Contributing Conditions](#)

Litigation

Medical Retirement

An Army Light Vehicle Mechanic was raped during a deployment to South Korea. She became pregnant and gave the baby up for adoption. Due to the trauma, she experienced mental health symptoms. She was misdiagnosed with borderline personality disorder and administratively separated for that condition. Post-discharge, the VA diagnosed her with PTSD from Military Sexual Trauma (MST), rated at 70% disabling. She applied to the Army Board for Correction of Military Records for a medical retirement but was denied. [Jonathan Stulberg](#) and [Max Silvestre](#), with the support of Senior Research Analyst [David Smith](#) and Paralegal Coordinators [Marta Urra](#) and [Rebecca Shames](#) of [Hogan Lovells](#) appealed the denial to the Court of Federal Claims. The complaint argued that the overwhelming evidence reviewed under the required principle of liberal consideration unequivocally demonstrated that the veteran suffered from duty-limiting PTSD, rather than personality disorder, and therefore she should have been referred for disability processing and found unfit with a disability rating of 30 percent or more. The Court remanded the case for the Board to consider her claims under the liberal consideration standard. On remand, an Advisory Opinion recommended against awarding liberal consideration. The volunteers submitted a detailed rebuttal highlighting errors in the Advisory Opinion. By a vote of 2:1, the Board referred the veteran for disability processing.

The Physical Evaluation Board then found the veteran unfit due to PTSD, rated at 100%.

An Army Diver served in Kuwait and Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom and was awarded several medals and citations during his service, including an Army Commendation Medal with Valor for taking direct fire while on a reconnaissance mission in Iraq. The veteran initially injured his back lifting and twisting a heavy object while working underwater to repair a military vessel. He reinjured his back on multiple occasions while completing various missions, including, among others, the construction of a personnel pontoon bridge used by Iraqi military partners. After several surgeries on his back, he was referred for disability processing and found to fail medical retention standards for two conditions: chronic low back pain and right leg radiculopathy. However, the Physical Evaluation Board conflated the two conditions and only found the low back pain to be unfitting, rated at 20%, which resulted in the denial of medical retirement. Post-discharge, the VA assigned a 20% rating for the back and a separate 10% rating for radiculopathy, for a total rating of 30%, sufficient for medical retirement. The veteran applied to the Army Board for Correction of Military Records for a medical retirement based on the VA ratings, but his application was denied.

Victory Lap

Medical Retirement



Alyssa Hartley and Andrew Shoyer of Sidley filed a complaint in the District Court for the District of Columbia challenging the Board decision as failing to apply the required fitness standards. The Court remanded the matter, requiring the Board to evaluate the radiculopathy pursuant to the fitness standards, including grappling with all relevant evidence. On remand, the Board agreed that the two conditions had been “erroneously conjoined for rating purposes and should have been separately considered with individually applied rating determinations.” As a result, the veteran’s rating was increased to 30% and he was medically retired.

In 1966, an Army Artillery Crewman’s battalion was ambushed near the Cambodian border. As a result of this ambush, he sustained gunshot wounds in each of his extremities. Due to the heavy gunfire, he laid wounded for hours and could not be medically evacuated until the following morning. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He was hospitalized for three months following the ambush. When he returned to duty, he was placed on temporary restricted duty for his upper extremity injuries and was separated at the end of his term of service. His separation physical found him fit for discharge, despite noting “abnormal” gunshot wounds on both his legs and arms.

Post-discharge, in 1968, the VA awarded combined ratings of over 30% for residuals of gunshot wounds. In 2018, he applied to the Army Board for Correction of Military Records for a retroactive medical retirement, and an Advisory Opinion recommended awarding these benefits. Yet, instead of correcting the error, the Board sent the matter to the Surgeon General, who found he was not entitled to disability processing. The Board then upheld the denial by the Surgeon General. Alex Mahfood, James Hultquist, and Lucas Liben of Reed Smith filed a complaint in the Court of Federal Claims arguing that the Board had abdicated its responsibility to correct the veteran’s record to the Surgeon General, failed to consider applicable retention standards, and failed to consider the duties of the veteran’s office, grade, rank, or rating. The Court remanded the matter, directing the Board to reconsider its decision to uphold the Surgeon General’s determination and to evaluate whether the veteran was fit to perform the duties of his office, grade, rank, or rating. On remand, the Board determined that the veteran suffered combat-related injuries that rendered him unfit for further military service. The veteran was medically retired with a rating of 70%.

Victory Lap

Medical Retirement

An Air Force veteran served for over 11 years, primarily as an Air Traffic Controller, with multiple deployments, including to Iraq. His duties included eight-hour shifts involving standing for long periods of time with constant movement to perform air traffic control duties. Additionally, he had to climb stairs to reach the control cab at the top of the tower and ascend or descend up to 11 flights of stairs if the elevator failed. He developed severe hip pain and lumbar degenerative disease and was referred for disability processing. The Physical Evaluation Board conferred a rating of 10% only for his right hip, denying medical retirement.

Subsequently, he was diagnosed with radiculopathy, prompting the veteran to appeal for the inclusion of bilateral radiculopathy. Ultimately, the Physical Evaluation Board added another 10% for the back condition, but not the radiculopathy, awarding a 20% rating that did not confer medical retirement. The veteran appealed to the Board for Correction of Military Records, but the Board denied his application.

Llewelyn Engel, Sam Neel, and Peter Routh of McDermott Will & Emery filed a complaint in the Court of Federal Claims. The Court remanded the case for further processing, but the Board reached the same result by simply adopting the recommendation of an Advisory Opinion. After the filing of an amended complaint and cross-motions for summary judgment, the Court held that the Board's

decision was arbitrary and unsupported by substantial evidence. The Court found that the Board did not provide an independent analysis and instead recited the medical advisory opinion's explanation for denial. As a result, the Board failed to correctly apply the fitness analysis under its own regulations. The Court remanded the case for review consistent with the Court's order. In this remand, the Board assigned an additional 20% rating for bilateral radiculopathy, resulting in a combined rating of 40%, which conferred medical retirement.



Victory Lap

Medical Retirement Administrative Applications and Appeals

A Marine Corps Security Guard deployed to numerous US Embassies in foreign countries. She was raped on two occasions but did not report the sexual assaults. She experienced mental health symptoms, including a psychotic break with auditory hallucinations. She attempted suicide but was subdued by fellow Marines before she could injure herself. Following her suicide attempt, the veteran was hospitalized. Nevertheless, she was discharged at the end of her term of service without a referral for disability processing. Post-discharge, the VA rated the veteran at 100% disabled due to PTSD from Military Sexual Trauma (MST). **Andrea Murino** and **Lucie Duvall** of **Kirkland & Ellis** represented the veteran in applying for a retroactive medical retirement at the Board for Correction of Naval Records. The brief argued that the Marine Corps erred in not referring the veteran for disability processing following her psychotic break which led to a suicide attempt and continued mental health symptoms. They explained that if she had been referred for disability processing, she would have been found unfit and awarded medical retirement. The Board gave “liberal and special consideration” to her report of the trauma she experienced. The Board found “ample evidence” in service of her mental health condition and noted the VA rating of 100% shortly after discharge. The Board awarded medical retirement for PTSD at 100%.



Victory Lap

Medical Retirement Administrative Applications and Appeals

A Navy Sonar Technician experienced a near-crash of his submarine. Subsequently, in a second traumatic event, the submarine's emergency ballast tank blew, forcing the veteran's submarine to surface in hostile waters. He began to experience mental health symptoms and sought treatment. He was diagnosed with depression and anxiety and prescribed antidepressant and anxiety medications. He was placed on limited duty for six months. Yet, the next month, he was discharged with a General (Under Honorable Conditions) characterization for unsatisfactory performance. He applied for VA disability benefits shortly after discharge and was awarded a 50% rating for his mental health. **Steven Peters, Mia Cabello, and Kayla Ernst** of **Latham & Watkins** assisted the veteran with a request to the Board for Correction of Naval Records for a retroactive medical retirement. The brief asserted it was an error to discharge the veteran when his inability to perform his duties was due to an unfitting mental health condition. The brief explained that the Navy failed to follow its own regulations when it did not refer the veteran for disability processing, and that had the veteran been referred, he would have been medically retired. The Board agreed that it was improper to separate the veteran for unsatisfactory performance when

he "was little more than one month into his six-month period" of limited duty. The Board concurred that he "should have been referred" for disability processing, which would have resulted in a finding of unfitness. The Board upgraded the discharge characterization to Honorable, with medical retirement for mental health.



Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC)

CRSC Litigation

An Army IT Specialist experienced almost daily mortar attacks while deployed to the Joint Base Balad in Iraq. She was subsequently diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (“PTSD”), with the diagnosing physician detailing that her PTSD was due to the indirect fire she experienced in combat. She was medically retired with an explicit finding by the Physical Evaluation Board that her PTSD was due to combat stressors. She applied for CRSC, submitting a letter from a Chief Warrant Officer in her chain of command confirming that the veteran’s base was struck by mortars during her deployment. Nevertheless, her claim for CRSC was denied. **Emily Benedict** of **Hunton** filed a complaint in the Court of Federal Claims arguing that the denial was contrary to law for failing to acknowledge or grapple with the command statement, Physical Evaluation Board findings, or medical evidence linking her PTSD to combat. The Court remanded the case to the Board for Correction of Military Records. On remand, a new brief detailed the voluminous evidence that established both her exposure to the mortar attacks and their direct impact on her mental health. The brief emphasized that there was no evidence suggesting that the veteran’s PTSD was caused by anything other than the combat-related events she experienced during her deployment in Iraq.

The Board was persuaded that there was “sufficient evidence linking the applicant’s behavioral health challenges to the persistent mortar fire she experienced while deployed in a combat zone in Iraq.” The Board highlighted the determinations by “medical personnel that a causal nexus exists between the mortar attacks and the [veteran’s] behavioral health challenges.” The Board also found that the command statement corroborated the veteran’s account of the events. The veteran was awarded CRSC for her PTSD as directly attributable to armed conflict and incurred through an instrumentality of war.



Rochelle Bobroff, Director of NVLSP’s Pro Bono Program Lawyers Serving Warriors® discusses CRSC at a clinic at the Fort Belvoir Soldier Recovery Unit.

Victory Lap

CRSC Administrative Applications and Appeals



An Army Specialist was among the troops in a ground convoy from Kuwait that led the U.S. invasion into Iraq to start the Iraq War. She was part of an all-female Quick Reaction Force team assigned to protect the unit commander. During a three-day convoy, the veteran was subject to constant mortar attacks and explosions. Once on base in Iraq, she encountered indirect fire attacks throughout her deployment. She was awarded the Army Commendation Medal with V Device for Valor for her “superb dedication to duty during combat operations.” Her duties also included disposing of waste in burn pits and incinerators. **Jeannine Novak** and **Kyle Maury** of **King & Spalding** filed an application for CRSC for the veteran. She was awarded CRSC for her PTSD based on her combat award. She was further granted CRSC for Fibromyalgia as well as the combined condition of Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease, Gastritis with Irritable Bowel Syndrome. She was awarded a total combat-related rating of 80%.

An Army mechanic and vehicle inspector deployed to Iraq and was exposed repeatedly to incoming small arms, rocket, and mortar fire, as well as enemy attacks in the form of car bombs and improvised explosive devices (IEDs). He was medically retired for PTSD with an explicit determination that his PTSD was due to combat stressors from his Iraq deployment. His initial application for CRSC was granted only for tinnitus and denied for PTSD. **Joshua Stern**, **Matthew Beville**, and **Kyle Kessler** of **WilmerHale** sought reconsideration of the PTSD denial. They submitted, as new evidence, statements from three of the veteran’s superiors who served with him in Iraq, attesting that these attacks on the base occurred on a near-daily basis during the veteran’s deployment. The CRSC Board awarded CRSC for the veteran’s PTSD rated at 100% disabling.



CRSC Administrative Applications and Appeals

A Marine Corps veteran had served 20 years in numerous military occupational specialties, including in Special Operations and as a Parachutist/Combatant Diver, deploying both to Afghanistan and Iraq. His combat service included a 24-hour firefight in Afghanistan. While in Iraq, after his Humvee caught fire from an attack, he maneuvered the vehicle to protect others from fire and then was struck by a rocket propelled grenade. He was awarded a Purple Heart and Combat Badge. He also suffered numerous physical injuries from martial arts and hard parachute landings. **Sangwon Sung** of **DLA Piper** filed an application for CRSC for the veteran, who was awarded CRSC at a combat-related rating of 100% for his mental health and physical injuries.

While on a peacekeeping mission to Sadr City, Iraq, an Army Infantryman serving as a Bradley Tank Gunner was involved in the ambush that later became known as the “Siege of Sadr City.” He controlled his vehicle while the tank commander was dismounted to protect fellow soldiers. During a later deployment to Iraq, the veteran had two Improvised Explosive Devices

explode near him; one while he was in a Humvee and another while dismounting. He was awarded a Combat Infantryman Badge. **Tania Koles** of **Microsoft** represented the veteran in seeking CRSC for his PTSD. The CRSC Board awarded CRSC for his PTSD which was rated at 100%.

A Marine Corps veteran performed guard and entry control-point duties while deployed to Afghanistan. He repeatedly experienced incoming mortar fire, as well as intensely stressful guard and entry control point duties, including routine exposure to attacks in the form of car bombs and other enemy action. He was medically retired for PTSD with an explicit finding that it had been caused by his experiences of mortar fire. **Joseph Florczak** and **Jonathan Harmon** of **McGuireWoods** assisted the veteran with an application for CRSC for his PTSD as well as his rhinitis, a PACT Act condition, resulting in a favorable outcome for the veteran.



Victory Lap

CRSC Administrative Applications and Appeals

An Army Infantryman had several deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan during his twenty years of service, earning a Purple Heart and Combat Infantryman Badge. During one deployment to Iraq, he was directly injured by an improvised explosive device (IED), which caused him to sustain a concussion, rocks embedded in his face, and burns on his hands and face. In another deployment to Iraq, he was involved in an IED attack where one fellow soldier was killed, and another significantly injured. The veteran had to render immediate care to both soldiers. He additionally participated in airborne operations and sustained injuries during a hard landing. **Nick Ramos** and **Stephanie Laste** of **Troutman Pepper Locke** represented the veteran in seeking CRSC for his numerous conditions. The veteran was awarded CRSC for his mental health and several physical conditions for a combined combat-related rating of 90%.

A Navy Explosive Ordnance Device (EOD) Diver participated in EOD training that simulated war. He was trained to neutralize various bombs, missiles, mines, and torpedoes. The realism of these training events was reinforced by using small charges that would explode in close proximity to the simulated ordnance if trainees committed an error in procedure. While deployed overseas, routine work and training with foreign militaries involved the simulation of war conditions in which thousands of pounds of captured munitions needed to be destroyed. While safety precautions were taken, facilities in foreign countries did not offer the same protection as is the norm in the U.S., exposing the veteran to large blast forces and concussive explosions. **Thomas Vogt** and **John Dillow** of **Perkins Coie** filed a brief in support of CRSC, documenting the numerous conditions that resulted from the toll of the veteran's twenty years of service. The veteran was awarded CRSC at a total rating of 90%, including for his mental health, back, shoulders, and knees as incurred through conditions simulating war.



Victory Lap

CRSC Administrative Applications and Appeals



An Army Warrant Officer served as a Supply Sergeant for a tactical Signal Company, deploying three times to Kosovo. While on base stateside, she was involved in a motor vehicle accident with a High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV). The accident caused her to lose consciousness and later experience neck pain, whiplash, chronic migraines, anxiety, and pain in her leg and back. She was medically retired due to back conditions from the accident. Her initial request for Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) was denied. **Kandis Gibson** and **Lincoln Bisbee** of **Morgan Lewis** represented her in seeking reconsideration. They argued that her disabilities were caused by the accident involving the HMMWV, which was an instrumentality of war. She was awarded CRSC for multiple conditions as combat-related, with a combined combat-related rating of 90%.

An Army Special Forces Medical Sergeant deployed to Afghanistan, where he regularly endured mortar, sniper and small arms fire, and exposure to explosives, which occurred during direct action missions against the enemy. The blast exposures caused a Traumatic Brain Injury. He was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge for his engagement with the enemy. He also was exposed to burn pits in Afghanistan. While stateside, he served as a combatives instructor, and in one training exercise, his grappling partner dislocated the veteran's dominant shoulder. **Alex Day** and **Greg Doran** of **Nixon Peabody** filed an initial application for CRSC for the veteran. The Board awarded CRSC for his mental health, shoulder, and conditions stemming from exposure to burn pits. His overall combat-related rating was 70%.



Victory Lap

CRSC Administrative Applications and Appeals



While deployed to Iraq, a Marine Corps Mortarman had direct contact with enemy forces on a nearly daily basis. His unit took enemy fire from a wide variety of small arms, vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices, and land mines. During a night patrol in Iraq, his Humvee was struck by an Improvised Explosive Device, knocking him unconscious. Upon regaining consciousness, he engaged in a firefight with hostile forces while feeling dazed and stunned. He was awarded a Combat Action Ribbon. Yet, he began to experience mental health symptoms and was improperly discharged for a personality disorder. **Sari Long** of **Faegre Drinker** assisted him with obtaining a retroactive medical retirement, which conferred eligibility for CRSC. Then the firm filed an application on his behalf for CRSC. He was awarded CRSC for PTSD and tinnitus, with a combat-related rating of 70%.

An Army Tank Mechanic deployed to Iraq, Kuwait, and Afghanistan. His base in Afghanistan was struck by a mortar attack, and he saw another service member a few feet away from him with shrapnel lodged in his head. The veteran rushed to the wounded soldier and applied pressure to his head, while the threat of further attacks continued. Sixteen lives were lost in that attack. The veteran was awarded a Combat Action Badge for his response to the attack. He continued to serve for several years until medically retired due to physical conditions. **Katherine Kramer** and **David Locascio**, with the support of Paralegal Coordinator **Alicia Balthazar** and Senior Paralegal **Nellie Yu** of **Hogan Lovells** filed an application for CRSC for the veteran. The veteran was approved for CRSC for his PTSD. He was further approved for the Pact Act condition of asthma, which the VA had rated in combination with sleep apnea, and for the Pact Act condition of rhinitis, which the VA had diagnosed in conjunction with deviated nasal septum. He also received CRSC for Irritable Bowel Syndrome as a VA presumptive condition. His total combat-related rating was determined to be 90%.

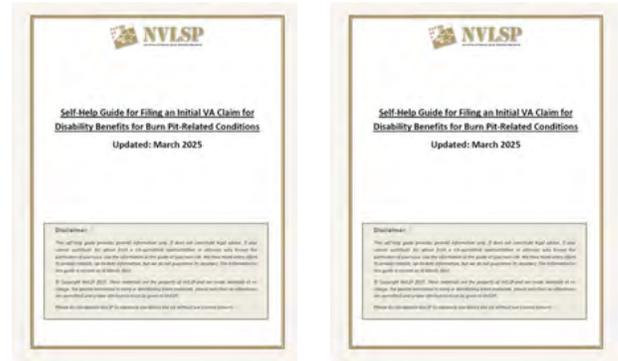
Victory Lap

CRSC Administrative Applications and Appeals

While deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq, the responsibilities of an Army Fire Support Specialist included the planning, synchronization, and execution of lethal and non-lethal fire missions. He was directly involved in ground combat operations in Afghanistan when his patrol received small arms fire, and he was awarded a Combat Action Badge. **Patrick English, Kevin Homrighausen, and John Detrich of Latham & Watkins** represented the veteran in seeking Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC), including for mental health and several VA presumptive conditions. CRSC was awarded for five out of six of the veteran’s submitted medical conditions, with the Army allocating a total combat-related disability rating of 70%.

an application for CRSC, pointing out that the veteran’s cancer was presumed caused by exposure to burn pits pursuant to the PACT Act. The brief further highlighted that the conditions stemming from the cancer were identified as secondary by the VA. The veteran was awarded CRSC for the loss of his eye, scars, and other related conditions as due to service in the Gulf War, with a total combat-related rating of 100%.

An Air Force Mobility Pilot deployed to Afghanistan and Kuwait and flew missions into Afghanistan. Subsequently, he was diagnosed with Left Eye Cancer, necessitating removal of the eyeball. He had no further metastasis, but he suffered numerous other conditions as a result of the anatomical loss of his eye. These conditions included tension headaches and painful scars. **Charlie Hu of Sidley** filed



NVLSP issues updated FAQs for the [Burn Pit Claims Assistance Program](#), dedicated to helping veterans and their survivors on burn-pit related claims for VA disability or death benefits.

CRSC Administrative Applications and Appeals

An Army Tank System Maintainer deployed to Iraq and was exposed to multiple life-threatening scenarios including numerous firefights, IED explosions, and daily mortar attacks on his base. He developed PTSD and was medically retired for this condition with an explicit finding by the Physical Evaluation Board that his PTSD was due to combat stressors. He applied for CRSC for his PTSD on his own and was denied. **Jordan Thompson** and **Andrew Lorentz** of **Davis Wright Tremaine** assisted the veteran with appealing the PTSD denial and also sought CRSC for his tinnitus and hearing loss. The submission included a witness statement from the veteran's battle buddy regarding one attack on base in which indirect fire passed directly overhead and connected with its target, which was approximately 200 yards away from the veteran. The brief argued that the Physical Evaluation Board's determination that the veteran's PTSD is combat-related should be treated as an objective determination to be adopted by the CRSC Board unless it can be rebutted by specific, substantial, and credible evidence to the contrary. The brief asserted that since there was no contrary evidence, the combat-related determination should be followed. The CRSC Board awarded CRSC for PTSD as well as other conditions, and the veteran's total combat-related disability rating was 90%.

An Army Ammunition Specialist deployed five times to Iraq and once to Afghanistan. As an Ammunition Specialist, he was responsible for the management of ammunition and explosives, tasked with receiving, storing and issuing conventional ammunition, guided missiles, large rockets, explosives, and other ammunition and explosive-related items. While in Afghanistan, bombing attacks occurred on the base where he was stationed multiple times per day over the course of the month he was there. During his final deployment to Iraq, while stationed at Al Asad Air Base, he experienced the largest ballistic attack ever against Americans, with sustained large-scale bombing. He was awarded a Combat Action Badge and the Army Achievement Medal with [Combat] "C" Device. Subsequently, he experienced symptoms of PTSD and tinnitus. **Frank Lavaglia** and **Fred Hnat** of **Aon** filed an application for CRSC on his behalf, and the veteran was awarded CRSC with a combined rating of 70%.



In July 2024, NVLSP and Pro Bono Partner White & Case LLP staff and family volunteered to wash the Korean War Veterans Memorial. Here volunteers cleaned the Wall of Remembrance.

Victory Lap

CRSC Administrative Applications and Appeals

A Marine Corps veteran served for over twenty years in numerous occupational specialties including Reconnaissance Instructor, Chief Instructor, Special Operations Team Sergeant, and Troop Sergeant Major. While deployed to Iraq, an improvised explosive device (IED) detonated immediately in front of his vehicle. He also was struck in the head during combat training. He further participated in parachute duty, diving duty, and demolition duty in both combat and training, experiencing hard falls as a parachutist. **Logan Kenney, Charliene Ni, Elizabeth Wayne, David Levine, and Kevin Ahmed of Willkie Farr & Gallagher** assisted the veteran with a CRSC application. He was awarded benefits with a combined combat-related rating of 100% for mental health and several physical conditions.



NVLSP Senior Managing Attorney Esther Leibfarth, presents at the 2024 USSOCOM Warrior Care Coalition Program Annual Joint Service Disability Evaluation System Counsel Program Training, Verification, and Certification Course.

Victory Lap

Discharge Upgrades

A Navy Aviation Boatswain Mate suffered a head injury while deployed to the Persian Gulf in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He got his helmet caught while ducking underneath an aircraft, causing him to fall and hit his head, back, and shoulder. Due to his physical disabilities, he was referred to the Disability Evaluation System. However, he also suffered from an undiagnosed Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and mental health symptoms. He self-medicated with marijuana and failed a drug test. He was discharged with a characterization of Other Than Honorable and a narrative reason of “Misconduct – Drug Abuse.” He applied for VA benefits and the VA determined his service was Honorable for VA purposes. He was granted service connection for his TBI and mental health condition with a rating of 70%. His initial request for a discharge upgrade at the Naval Discharge Review Board was denied. **Krysten Moller** and **Daniel Grant** of **Covington & Burling** represented him at a hearing before the Board, also filing a brief. They argued his TBI and mental health condition mitigated his misconduct. The Board agreed the veteran’s mental health was a mitigating factor and granted an upgrade to Honorable, changing the narrative reason to Secretarial Authority.



In February 2024, NVLSP published a [Self-Help Manual](#) to assist veterans applying for VA Benefits after a Discharge Upgrade.

A Personnel Clerk serving in the Marine Corps was raped during her service. She informed her command, but instead of receiving support, she was subjected to harassment and bullying by her supervisor. She sought treatment from a Navy psychologist who documented that she had endured sexual abuse, and that after she reported this to her command, she was subjected to harassment. She was disciplined for not following orders and then discharged with an Other than Honorable characterization and a discharge characterization of “Misconduct - Minor Disciplinary Infractions.” Post - discharge, after initially struggling with alcohol abuse, she became sober and then volunteered for many years with a non-profit helping people in recovery from alcohol addiction. She sought VA benefits, and the VA determined her service was Honorable for VA purposes, awarding service connection for PTSD from Military Sexual Trauma, rated at 50% disabling. **Daniel Skees** and **Andrea Leprade** of **Morgan Lewis** sought an upgrade

Victory Lap

Discharge Upgrades



from the Board for Correction of Naval Records. The Board was convinced that her mental health condition resulting from Military Sexual Trauma mitigated her misconduct. The Board further noted her post-discharge good character and accomplishments. Her discharge was upgraded to General (Under Honorable Conditions), with a narrative reason of Secretarial Authority.

A Navy Seaman received multiple positive reviews from supervisors for several years. Then, another servicemember physically threatened him with a knife, falsely accusing him of stealing his audio player. The servicemember told the veteran that he would kill him if he did not leave the ship. Fearing for his life, the veteran fled the ship without authorization to distance himself from the traumatic encounter. Although he returned to his duty station on his own, he was discharged under “Other Than Honorable” conditions for leaving without authorization. Years after his discharge, a VA examiner diagnosed the veteran with PTSD, citing the knife incident as the triggering event for his PTSD. However, the veteran was unable to receive appropriate mental health care because of his military-discharge status. **WilmerHale’s Joel Green and Alexandra Stanley** (now a WilmerHale alum)

assisted the veteran before the Board for Correction of Naval Records in seeking a discharge-status upgrade. The Board concluded that the veteran’s unauthorized absence “could be related to avoidance of his traumatic stressor consistent with his post-service diagnosis from the VA of PTSD.” The veteran’s discharge was upgraded to General (Under Honorable Conditions), which entitles him to medical care and other veterans’ benefits.

An Air Force veteran was discharged under Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell based on evidence that he visited bars associated with the gay community. He was given a General (Under Honorable Conditions) characterization of service with a narrative reason of “Homosexual Act.” **Williams & Connolly** filed a brief at the Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records arguing that he merited an upgrade based on the repeal of the Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell policy and Department of Defense guidance directing an upgrade when the only basis for the discharge was the Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell policy. The brief emphasized that the veteran’s discharge was solely due to the Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell policy, with no aggravating factors present. The Board agreed and upgraded his discharge to Honorable, with a narrative reason of Secretarial Authority.



Discharge Upgrades

An Army Petroleum Supply Specialist deployed to Saudi Arabia during the Gulf War. Both during the deployment and upon his return to the United States, he endured sexual harassment and sexual assault from members of the Army, including some his superiors. Following months of abuse, he checked himself into an Army Medical Center. But rather than receiving treatment, he was informed that formally reporting such an assault to the military could lead to the military punishing him under the military's sodomy laws. He went Absent Without Leave to escape the harassment, resulting in a discharge characterization of Under Other than Honorable conditions. **James Fischer** of **DLA Piper** filed a brief at the Board for Correction of Military Records, arguing that the harassment and abuse the veteran suffered mitigated and outweighed his misconduct. An Advisory Opinion agreed that there was mitigation, citing liberal consideration, but the three Board members unanimously voted to deny an upgrade. Nevertheless, the Secretary ordered that the discharge be upgraded to Honorable with a narrative reason of Secretarial Authority.



A Marine veteran worked on a Police Advisory Team responsible for advising, training, and providing security for members of the Afghan National Security Forces. In this role, he participated in more than 100 foot patrols and served as a gunner on 12 mounted patrols covering 300 miles. He experienced symptoms of PTSD due to combat trauma and self-medicated with drugs and alcohol, testing positive for cocaine. He subsequently obtained treatment for his PTSD and addiction. Nevertheless, he was discharged with an Other than Honorable characterization and a narrative reason of Misconduct. He applied for a discharge upgrade on his own and was denied. **Patrick Doerr** of **Winston & Strawn** represented the veteran before the Naval Discharge Review Board, submitting (1) an independent medical opinion finding a nexus between the veteran's misconduct and his PTSD, (2) a letter from a psychologist who treated the veteran in service stating that the veteran's misconduct was due to untreated PTSD, and (3) evidence of good post-discharge conduct. Applying liberal consideration, the Board agreed that the veteran's PTSD mitigated his misconduct. The veteran received an upgrade to Honorable with a narrative reason of Secretarial Authority.

Victory Lap

Discharge Upgrades

An Army Electrician's Mate was hazed and subjected to Military Sexual Trauma (MST) during training. He experienced symptoms of PTSD but was discharged for a Personality Disorder. Post-discharge, the VA diagnosed the veteran with PTSD from MST. **Steven Gluck, Nicolas Glaudemans, and Alexander Jones of Paul, Weiss** assisted the veteran at the Board for Correction of Naval Records, arguing for an upgrade based on liberal consideration. The Board agreed that the narrative reason was unjust and changed the narrative reason to Secretarial Authority.

A Navy veteran had been assigned to a preventative maintenance team as a diesel engine technician. He experienced two separate traumatic events while onboard the Navy ship, one involving a flooding incident and the other involving an exploding steam pipe. These two highly stressful events led to mental health problems, including suicidal ideation and a 10-day involuntary hospitalization. He was diagnosed with a mental health condition but was shortly thereafter discharged with a General (Under Honorable Conditions) characterization. This discharge characterization deprived him of access to educational benefits. **Regis Worley and Rich Noland of Eversheds** represented the veteran at the Naval Discharge Review Board, advocating for an upgrade. The Board

agreed that it was inequitable to assign the veteran a General discharge, given his positive service record. The veteran received an upgrade to an Honorable discharge.

A Marine Corps veteran served for over a decade, including as Criminal Investigator, and he deployed to Iraq and Kuwait. Due to misconduct while he was experiencing personal stressors, he was discharged with an Other than Honorable characterization for Misconduct. Subsequently, he was diagnosed with PTSD from his service. Nevertheless, he worked to assist other veterans, including veterans struggling with mental health and addiction challenges. **David Coogan, Peter Lindsay, and John Michaels of Paul Hastings** filed a brief at the Naval Discharge Review Board. The veteran received an upgrade to Honorable with a narrative reason of Secretarial Authority based on his many years of good service.



Victory Lap

Discharge Upgrades



An Air Force Response Force Member was raped by a fellow Airman and reported the rape. She was then subjected to sexual harassment from her rapist and other fellow airmen. She began to suffer from mental health symptoms, including panic attacks. After learning that her rapist received only a letter of reprimand, she attempted suicide and was treated in the hospital for an overdose. She self-medicated with alcohol and was subsequently convicted for consuming alcohol eight hours prior to duty. She was discharged with a General (Under Honorable Conditions) characterization and a narrative reason of Misconduct (Serious Offense). Post-discharge, she was awarded benefits for a mental health condition by the VA, but it was not diagnosed as related to the Military Sexual Trauma (MST) she experienced. **Scott Rabinowitz** and **Sophie Robeil** of **Skadden** assisted the veteran at a hearing before the Air Force Discharge Review Board. They submitted an independent medical opinion concluding that the veteran suffered from PTSD from MST. Applying liberal consideration, the Board found that the veteran's alcohol dependency, which led to her alcohol related misconduct, was due to her mental health condition from MST. Her discharge was upgraded to Honorable with a narrative reason of Secretarial Authority.

An Army Motor Transportation Operator deployed to Iraq for a year. His combat experiences included five firefights in which he was engaged by enemy small arms fire and rocket-propelled grenades, an improvised explosive device (IED) attack on his vehicle, and numerous instances of rocket attacks. When he returned from the deployment, he suffered a severe panic attack after hearing nearby artillery fire. He sought mental health treatment, but the services provided were not helpful. He requested leave, which was denied. He then went Absent Without Leave. When he returned, he was confined and ultimately separated with a Bad Conduct Discharge and narrative reason of "Court-Martial, Other." Post-discharge, he was diagnosed with PTSD from combat by private therapists, and he found work as an EMT and firefighter. **A.J. Carroll** of **Hunton** represented the veteran before the Army Board for Correction of Military Records, seeking an upgrade under liberal consideration based on his PTSD. The Army's Advisory Opinion found a nexus between the PTSD and his misconduct. The Board applied liberal consideration and upgraded his discharge to General (Under Honorable Conditions), also noting his post-discharge accomplishments and character letters.

Victory Lap

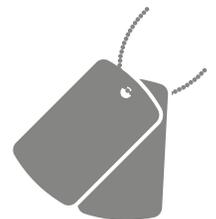
Discharge Upgrades

An Army Nuclear Medical Science Officer was sexually assaulted by her superior and platoon sergeant. As a result of the military sexual trauma (MST), she began to suffer from depression and anxiety and then was subjected to punitive treatment and ridicule. After she rejected further sexual advances, she was discharged with a General (Under Honorable Conditions) characterization and a narrative reason of “Misconduct.” She did not report the MST during her service but post-discharge sought assistance from a Veteran’s Crisis Line. **Aimee Ford** of **Perkins Coie** filed a brief at the Army Board for Correction of Military Records advocating that under the liberal consideration guidance, the veteran’s discharge should be upgraded due to the MST she experienced. The Board accepted the veteran’s assertion that she endured MST and “determined her statement was sufficient” to merit an upgrade to Honorable with a narrative reason of Secretarial Authority.

A Navy Electricians Mate suffered an injury while climbing through a hatch in the ship’s mast, when a gust of wind slammed the hatch closed on his fingers, mangling and nearly severing the tips of the fingers. He received emergency surgery onboard the ship. He regained partial use of his hand but continued to experience pain. He was prescribed pain medication that caused severe stomach cramps. While on leave, he smoked a

marijuana cigarette. He tested positive on a drug test and was discharged with an Other than Honorable discharge characterization and a narrative reason of “Misconduct – Drug Abuse.” **Christopher Lawrence**, **Benjamin Aigboboh** and **Robert Magielnicki** of **Sheppard Mullin** sought an upgrade for the veteran at the Naval Discharge Review Board. They cited DOD guidance instructing Boards to consider that the relative severity of misconduct may change over time. The Board agreed and upgraded the veteran’s discharge to General (Under Honorable Conditions) with a narrative reason of Secretarial Authority.

An Army Cannon Crewmember deployed to Iraq for thirteen months. Following his deployment, he began to experience mental health symptoms. He then went Absent Without Leave, resulting in a discharge Under Other than Honorable conditions. Post-discharge, he was diagnosed with PTSD. **Niraje Medley-Bacon** and **Chris Smith** of **Linklaters** assisted the veteran with a brief at the Army Discharge Review Board, arguing that the veteran’s mental health condition mitigated his misconduct. His discharge characterization was upgraded to Honorable. Applying liberal consideration, the Board found a nexus between his mental health condition and misconduct, warranting an upgrade.



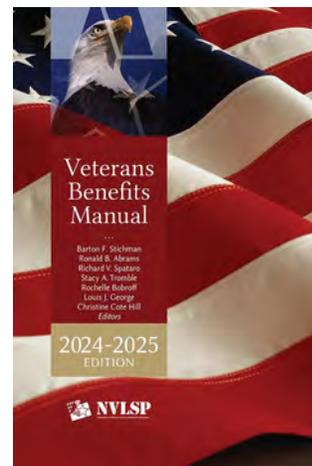
Victory Lap

Discharge Upgrades

A Marine Corps helicopter mechanic was raped in service by her superior. When she reported the rape, she was told no one would take her seriously. She also was subsequently subjected to sexual harassment by male Marines in her unit. After engaging in self-harm, she was discharged with a General (under Honorable Conditions) characterization and a narrative reason of Condition, Not a Disability. Post-discharge, the VA diagnosed her with PTSD from Military Sexual Trauma (MST), rated at 70% disabling. **Christina Vo** and **Greg Jacobs** of **Sidley** represented the veteran before the Board for Correction of Naval Records, advocating for a discharge upgrade based on the veteran's mental health condition from MST. The Board agreed that her relatively minor misconduct was outweighed by the MST she experienced and mental health condition. The veteran's discharge was upgraded to Honorable with a narrative reason of Secretarial Authority.

A Marine Corps Infantryman experienced extensive combat trauma, including traumatic head injuries from explosions of Improvised Explosive Devices. He began experiencing PTSD from his combat trauma. Further, during a deployment to Iraq, he injured his back when he was in the rear of a truck during an operation, and the truck went over a large bump, causing him to smash his back into an ammunition crate. His back condition worsened over time, and he was prescribed

hundreds of opioid pills per month. He attended substance abuse treatment to be able to stop taking the pills, but then his PTSD symptoms intensified. He resumed taking opioids after his prescriptions expired and tested positive on a drug test. He was then referred for treatment for his PTSD. His doctor recommended he be considered for medical retirement, but his command chose to discharge him with a General (Under Honorable Conditions) characterization and a narrative reason of Drug Abuse. **William Weinberg** and **Brendan Cullen** of **Sullivan & Cromwell** represented the veteran at the Naval Discharge Review Board, seeking an upgrade based on the veteran's mental health from combat. The Board agreed, providing an upgrade to Honorable with a narrative reason of Secretarial Authority.



The Veterans Benefits Manual is the nation's most comprehensive treatise on veterans law which offers valuable insight and analysis authored and meticulously updated annually by NVLSP.

Victory Lap

Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Traumatic Injury Protection ("TSGLI")



TSGLI Administrative Applications and Appeals

A Navy SEAL reservist working overseas was struck by gunfire while on a ladder. He fell 20 feet to the ground and suffered multiple traumatic injuries, necessitating surgery. During the recovery process, he was unable to independently bathe, dress, and toilet for over 90 days. He applied for TSGLI on his own for inability to independently complete Activities of Daily Living (ADL) and was denied.

Stephanie Avakian, Rachel Dober, and Arjun Parikh of WilmerHale assisted the veteran with a new filing requesting \$100,000 based on 90 days of ADL loss. The brief set forth extensive documentation, including that providers required him to remain non-weightbearing on his left leg with a splint at all times, wear a fully extended brace on his right leg at all times, and to avoid any range of motion on his right knee for several weeks. Evidence further included physical therapy notes documenting significant functional limitations and a statement from one of the veteran's physical therapists. Additionally, the veteran's wife submitted a caregiver statement describing the physical assistance she provided during the recovery period. The decision awarded \$75,000 in TSGLI benefits, notwithstanding the payment schedule in the Code of Federal Regulations which entitled the veteran to \$100,000. Apparently, the version in effect was published by mistake

and, to this end, a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking was published to revert to the previous payment schedule under which \$75,000 would have been the correct payment amount. After receiving the decision, the WilmerHale team argued that the current regulation should prevail. As a result, the veteran was awarded the full \$100,000.



NVLSP Staff Attorney Zach Outzen, offers his insights on TSGLI at the Fort Belvoir Soldier Recovery Unit Clinic.

Victory Lap

TSGLI Administrative Applications and Appeals

An Air Force Analyst was injured in an accident while riding his motorcycle to work. He sustained severe injuries to his knee, shin, and foot, requiring extended hospitalization and multiple surgeries. He was unable to independently bathe, dress, toilet, and transfer for 120 days. **Jae Lynn Huckaba** of **Hunton** filed an initial application for TSGLI on his behalf. The brief documented his inability to perform these tasks, including occupational therapy notes stating that he required hands-on assistance with upper and lower body bathing, dressing, toileting, and transferring. Additional evidence included caregiver statements from the servicemember's wife and sister detailing the extensive assistance they provided to the servicemember during the 120 day period. The application requested \$100,000 in TSGLI benefits, the maximum possible amount, and that request was granted in full.

A Navy Urban Combat Trainer was exposed to daily breaches, rocket-propelled grenade simulators, and demolition charges. While serving as a Safety Observer during an explosive breach detonation, he experienced a headache, dizziness, and vomiting. During a subsequent medical appointment, it was determined that he was experiencing memory loss, emotional lability, chronic headaches, and disordered sleep. He was referred to the National Intrepid Center of Excellence at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

for an Intensive Outpatient Program, a four-week intensive residential treatment program for servicemembers with a history of Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBIs) and associated health conditions that have not responded to conventional treatment. He attended the program for 25 days, and upon discharge, was diagnosed with a history of TBIs. **Mindy McGrath** and **Dascher Pasco** of **Troutman Pepper Locke** represented the veteran before the Navy Casualty Office, seeking TSGLI for over 15 days of hospitalization. The veteran was awarded \$25,000 in TSGLI, the maximum amount for hospitalization.

An Army Special Forces soldier suffered a traumatic injury while riding his motorcycle. He was struck by an oncoming vehicle that was attempting to turn left on a yellow light, throwing him off his motorcycle and causing him to impact the other vehicle's windshield face-first. He fell unconscious at the scene and was immediately hospitalized. He awoke in excruciating pain due to multiple fractures of his lower and upper jaw, orbits, and nose, with bone fragments embedded in the roof of his mouth, necessitating numerous facial reconstruction surgeries. He applied for TSGLI on his own. He was granted \$25,000 for 15 days of hospitalization, but his claim for additional benefits for facial reconstruction was denied. **Dianne Coffino** and **Andrew Leff** of **Covington & Burling** assisted the veteran with an appeal.

Victory Lap

They submitted a brief detailing the extensive evidence that the veteran met the requirements for a facial reconstruction claim and explained that the denial did not properly apply the legal standard. The Board awarded an additional \$50,000 to the veteran for his facial reconstruction claim.

Representation before the Department of Veterans Affairs

In 2010, Congress established the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (Caregiver Program) to provide financial assistance to caregivers of seriously injured combat veterans. Since the program's inception, the VA struggled to manage it effectively. However, the VA maintained that determinations made under the program were protected from review by the Board of Veterans' Appeals (BVA) and, consequently, from any judicial review. In April 2021, in a class action brought by pro bono counsel at Public Counsel and Paul Hastings LLP, [Beaudette v. McDonough](#), the Court of Appeals for Veterans Court held that claimants have a right to appeal adverse decisions under the Caregiver Program to the BVA. NVLSP joined Public Counsel and Paul Hastings as co-class counsel to help negotiate and administer notice to class members and to assist in defending the decision when the government appealed to the Federal Circuit. [Igor Timofeyev](#) at [Paul Hastings](#) provided pro bono representation to

the class at the Federal Circuit. On February 27, 2024, that court unanimously affirmed the Veterans Court's decision, holding that the Board of Veterans' Appeals has the authority to review appeals from all Caregiver Program decisions, including decisions about the veteran's or caregiver's eligibility. Since the Veterans Court's 2021 decision, the Board has provided dispositions in almost 2,000 appeals from Caregiver Program decisions, and another 3,800 appeals are docketed and pending.



On February 27, 2024 the United States of Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit unanimously [upheld](#) a lower court decision granting hundreds of thousands of veterans and their family caregivers the right to appeal decisions relating to the Department of Veterans' Affairs Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (Family Caregiver Program). The affected class of veterans and caregivers, led by Jeremy and Maya Beaudette, were represented by pro bono class counsel at Paul Hastings LLP, Public Counsel, and the National Veterans Legal Services Program ([NVLSP](#)).

Victory Lap

Representation before the Department of Veterans Affairs

NVLSP and Swords to Plowshares, a non-profit serving homeless, low-income, and at-risk veterans in the Bay Area, have been working since 2015 to force the VA to change its regulatory bars to benefits for servicemembers who received less-than-honorable discharge characterizations. After years of VA delay in issuing a new regulation, in October 2023, NVLSP and Swords filed a petition for a writ of mandamus in the Federal Circuit to force the VA to issue a final rule on the matter. NVLSP and Swords were represented in the litigation by the Veterans Legal Clinic at the Legal Services Center of Harvard Law School and a pro bono team from [Latham & Watkins](#). The Latham team included [Matthew Murchison](#), [Christine Smith](#), [Jordan Goldberg](#), and [Hasala Ariyaratne](#). On February 5, 2024, the Federal Circuit issued a brief per curiam opinion denying our petition, but with strong language indicating a different view if the VA did not take final action by April 15, 2024. The VA did not meet this deadline, and we filed another petition shortly thereafter. On April 26, 2024, the VA published a final rule modifying the character of discharge regulations, almost nine years after our efforts began. The rule became effective on June 25, 2024, and expanded access for veterans with less than honorable discharges, particularly for veterans with compelling circumstances to explain any misconduct related to their discharge status. According to VA data from December 2024, the new regulations have led to a 20% increase in

approvals for VA benefits eligibility for veterans subject to a character of discharge determination.

The VA computer system erroneously deactivated approximately 3,000 veterans' benefits appeals and improperly removed them from the system. Two veterans' survivors identified the error and filed a class action to require the VA to remedy the errors for all impacted veterans. The Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims reactivated the claims of the two petitioners but denied class certification. The decision was appealed to the Federal Circuit. [Megan Rogers](#), [Alice Ahn](#), [Sara Sunderland](#), and [Alexander Setzepandt](#) of [Covington & Burling](#) filed an amicus brief on behalf of NVLSP in *Freund v. McDonough*. The brief argued that class relief was needed to assist all veterans whose appeals were erroneously closed without notice. It pointed out that most veterans, including those impacted by the VA's error, do not have attorney representation. The brief further advocated that class action treatment is more likely to result in systemic change. The Federal Circuit vacated the denial of class certification and remanded for a more fulsome consideration of whether to certify the proposed class.



Board of Veterans' Appeals Remands from the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims (CAVC)

Michael J. Abernathy and Liya K. Levin of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius represented a U.S. Marine Corps veteran who sustained a traumatic brain injury (“TBI”) during service while working on the engine of an M60 tank. At the time of the injury, he lost consciousness twice, and since then has suffered blurred vision, dizziness, chronic headaches, and other related medical issues. The veteran sought benefits from the VA regarding these injuries, and was repeatedly denied. On remand from the CAVC, the Board was ordered to address the evidence of TBI, as well as prior inadequate examinations. The volunteer attorneys prepared a comprehensive appeal for the veteran, including an expert medical opinion report confirming the veteran’s TBI and residual symptoms. Unfortunately, the Board was not able to grant the benefit in full, and instead remanded for further development by the VA Regional Office. However, on remand, the appeal packet submitted by the attorneys—including the expert medical report, statements from the veteran and his buddy who assisted him at the time of the injury, and even images related to the equipment that struck the veteran and caused his injury—continued to support the veteran in his appeal. This evidence package became the foundation for the VA’s award of service connection for all residuals of the veteran’s TBI, which resulted in a retroactive award of over \$220,000.



NVLSP at CAVC Judicial Conference in September 2024.

Left to right, top row: NVLSP Appellate Attorney Heather Olson, Senior Managing Appellate Attorney Christopher Murray, Appellate Attorney Emily Mills.

Second row: Director of Litigation Renee Burbank, Appellate Attorneys Shara Abraham, Alec Ghezzi, and Director of Training and Publications Rick Spataro.

Third row: Staff Attorney Margaret Costello. Fourth row: Senior Staff Attorney Alexis Ivory, Staff Attorney Elizabeth Tarloski,

Appellate Attorney Brandy Disbennett-Albrecht, Senior Appellate Attorney Abigail Schopick,

Appellate Attorneys Rebecca Pierce, Katherine Orr and Jeffrey Price. Front row: Senior Appellate

Attorneys Carlie Steiner and Caitlin Milo, Staff Attorney Samantha Greenstein, Director of CAVC Litigation Stacy Tromble, Special Counsel Christine Cote Hill, Co-Founder and Special Counsel Bart Stichman and Staff Attorney Ryan Kelley.

Dane Jaques and Onika Williams of Steptoe & Johnson represented the surviving spouse of a U.S. Navy retiree, seeking entitlement to survivor’s benefits based on her husband’s Vietnam service. Specifically, the veteran was exposed to hazardous substances during his service, including ionizing radiation, asbestos, and lead paint.

Victory Lap

Board of Veterans' Appeals Remands from the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims



He passed away due to pancreatic cancer, diabetes, and coronary artery disease. The volunteer attorneys presented several arguments linking the veteran's conditions to the long-term effects of his in-service hazardous exposure. They submitted over 600 pages of supplemental evidence to support these arguments. This extensive evidence contributed to the Board's decision to grant entitlement to survivor's benefits, resulting in a retroactive award of approximately \$110,100 to the surviving spouse. Additionally, as a recipient of VA's survivor's benefits, the surviving spouse will continue to receive over \$1,600 per month for her lifetime.



NVLSP Appellate Attorneys Kenneth Meador and Margaret Wilks at the CAVC 16th Judicial Conference.

Rucha Phadtare and Edward So of White & Case represented a U.S. Navy veteran seeking entitlement to a total disability rating based on individual unemployability ("TDIU"). The veteran suffered from severely disabling right arm conditions that precluded him from maintaining his occupation. The volunteer attorneys provided a compelling brief advocating that the veteran's service-connected right arm conditions alone would prevent the veteran from engaging in substantially gainful employment,

particularly given his work history in manual labor industries. The attorneys also provided an updated statement from the veteran which explained the limitations of his right arm, including his drastically reduced range of motion and daily debilitating pain. The Board awarded TDIU, which resulted in a retroactive payment to the veteran of approximately \$175,600.

Victory Lap

Board of Veterans' Appeals Remands from the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims

Miguel Eaton, Hannah Rozow Owolabi, and Ryan McMullan of Jones Day represented a U.S. Army veteran seeking entitlement to a total disability rating based on individual unemployability (“TDIU”) due to his service-connected disabilities. These disabilities — including post-traumatic stress disorder (“PTSD”) and a left paraspinal muscle injury—resulted from a debilitating knife wound sustained in a brutal attack during service. The volunteer attorneys developed a plethora of evidence in support of the veteran’s unemployability, including statements from the veteran, family members, friends, and one of his treatment providers. This evidence and argument resulted in the Board awarding entitlement to TDIU, which produced a retroactive payment to the veteran of approximately \$186,800.

Roland Hartung, Chuck Klein, and Molly Rose Gibson of Winston & Strawn represented a U.S. Army veteran in his claim for an increased rating for multiple myeloma. The veteran served in Vietnam and was awarded the Bronze Star, Army Commendation Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, among others decorations. As a result of his exposure to herbicides during his service in Vietnam, the veteran developed multiple myeloma and was awarded service connection

for this cancer, but at a non-compensable evaluation. The veteran continued to seek the appropriate evaluation, but the VA repeatedly misapplied the applicable diagnostic code which instructs that a total (100%) “shall” continue for 5-years after diagnosis. The veteran was still within this time period and the volunteer attorneys expertly crafted an argument based on a plethora of medical evidence and the correct interpretation of the diagnostic code to aver that the veteran was (and remains) entitled to a total rating for the appeal period. The Board took specific note of the briefing and awarded the benefit sought — granting the veteran a total (100%) evaluation for his multiple myeloma. This award resulted in a retroactive payment to the veteran of approximately \$86,000.

Kathryn (Katie) Sobotta of Cozen O’Connor represented a U.S. Army veteran with service from 1981 to 1994 who was seeking entitlement to service connection for sleep apnea based on in-service development of that condition, as well as exposure to asbestos. At the Board, the volunteer attorney’s briefing focused on both theories, but in particular, the manifestation of symptoms during active duty based on the credible and competent testimony of the veteran. The Board remanded this issue to obtain a medical opinion based on the

Victory Lap

Board of Veterans' Appeals Remands from the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims

veteran's statements and argument's advanced by the attorney, instead of denying the claim a third time. On remand, the subsequent medical opinion contemplated the issues raised by the attorney, and opined that the veteran's sleep apnea was at least as likely as not related to his service. Subsequently, the VA Regional Office awarded service connection for sleep apnea with the 50% evaluation effective July 2014. This award produced a retroactive award to the veteran of about \$124,000. This is the veteran's first service-connected disability, which also entitles him to many other state and federal benefits.

Brennan H. Meier of **Akin** and **Matthew E. Myatt**, formerly of **Akin**, represented a U.S. Navy veteran with service from 1966 to 1969, including service in the Republic of Vietnam, for which he was awarded the Vietnam Service Medal with campaign star. The veteran was seeking entitlement to service connection for a right shoulder condition due to an in-service injury he incurred when a hatch slammed closed, trapping his right arm and knocking him off of an inboard hatch ladder. This injury caused him persistent shoulder pain which resulted in post-traumatic osteoarthritis. The volunteer attorneys argued to the Board of Veterans Appeals ("Board") that the veteran's

testimony, coupled with his service records documenting a right clavicle fracture, showed chronicity and continuity of symptoms. The Board agreed and awarded service connection for the right shoulder. The veteran was assigned a 40% evaluation for his shoulder and received a retroactive award of benefits totaling approximately \$19,700.

Jordan Passmore and **Brian Concklin** of **Clifford Chance** represented a U.S. Air Force veteran with service from October 1996 to October 2000. The veteran was seeking entitlement to service connection for left knee osteoarthritis and degenerative joint disease of the lumbar spine following injuries in service which caused persistent and chronic pain. While these complaints were noted in service, the VA had continued to deny the veteran's claims, finding that she did not have continuous treatment. However, in their brief to the Board, the volunteer attorneys argued that continuous symptoms were the relevant fact, not treatment, and that the veteran had provided competent testimony attesting to the persistent and chronic nature of her symptoms. The Board awarded entitlement to service connection for both left knee and lumbar spine disabilities, resulting in a retroactive payment to the veteran of over \$30,000.



Victory Lap

Board of Veterans' Appeals Remands from the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims

Zack McCraney of Holland & Hart represented a U.S. Army veteran with service from July 2000 to July 2004 in his request for a rating in excess of 50% for his service-connected post-traumatic stress disorder ("PTSD"). This issue had been the subject of two prior appeals to the CAVC. The volunteer attorneys' detailed discussion of the evidence of record convinced the Board to award the increased rating. This resulted in a retroactive award of benefits for the veteran totaling over \$13,000.

Skye Mathieson, Charles Baek, and Donna Reuter of Crowell & Moring represented a U.S. Army veteran with service in Afghanistan and Kuwait in his request for an increased evaluation for his service connected migraine headaches, which manifested during his deployment to Afghanistan. Here, the Board had previously failed to correctly apply the diagnostic code and define and discuss relevant terms within the diagnostic code. In briefing, the volunteer attorneys argued for a maximum schedular evaluation for headaches, explaining in great detail the key requirements for a maximum evaluation and the veteran's medical records supporting that evaluation. The Board's decision awarded entitlement to the maximum evaluation which resulted in a retroactive payment to the veteran of approximately \$33,000.

Max Kelln, Brianna Marshall, and Jennifer Hoffmann of Faegre Drinker represented a surviving spouse of a U.S. Army veteran with service in Vietnam. As a result of his service and exposure to Agent Orange herbicides in Vietnam, he was granted service connection for prostate cancer. On appeal in this case were the appropriate ratings for the veteran's prostate cancer residuals, including a total (100%) evaluation for the recurrence of his prostate cancer prior to the veteran's death in January 2018. Also on appeal was service connection for non-presumptive cancers and conditions, including service connection for cancer of the throat, and service connection for a heart condition, including cardiomyopathy. At the Board, the volunteer attorneys specifically argued that the veteran's cancer had reoccurred prior to his death based on the presence of malignant neoplasms and therefore a total (100%) rating was warranted for the 7 months prior to his death. Additionally, attorneys advocated for separate evaluations prior to the reoccurrence of cancer for urinary frequency and urinary leakage. Finally, the attorneys argued for service connection for cancer of the throat due to both herbicide exposure and metastasizing prostate cancer, and service connection for the veteran's heart condition, due to the veteran's hypertension that was associated with his herbicide exposure. In its decision, the Board awarded the benefits sought, and these awards resulted in a retroactive award to the surviving spouse of over \$67,000.

Victory Lap

Board of Veterans' Appeals Remands from the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims

Laura Wilk, Scott Levitt, and Brian Reiser of Covington & Burling represented a U.S. Air Force veteran who served from September 1968 to April 1972 as an aircraft mechanic. The veteran sought entitlement to service connection for his lumbar spine disability, incurred when he was hit in the back by two 80-pound oxygen tanks. In briefing, the volunteer attorneys advocated for direct service connection, as well as presumptive service connection, arguing that the veteran's back disability was first noted in service and he has demonstrated continuity of symptoms since that time. The Board awarded entitlement to service connection for the lumbar spine on a presumptive basis, resulting in a retroactive evaluation of over \$12,000.

John Nelson, Stevin George (now at King & Spalding), and Andy Lorentz of Davis Wright Tremaine and Amanda Rosen of T-Mobile represented a U.S. Army veteran with over 22 years of active duty service and a Master Parachutist Badge in his request for service connection for his left knee disability. The volunteer attorneys argued service connection was warranted on a presumptive basis given the veteran's reports of bilateral knee pain at his separation exam, his immediate reporting of symptoms following his military retirement, and his continuity of symptomology. The Board

awarded service connection on a presumptive basis, resulting in a retroactive award of approximately \$32,000 and bringing a successful resolution to a 15-year battle for this veteran. This award also resulted in entitlement to concurrent receipt – enabling the veteran to collect his VA benefits and his military retired pay separately, instead of his VA benefits being offset from his military retired pay – a significant financial benefit that will continue for the veteran's lifetime.



On December 23, 2024, NVLSP announced the launch of its [Family Caregiver Assistance Program](#) to assist veterans and family caregivers who have been denied benefits through the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) and want to pursue an appeal. The program was made possible through the Skadden Fellowship Foundation.

Victory Lap

Board of Veterans' Appeals Remands from the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims

Sean O'Neal of DLA Piper represented a U.S. Army veteran in his appeal for entitlement to service connection for tinnitus. The veteran had continued to pursue this claim, stating that his tinnitus manifested after firing an M72 Light Anti-Armor Weapon rocket launcher, coupled with other extreme noise exposures including explosions and rifle fire. This case concerned the Board's prior failure to address the veteran's statements regarding his noise exposure and manifestation of tinnitus. In briefing to the Board, the volunteer attorney addressed the veteran's testimony and argued that not only was his testimony competent and credible, but that it established continuity of symptomology since service and was sufficient for an award of service connection. The Board concurred and awarded service connection for tinnitus. This award produced a retroactive award to the veteran in excess of \$11,000, and it was also the veteran's first service-connected disability, which will enable him to access other important state and federal benefits.

Courtney Stone Mirski, Annie Chang, and Craig Primis of Kirkland & Ellis represented a U.S. Army veteran seeking service connection for post-traumatic stress disorder ("PTSD") due to her in-service experience of military sexual

trauma ("MST"). At the time of the volunteer attorneys' representation, the veteran was also unhoused and in need of supportive services. The attorneys assisted the veteran in gathering substantial evidence to submit to the Board, including a new statement from the veteran and her daughter, as well as a medical opinion from her treatment provider. The attorneys highlighted that the record contained corroborative and credible evidence sufficient to not only establish in-service MST pursuant to applicable regulations, but also to award entitlement to service connection for her PTSD. The Board awarded entitlement to service connection and this produced a retroactive benefit to the veteran of approximately \$114,000.



In August 2024, NVLSP's Director of CAVC Litigation Stacy Tromble, Of Counsel Tom Herthel and Special Counsel Louis George attended the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs (NASDVA) Annual Training Conference in Indiana.

Victory Lap

Board of Veterans' Appeals Remands from the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims

Josh Whitehill and Cameron Moxley of Brown Rudnick represented a U.S. Air Force veteran seeking entitlement to a Total Disability Rating Based on Individual Unemployability (“TDIU”) and to Special Monthly Compensation based on Regular Need for Aid and Attendance (“SMC”). The volunteer attorneys provided a thorough brief to the Board, addressing the increasing severity of the veteran’s service-connected lower extremity disabilities that had made it impossible for him to continue working as a truck driver, as he had done for the past 50 years, to obtain more than marginal employment, or to perform many activities of daily living without assistance. In response, the Board agreed and awarded both TDIU and SMC, resulting in increased disability benefits going forward, as well as a retroactive award of over \$60,000.

Alec Albright and Matt Drossos of White & Case represented a US Army veteran who served during the Vietnam War in Korea at Camp Casey from June 1969 to July 1970. His appeal concerned his exposure to herbicides during his time at Camp Casey, and he sought service connection for conditions presumptively related to such exposure, including type II diabetes. Alec

drafted the arguments in support of the veteran’s request, identifying a 1968 U.S. Army report pertaining to the Vegetation Control Plan, and obtaining lay statements from the veteran and a fellow soldier who also served with him in Korea. In light of the arguments and additional evidence presented by the volunteers, the Board granted service connection. It found specifically that the additional documentary and testimonial evidence provided with the briefing were critical in establishing that the veteran had direct exposure to herbicides. The veteran was awarded service connection not only for his diabetes, but also for his associated peripheral neuropathy, and received a retroactive award of over \$80,000.



In July 2024, White & Case’s Alec Albright joined NVLSP to clean the iconic service member statues in the Field of Service at the Korean War Veterans Memorial.

Victory Lap

Board of Veterans' Appeals Remands from the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims



Simon Saddleton and Charlie Hu of Sidley Austin represented a U.S. Army veteran in her appeal for increased evaluations of several orthopedic conditions, including thoracolumbar spine, cervical spine, and service connection for associated bilateral upper extremity radiculopathy. Addressing an appeal period of over a decade, the volunteer attorneys provided a detailed briefing advancing several arguments that supported entitlement to an increased evaluation for the thoracolumbar and cervical spine, including as based on functional loss and the functional equivalent of ankylosis. Additionally, the attorneys advanced cogent arguments on service connection for bilateral upper extremity radiculopathy as secondary to the veteran's cervical spine. The Board granted the benefits sought, including increases on both the thoracolumbar spine and cervical spine, and service connection for associated radiculopathy. Given the extensive appeal period here, these awards produced a retroactive payment to the veteran of nearly \$140,000.

Stephen Barry, Blake Page, and Henry Zaytoun of Latham & Watkins represented a U.S. Navy veteran seeking service connection for bilateral hearing loss. This veteran had active duty service during which he was primarily stationed in Guam, and an additional period of service in the Naval Reserves. At issue here was whether the veteran's time in the Reserves, coupled with his active duty, caused his present and profound hearing loss condition. In briefing, the volunteer attorneys painstakingly detailed the veteran's service activities and locations to demonstrate substantial noise exposure. Additionally, the attorneys focused on the veteran's statements to argue continuity and chronicity of his hearing loss symptoms. This argument won the day and the Board awarded service connection for hearing loss. In subsequent implementation of that grant by the VA Regional Office, a total (100%) evaluation was assigned for the veteran's hearing loss and he was also assigned special monthly compensation due to deafness in both ears. This grant and the assigned evaluation produced a retroactive payment to the veteran of over \$270,000.

Miscellaneous

James Rudisill served in the U.S. Army for approximately eight aggregate years over three separate tours. His service included two tours in Iraq and one in Afghanistan. His awards included a Bronze Star, a Combat Action Badge, an Air Assault Badge, Afghanistan and Iraq Campaign Medals with multiple campaign stars, and a Kosovo Campaign Medal. He sought to use both his Post-9/11 GI Bill and Montgomery GI Bill educational benefits but was denied by the VA. The VA insisted he could only access one of those bills and that he had to choose between them. The case was appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. **Michael Kenneally, James Nelson, and Brendan Anderson of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius** filed an amicus brief on behalf of NVLSP at the Supreme Court. The brief explained how the history and purposes of the GI Bill enactments, dating back to World War II, reinforce veterans' statutory right to dual earned benefits. The Supreme Court ruled in favor of the veteran, enabling him and other veterans similarly situated to access full educational benefits under both statutes.

On June 3, 2024, the United States Court of Federal Claims (COFC) announced that it was seeking public comment on a series of proposed amendments to the Rules of the United States Court of Federal Claims (RCFC). **Michael Vernick of Akin** assisted with the drafting of NVLSP's comments on the proposed amendments. NVLSP's comments noted that the current RCFC rules

render military pay cases inefficient for litigants, inadvertently prejudice veterans' ability to obtain meaningful judicial review, and miss opportunities to achieve greater judicial economy in these highly fact-sensitive cases. The comments stated that the proposed changes alleviate many of these issues and should be adopted as proposed. The comments focused on supporting the requirements for the government to (1) file an administrative record prior to remand, (2) confer with plaintiffs on the contents and completeness of the administrative record, (3) discuss whether any portions of the administrative record should be redacted to protect personal information, and (4) include DoD or branch-specific regulations as part of the administrative record. The Court adopted the rules with all these changes.



On July, 18, 2024 The National Veterans Legal Services Program filed comments in support of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims' proposed amendments to their rules governing procedure in military pay cases. The proposed rules would make military pay cases more efficient for litigants, enhance veterans' ability to obtain meaningful judicial review, and achieve greater judicial economy.

Thank You for Your Generosity

We express deep appreciation for the contributions to our Lawyers Serving Warriors® program that enable the National Veterans Legal Services Program (NVLSP) to serve our warriors. Your financial support made it possible for our Pro Bono Program to assist thousands of veterans, service members and their families.

A&O Shearman	Gibson Dunn	OpenText
Akerman	Hogan Lovells	Oracle
Akin Gump Stauss Hauer & Feld	Holland & Hart	Orrick
Aon	Hunton Andrews Kurth	Paul Hastings
Arnold & Porter	Jones Day	Paul, Weiss
Ballard Spahr	Katten Muchin Rosenman	Perkins Coie
Bradley Arant	King & Spalding	Pfizer
Capital One	Kirkland & Ellis	RTX
CARES Foundation	Latham & Watkins	Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton
Chevron	Lavan-Harris Charitable Trust	Sidley Austin Foundation
Clifford Chance	Linklaters	Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom
Covington & Burling	Lockheed Martin Corporation	The Steptoe Foundation
Cozen O'Connor	Mayer Brown	T-Mobile
Crowell & Moring	May & Stanley Smith Charitable Trust	Taft
Davis Wright Tremaine	McCarter & English	Troutman Pepper Locke
Dechert	McDermott Will & Emery	U.S. Bank
DLA Piper Foundation	McGuireWoods	UnitedHealth Group
Dr. Scholl Foundation	Merck & Co.	Verizon
Eversheds Sutherland US	Microsoft Corporation	White & Case
Exelon	Morgan Lewis & Bockius	Williams & Connolly
Faegre Drinker	NFL	WilmerHale
Finnegan	Nixon Peabody	Winston & Strawn
Foley Hoag	O'Melveny	

Thank You for Your Legal Representation

LSW extends our sincere appreciation to all partner law firms and corporations that accepted cases, projects, limited scope opportunities, and staffed clinics in 2024. With this pro bono support, LSW set a new record by placing 630 full-scope direct veteran representation matters. Additionally, LSW placed a record number of brief services, limited scope file reviews, and projects, with 1,463 placements. This report lists the names of volunteers who accepted matters in 2024 and provides a summary description of the types of matters accepted by partner firms and corporations.

A&O Shearman: 189 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Saralyn Cohen, Jennifer White-Callaghan, Derek Aulestia

A&O Shearman is a leading partner for discharge upgrade file reviews, accepting 189 in 2024.

Derek Aulestia	Michael Jindia	Heloisa Sato
Diana Balaj	Ian Johnson	Juan Santiago
Sarah Bray	Rachel Kim	Jarissa Sabal
Nick Chesrown	Taylor Landry	Joseph Samuels
Jonathan Cho	Justin Lee	Christina Simpson
Marina Mendes Correa	Stephanie Li	Nick Slagter
Kevin Duong	Jake Lortz	Kadiata Sy
Karen Fasoyiro	Matt McGee	Dillon Tan
Shannon Flaherty	Helen McKinney	Katherine Teng
Danielle Garcia	Natasha Mckeever	Joshua Tryon
Violet Jia	Nicholas Putz	

Thank You for Your Legal Representation

Akerman: 9 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Gina DelChiaro, Giselle Burke

Akerman accepted 6 Combat-Related Special Compensation cases, 1 discharge upgrade matter, and 2 discharge upgrade file review matters.

Ashley Akapo	Michael Hess	Jason Margolin	Spencer Sater
Steve Chudnow	John Hood	Jim McCann	Wallace Stage
Kristen Fiore	Amanda Klopp	Douglas Paul	Erin Swick
Katrina Flores	Jennifer Kramer	Robin Pipkins	Chelsea Valente
Valerie Greenberg			Gary Whitlock

Akin: 5 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Emily Heger, Lauren Connell, Steven Schulman, Annie Rum

Akin accepted 2 Combat-Related Special Compensation matters, 1 discharge upgrade matter, and 1 appeal at the Board of Veterans' Appeals. Akin also drafted comments for NVLSP on the Court of Federal Claims proposed rulemaking changes.

Chip Altieri	Robert Griffin	Vincent Jones	Michael Vernick
Randall Boe	Emily Heger	Matthew Lloyd	Brad Warner
Daniel Chasin	Justina Huang	Brennan Meier	Corey Whitt
Karen Christian	Uri Itkin	Vanessa Meraz	Iain Wood
Kevin Eide			

Thank You for Your Legal Representation

Alston & Bird: 1 matter

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Mary Benton, Darcy McLean

A new LSW partner in 2024, Alston & Bird accepted 1 discharge upgrade matter.

Ryan Philp

Henry Reynolds

Arnold & Porter: 143 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Marsha Tucker, Rwanda Campbell, Lucy McMillan

Arnold & Porter accepted 9 discharge upgrade matters and 119 discharge upgrade file review matters, partnering with PHRMA on 1 of the discharge upgrade matters. Arnold & Porter also interviewed 15 veterans at a virtual discharge upgrade clinic. Veterans from across the country met with pro bono attorneys through virtual meeting platforms to discuss their discharge upgrade cases.

Sara Adler	Amy Dewitt	Sheryl Gittlitz
Stefanie Alfonso-Frank	John DiBari	Joan Goddard
Vasa Archana	Howard Duan	Kd Harbeck
Heather Ashour	Kerry Dziubek	Dina Hayes
John Barker	Kevin Elrod	Alyssa Hogan
Tracy Belton	David Emanuelson	Roberta Horton
Daniel Benjamin	Debbie Feinstein	Justin Imperato
Scott Berson	Eric Fell	Tiffany Jang
James Blackburn	Bobby Fischbeck	Kevin Jordan
Jon Boswell	Lynn Fox Fischer	Esther Ju
Sean Callagy	Therese Fox	Martin Kald
Maria Castiglie	Robert Franciscovich	Trevor Kirby
Douglas Clark	Claire Frost	Rachel Kless
Greg Criscitello	Joseph Galvin	Hannah Koseki
Scott DeAbate	Mike Gentine	Garrett Kraus
	Haley Giaramita	Ronald Lee

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Arnold & Porter (Continued)

Aaron Lehrfield	Carlos Pelaez	Samantha Shoff
Shay Longtain	Doug Pelley	Matthew Shultz
Francesco Mangini	Christopher Peterson	Jennifer Sklenar
Sharon Mayo	Sonia Pfaffenroth	Anne Soh
Joanna McDonough	Megam Pieper	Rob Stout
Mike McGill	Josephine Qu	Zachary Sweebe
Rebecca Meisler	Susan Rabinowitz	Roe Talmor
Michael Messersmith	Gabrielle Raskin	Darryl Toler
Lindsey Miller	Tim Roche	Kevin Toomey
Benjamin Mintz	Katie Roux	Michael Treves
Roxanne Mintz	Michael Rubin	Alyssa Tyler
William Needle	Benjamin Sachrison	Kerry Walsh
Gabrielle Neiss	Gregory Schinner	Clemens Weygandt
Madelyn Nicolini	Peter Schmidt	Nellie Wigfall
Stephanie Nygard	Ian Schwartz	Thomas Yadlon
Kathryn Olson	Rafe Serouya	Thomas Yadlon
William Omorogieva	Rashmi Seth	Betty Yan
Gabriel Ossi	John Shearer	Katia Yannaca-Small
Darrel Pae	Lisa Shi	Sasha Zheng

Baker Botts: 2 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Mark Speegle

Baker Botts accepted 1 discharge upgrade matter and 1 discharge upgrade file review matter.

Amara Osisioma

Mark Speegle

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Ballard Spahr: 3 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Lisa Swaminathan

Ballard Spahr accepted 3 discharge upgrade cases.

Ryan Brown	Patrick Compton	Bruce Johnson
Chris Cognato		Matt Vantusko

Bank of America: 15 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Vince Doa

Bank of America accepted 15 discharge upgrade file review matters with partner Bradley.

Laida Alarcon	Suzanne Garrison	Aaron Longo	Jennifer Talmadge
Angel Berry	Terry Irvin	Marcia Schaubert	Susan Thomas
Naomi Carry	Colleen Johnson	Megan Scholtz	Cookie Williams
Melissa DiPento	Katherine Lamberth		

Bass Berry: 1 matter

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Jennifer Michael

Bass Berry accepted 1 discharge upgrade file review matter.

Stewart Kameen	Christine Morse
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Bracewell: 2 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Pamela Dunnings, Bob Wagman, Gene Elrod

A returning LSW partner in 2024, Bracewell accepted 2 medical retirement matters.

Gene Elrod	Sophia Evans
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Thank You for Your Legal Representation

Bradley: 16 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Tiffany Graves

Bradley accepted 1 discharge upgrade matter and 15 discharge upgrade file review matters with partner Bank of America.

Delaney Beier	Eric Halpern	Lyndsay Medlin
Buddy Cox	Christy Hancock	Marianna Nichols
Miatta Echetebe	Caroline Kerr	Hunter Pearce
Lauren Green	Dana Lumsden	Stevie Rushing
Catherine Grow	Danny McEntee	Grant Williamson

Brown Rudnick: 1 matter

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Meredith Joseph, Miranda Black

Brown Rudnick accepted 1 case at the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

Stephen Cook	Cameron Moxley
Natasha Ertzbischoff	Josh Whitehill
Eileen Hren	

Capital One: 18 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Claire Murray

Capital One accepted 5 discharge upgrade file review matters, and 1 discharge upgrade matter, partnering with Troutman Pepper Locke on the discharge upgrade matter. Capital One also partnered with Troutman to interview 12 veterans at a virtual discharge upgrade clinic. Veterans from across the country met with pro bono attorneys through virtual meeting platforms to discuss their discharge upgrade cases.

Thank You for Your Legal Representation

Chapman and Cutler: 1 matter

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Sara Ghadiri

Chapman and Cutler accepted 1 Combat-Related Special Compensation case.

Michael Myones

Chevron: 5 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Andrea Hogan, Grace Ho

Chevron accepted 1 discharge upgrade file review matter. Chevron also partnered with Latham to host an IDES clinic, providing virtual brief advice to 4 service members going through the IDES process.

Trevor Black

Christina Ferguson

Jane Campbell

Tracy Garcia

Sara Clark

Ryan Gum

Cisco: 9 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Pablo Castro, Lauren Hilton

Cisco accepted 1 discharge upgrade matter with partner Covington & Burling and 8 discharge upgrade file review matters.

Christyne Brennan

Tony McQuinn

Xiao Chang

Scott Peartree

Tawanda Etheridge

Tom Philbrick

Nigel Hsu

Casey Scofield

Rob Keller

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Clifford Chance: 7 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Celeste Koeleveld, Pierce Vo, Jordan Passmore

Clifford Chance accepted 7 cases before the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

Dennis Morrisroe	Jordan Passmore
Sophia Navedo-Quinones	Curtis Sails III
Cormac O'Halloran	Makenzie Stuard

Constellation: 1 matter

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Bill Edwards

Constellation accepted 1 discharge upgrade matter with partner Morgan Lewis.

Bill Edwards

Corebridge Financial: 2 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Mitch Chupack, Amanda Iraheta

Corebridge Financial accepted 2 discharge upgrade file review matters.

Mitch Chupack	Amanda Iraheta
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Thank You for Your Legal Representation

Covington & Burling: 48 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Kelly Voss, Jorge Escobedo

A leading LSW partner for discharge upgrades, Covington volunteers accepted 18 discharge upgrade cases (with 2 involving Military Sexual Trauma). Covington partnered with Cisco on 1 of the discharge upgrade matters. Covington further accepted 3 medical retirement administrative appeals, 3 litigation matters, 1 TSGLI matter, 8 matters at the Board of Veterans' Appeals, and 1 Combat-Related Special Compensation matter. Covington also assisted NVLSP with research on appellate court delays and drafted an amicus brief in Harrow v. DoD.

Covington hosted a virtual discharge upgrade clinic where volunteers interviewed 12 veterans from across the country. The veterans met with Covington pro bono attorneys through virtual meeting platforms to discuss their discharge upgrade cases.

Jay Alexander	Michael Christ	Bob Haslam	Marianne McKeon
Shara Aranoff	Sophie DeBode	Lawrence Hobel	Robert McMullen
Lawrence Barker	Matt DelNero	Sandy Hoe	Justin McNamara
Stephanie Barna	Fran Djoukeng	Hannah Hummel	Krysten Rosen Moller
Julie Bateman	Brendon Francis	Marcela Interiano	Basundhara Mukherjee
Jennifer Bentley	Matt Glover	Claire Jenets	Sam Parker
Ben Block	Graham Glusman	Kevin Kehne	Laura Pientratoni
Simeon Botwinick	Billy Goulston	Mel Kim	Kim Plumer
Chase Brennick	Daniel Grant	Caitlin Koury	Richard Rainey
Libby Brown	Kim Green	Ben Kramer	Brian Reiser
Justin Burnam	Kim Greene	Sarah Kratt	Monty Roberson
Kathryn Cahoy	Brad Grisenti	Joe Kresse	Darby Rourick
Alex Carn	Heather Habes	Jeff Lerner	Madeline Salinas
Ian Carrico	Nick Halliburton	Scott Levitt	Teena Sankoorikal
Peter Chen	Matt Harden	Amber Lowery	Nick Shepherd

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Covington & Burling (Continued)

Eric Sonnenschein	Sarahi Uribe	Jonathan Wakely	Fleet White
Michael Stern	Olivia Vega	Jasmine Wang	Laura Wilk
Einar Stole	John Veiszlemlein	Laura Weiner	Ashley Winkler
Andrew Timmick	Majid Waheed		

Cozen O'Connor: 163 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Melinda Levine deLisle

Cozen O'Connor is NVLSP's leading partner for appeals at the Board of Veterans' Appeals, accepting 32 cases. Cozen further accepted 2 discharge upgrade matters and 129 discharge upgrade file review matters.

David Adams	Amy Doig	Frank Gooch	Barry Klayman
Darby Baliga	Jason Domark	Brett Greving	Aaron Koury
Christopher Bellini	Pam Dorian	Robert Hayes	Jason Kreps
Marla Benedek	Andrew Dorr	Elena Hillman	James Kuritzkes
Zachary Bradley	Peter Drever	Ingrid Hopkinson	Cindy Lee
Michael MacMunn	Joseph Anthony	Matthew Howell	Daniel Levin
Burke	Duque	Geng Hua	Aaron Lukas
Jennifer Carosi	Morgan Dyrek	Cassandra Jacobsen	Douglas Mackin
Jack Carriglio	Samuel Edelstein	Charles Jesuit	Damali Martin
Kristina Cherevas	Gregory Eisenstark	Tracey Jordan	Daniel Matos
Blake Coblentz	Ashley Sook Hee	Travis Ray Joyce	Vincent McGuinness
Michael Connolly	Eldridge	Benjamin Kampf	Arianna McLaughlin
Nicole Connors	Jessica Erickson	Stephanie Nichole	Christian Miller
Alicia Curran	Taylor Evans	Kennedy	Lindsay Miller
Kenneth Cushing	Paul Ferland	Stephen Blake	Stephen Miller
Michael DeRosa	Jillian Flax	Kerstein	Joseph Okon
Jerome Doctors	Grace Garver	Charles Kinney	Saskia Herrmann
Lyn Dodson	Roberta Glaser	Sarah Kirkpatrick	Olczak
	Jessica Goebeler		Scott Jason Pashman

Thank You for Your Legal Representation

Cozen O'Connor (Continued)

Stephen Pate	Stephanie Roman	Kathryn Sobotta	Vinila Varghese
Emilie Plungy	Robert Rubenstein	Rachel Soloman	Bethany Vasquez
Brandon Posivak	Hayley Ryan	Susan Stauss	Mistee Verhulp
Miguel Pozo	Danielle Sapega	Joshua Stein	Elina Veyber
Vincent Pozzuto	Keri Schaubert Ph.D.	Samantha Stratford	Curtis Vock
Neil Quartaro	Rachel Schwartz	Madeline Jeanne	Carlynn Wagner
Christopher Raleigh	Evan Charles	Suchard	Rachel Wenger
Meredith Ann	Schweitzer	Valerie Lynette	Christina White
Renquin	Melissa Siebert	Sworn	Karen Williams
Kyle Blake Rice	Katlyn Ann Slough	Christopher Tramonte	Cameron Young
Valerie Rojas	Jenifer Smith	William Vandiford	Emily Yu
			Hongling Zou

Crowell & Moring: 32 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Susie Hoffman, Tiana Russell

Crowell & Moring accepted 6 discharge upgrade cases (with 1 involving Military Sexual Trauma), 3 discharge upgrade file review matters, 1 Combat-Related Special Compensation case, and 10 cases at the Board of Veterans' Appeals. Crowell also partnered with Accenture to interview 11 veterans at a virtual discharge upgrade clinic. Veterans from across the country met with pro bono attorneys through virtual meeting platforms to discuss their discharge upgrade cases.

Charles Baek	Kathy Dienkowski	Shawn Layman	Tianna Russell
Jon Baker	Eric Enson	Laura Lydigsen	Michael Samuels
Ryan Band	Ryan Flynn	Meredith Manuel	Rachel Schumacher
Alex Barbee-Garrett	Lily Geyer	Skye Mathieson	Darren Schweitzer
Jaz Buckley	Candice Gwak	John McCarthy	Allison Skager
Weronika Bukowski	Ellen Halstead	Holly Melton	Rebecca Springer
Roxanne Cassidy	Kelly Hibbert	Hilary Ming	Rebecca Suarez
Roxie Cassidy	Raija Horstman	Beatrice Nguyen	Mark Supco
Kathryn Clune	Robbie Jost	Liam O'Reilly	Olivia Venus
Christian Curran	Emily Kappers	Cherie Owen	Anuj Vohra
Ryne Duffy	Mary LaFleur	Janet Pioli	Michelle Wang
		Donna Reuter	Savanna Williams
			Yuan Zhou

Thank You for Your Legal Representation

Davis Wright Tremaine: 44 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: KellyAnne Brophy, Rachael Morgan, Sara Moody

Davis Wright Tremaine accepted 5 Combat-Related Special Compensation matters and 6 matters at the Board of Veterans' Appeals, partnering with T-Mobile on 2 of them. Davis Wright Tremaine also accepted 33 discharge upgrade file review matters.

Assaf Ariely	Jeff Giametta	Antonija Krizanac	Askale-Miriam
Riley Grace Borden	Barry Gold	Matt LeMaster	Roberts
Nicholas Cicale	Matt Gurr	Leo Liu	Kristal Rovira
Sydney Clarke	Kristal Graham	Andy Lorentz	Libby Smith
Caitlyn Cowan	K.C. Halm	Leslie Murphy	Gerald Stein
Suzanne Daigle	Stuart Harris	John Nelson	Barry Stulberg
John Day	Ashley Hawthorne	Shannon O'Neil	Nancy Thomas
Bryan Downs	Mike Jefferson	Mackenzie Olson	Jordan Thompson
Lukas Dudkowski	Richard Kim	Kari Owen	Nicholas Traver
Melissa Enriquez	Harry Korrell	Kenneth Payson	Nick Wegley
Stevin George (now at King & Spalding)		Michael Rella	Caleah Whitten

Dechert LLP: 47 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Suzie Turner

Dechert accepted 16 discharge upgrade cases (with 3 involving Military Sexual Trauma), 7 Combat-Related Special Compensation cases, and 1 medical retirement litigation matter. In addition, Dechert further accepted 23 discharge upgrade file review matters, 10 with partner CVS Aetna.

Alexander Andrews	Catherine Boring	John Clifford	Chris Duerden
Beverly Ang	Sonia Brunstad	Riley Compton	Blake Ellis
Anna Askew	Jonathan Burke	David Cosgrove	Steven Engel
Bill Bielefeld	Maureen Callahan	Blair Cox	Aimal Faayez
Samuel Biermann	Brenden Carroll	Austin Day	Tyler Fabiani
Jonathan Blaha	James Catano	Julia de Caralt	Patrick Feeney
Tom Bogle	Chris Christian	Will Drennen	

Thank You for Your Legal Representation

Dechert LLP (Continued)

Abigail Ferraioli	Dennis Lawson	Frank Pecorelli	Anthony Sotelo
Jim Fishkin	Tricia Lee	David Pelaez	Jay Southgate
Tom Friedmann	Cooper Lewis	Amanda Peper	Shane Sullivan
Robert Frink	William Luciani	Steven Polyakov	Devin Swaney
Samuel Gilbert	Neel Maitra	Brendan Powell	Lindsay Trapp
Ciannah Gin	Leila Malek	Nick Pullen	James Trollan
Rani Habash	Kelly Mathews	Seth Ray	Ross Ufberg
Brian Hanna	Paul McAleer	Andrea Reid	Audrey Wagner
Chris Harvey	Stewart McQueen	Will Robertson	Yosef Weitzman
Josh Hess	Christopher Merken	Christian Robledo	Jeremy Weyman
Eric Hilmo	Josh Meyerson	Louis Rosenbaum	Cal White
Katherine Hurley	David Miller	Nicole Rosker	Stephen Wolpert
Katie Hyer	Michael Minsky	Eric Rotteveel	Seth Worthen
Kristen Imbesi	Inikki Mitchell	Melissa Rybacki	Lei Zhu
Jannay Jordan	Nelson Nedlin	Emma Schiliro	
Elise Kletz	Jennifer O'Brien	Leah Smart	
Parker Lacoste	John O'Hanlon	Kandace Smith	

DLA Piper: 124 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Rich Gruenberger, Lisa Dewey, Gianni Minutoli, Margaret Austin, Donna Look, Lindsay Ayers

DLA is a leading LSW partner for discharge upgrade and Combat-Related Special Compensation cases. DLA accepted 19 CRSC cases, teaming with Intel on 2. DLA also accepted 22 discharge upgrade cases (with 5 involving Military Sexual Trauma), teaming with Medtronic on 1 and RTX on 3. DLA additionally accepted 23 discharge upgrade file review matters. DLA further accepted 1 appeal at the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, 4 cases at the Board of Veterans' Appeals, and 1 litigation matter. DLA also assisted NVLSP with advice regarding applying for a copyright.

Thank You for Your Legal Representation

DLA Piper (Continued)

DLA Piper hosted 2 virtual discharge upgrade clinics, interviewing a total of 31 veterans. DLA teamed with Medtronic to interview 16 veterans. DLA also teamed with T-Mobile to interview 15 veterans. Veterans from across the country met with pro bono attorneys through virtual meeting platforms to discuss their discharge upgrade cases.

DLA also worked with NVLSP to provide clinic brief advice to 12 servicemembers in Fort Belvoir's Soldier Recovery Unit.

Eric Ashby	Mary Dollarhide	Helena Kiepura	Laura Quazzo
Daniel Barton	Adam Dubin	Katarina Kingston	Alan Rockwell
Jeannette Barzelay	Cara Edwards	Neeraj Kirpalani	Steve Rosato
Charlie Bell	Meagan Ekimoff	Peter Klensch	Dan Rosenberg
Jackob Ben-Ezra	Alex Emini	Madison Kostelnak	Connor Rowinski
James Berger	Malithi Fernando	Rita Kuckertz	Sophie Sarchet
Ivo Bogdanovic	James Fischer	Lupe Laguna	Howard Schwartz
Brittany Bolden	Tonya Gauff	Christine LiCalzi	Matt Schwartz
Seth Bonneau	Karl Gerner	Scott Luftig	Marc Siegel
Matt Broderson	John Gevertz	Dan Lynch	Riley Sissung
Grant Buerstetta	Emily Goodwin	Arnold MacEbong	Christian Slattery
Betsy Burkhard	Orley Granot	Michael Madigan	Joe Small
Virginia Callahan	Kathryn Riley Grasso	Michael McGuinness	John Sullivan
Emily Campo	Stefan Greenewald	Tarquin McGurrin	Sangwon Sun
Dylan Clancy	Mary Hagedorn	Vincent Montalto	Stephen Taeusch
Whitney Cloud	Merisa Hartung	Caroline Montfort	Salvatore Tamburo
Justin Combs	Samantha Hechler	Charlize Morgan	Abby Thompson
Robert Cortes	Colleen Hermann	Lachie Nichols	Inna Torres
Jessica Daneshvar	Heather Horowitz	Stephanie O'Byrne	Lana Turpie
Coran Darling	Caleb Johnson	Stella Odisho	Gina Varvaro
Jamie Davidson	Witek Jurewicz	Sean O'Neal	Sadeek Walker
Drew deLannoy	Melanie Kaufman	Nick Panno	Michael Walsh
Emma DePaola	Jordan Kavanaugh	Patrick Park	Allen Waxman
Ryan Dieter	Dennis Kiely	Monica Pelayo	John Wei
		Stephanie Piper	Sua Yoon
		Kassandra Pugliese	Chris Young

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Entergy: 1 matter

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Christy Kane

Entergy accepted 1 discharge upgrade file review matter.

Kasey Shidel

Epoch Payment Solutions: 5 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Adriana Dulic

A new LSW partner in 2024, Epoch accepted 5 discharge upgrade file review matters.

Adriana Dulic

Eversheds Sutherland: 17 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Aileen Crowson, Harmony Jones

Eversheds Sutherland accepted 4 discharge upgrade matters (with 1 involving Military Sexual Trauma), 4 cases at the Board of Veterans' Appeals, and 9 discharge upgrade file review matters.

Nana Amoo	Jonathan Freimann	Rich Noland
Michael Bahar	Cathy Garza	Maggie Pope
Brian Basso	Patrick Gilman	Dina Qubain
Jeremy Bloomstone	Griff Griffin	Michael Resnick
Robb Chase	Luke Habeeb	Jim Silliman
Amy Chen	Nick Joynson	Eric Simanek
Kyle Colonna	Aleeza Kanner	Bianca Spinosa
Kelly Cuthbertson	Zia Liu	Alexandria Stith
Lydia Florez	Cameron Murphy	Henrik Strand
		Ed Yin

Thank You for Your Legal Representation

Faegre Drinker: 34 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Candace Whitaker, Megan McKinney

Faegre Drinker accepted 5 discharge upgrade matters, 1 with partner Optum, 2 Combat-Related Special Compensation matters, 3 medical retirement administrative appeals, 1 medical retirement litigation matter, 4 appeals at the Board of Veterans' Appeals, and 9 discharge upgrade file review matters. Faegre Drinker also assisted NVLSP in drafting public comments on VA grants for legal services organizations that collaborate with pro bono attorneys to provide legal assistance to veterans.

Faegre Drinker additionally partnered with Optum to interview 10 veterans at a virtual discharge upgrade clinic. Veterans from across the country met with pro bono attorneys through virtual meeting platforms to discuss their discharge upgrade cases.

Joan Akalaonu	Dona Gilliland	Anthony Jankoski	Kip McDonald
Shane Anderson	Kristen Gioioso	Ross Johnson	Carolyn McNiven
Emilija Andrulyte	Stephen Gonzalez	Tim Katsiff	Brenda McShane
Harrison Baker	Kevin Green	Allison Katona	Nickolas Merrill
John Cater Biddle	Nicholas Gronczewski	Max Kelln	Sean Metherell
Sarah Blackadar	Molly Gulbrandson	Emily Kile-Maxwell	Katrina Meyer
Erik Breitenbach	Michael Gustafson	David Koller	Lucille Moran
Mary Devlin Capizzi	Susan Haag	Craig Komanecki	Katlyn Moseley
Matthew Clark	Katherine Hagen	Elizabeth Koster	Erik Mosvick
Brian Coleman	Joie Hand	Benjamin Kuzola	Vilena Nicolet
Kristina Coleman	Alec Harris	Kevin Lambe	Aidan Parker
Suzette Copeland	Jacob Hauschild	Benjamin Leavens	Adia Parker
Paige Dobberstein	Douglas Heffner	Blake Lehr	Dhruv Patel
Matthew Doyle	Abbey Hernandez	Zachary Leininger	Carlye Patterson
Kareem Elsheryie	Jude Hickland	Shaun Lemmon	Lisa Perunovich
Emilie Erickson	Jennifer Hoffmann	Jamie Levin	Grace Polisano
Royal Farley	Tyler Hoguet	Lauren Linderman	David Porteous
Megan Farooqui	Pamela Hollen	Sari Long	Sean Powell
Kennedy Ferry	Alec Hubbard	RoxAnn Mack	TeeAaron Powell
Nicholas Fox	Hannah Hughes	Jaclyn Marasco	Brennden Prohaska
Eric Friedman	Patrick Hughes	Joshua Matushin	

Thank You for Your Legal Representation

Faegre Drinker (Continued)

Yusuf Qureshi	Andrew Scarafile	Melania Stevenson	Laura Wall
Robin Rank	Steven Schwartz	Natalie Stubbs	Jay Warmuth
Hannah	Ajda Sejdinovic	Theresa Tischer	Charles Westerhaus
Reichenbach-Coe	Damiano Matteo	Anne Marie	Dawn Williams
Maurice Roberson	Servidio	Underwood	Liam Williams
Tyler Romero	Kate Sherburne	Sabrina Vera	Alyssa Wolf
Daniel Roy	Edan Shertzer	Caroline Wadman	Paul Wolfla
Rana Salem	Noel Spencer	Ryan Wagner	Alex Yim
Joel Sayres	Nikolas Spilson	Taylor Walker	John Young
			Nathaniel Zylstra

Fenwick: 4 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Erika Fairfield

A new LSW partner in 2024, Fenwick accepted 2 discharge upgrade matters (1 involving Military Sexual Trauma) and 2 discharge upgrade file review matters.

Cortnay Cymrot	Ryan Johnson	Geoff Miller
Tempestt Edward	Catherine McCord	Michael Saffron
Ezra Isaacs	Kevin McGann	Lisa Strahle

Finnegan: 3 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Tom Sullivan

Finnegan accepted 3 discharge upgrade matters.

Wyatt Bazrod	Eric Fues	Emma Ng
Barrett Cole	Abhinav Garg	P. Michael Nielson
Dara Emami	Dan Jordan	Olivia Santiago
Matthew Everhart	Karthik Kumar	

Thank You for Your Legal Representation

Foley Hoag: 3 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Rebecca Cazabon, Nathaniel McPherson

Foley Hoag accepted 2 medical retirement administrative appeals and 1 medical retirement litigation matter.

Spenser Angel
Cecilia Copperman
Deborah Hamilton
Navasz Hansotia
John Lanza

Jeffrey Lewis
Katherine Luo
Nathaniel McPherson
Ian Mullet
Alison Neugebauer

Valerie Orellana
Kenny Peralta
Brittany Saunders
Courtney Tobin

Freshfields: 1 matter

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Rebecca Kerr

A new LSW partner in 2024, Freshfields accepted 1 discharge upgrade file review matter.

Rebecca Kerr

Loren Terry

Thank You for Your Legal Representation

Gibson Dunn: 9 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Katie Marquart, Mark Cherry, Ariana Sañudo, Patty Herold

Gibson Dunn accepted 6 discharge upgrade matters (1 involving Military Sexual Trauma), 2 medical retirement administrative appeals, and 1 medical retirement litigation matter.

Benjamin Betner	Amir Heidari	Shannon Mader	Karin Thrasher
Michael Bopp	Tiaunia Henry	Alexander Meade	Lauren Trujillo
Natalie Burch	Matt Hoffman	Bevannie Ramlakhan	Harrison Tucker
Kyle Clendenon	Michael Holmes	Andrew Robb	Maggie Valachovic
Marcus Curtis	Travis Jones	Spencer Scott	Spencer Vaughan
Richard Doren	Adam Lapidus	Cameron Silbar	Mitchell Wellman
Grace Feitshans	Victoria Lauterbach	Zachary Silvers	Dan Willey
Alexander Fischer	Monica Lin	Jeff Steiner	Lauren Womack
James Fogelman	Jane Love PhD	Al Suarez	Tim Zimmerman
Sarah Grace-Willemite	Vivian Lu	Julia Tabat	

Google: 1 matter

A new LSW partner in 2024, an attorney at Google accepted 1 case at the Board of Veterans' Appeals, with partner Jones Day.

Phillip Carter

Thank You for Your Legal Representation

Hogan Lovells: 42 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Melissa Giangrande Jacobs

Hogan Lovells accepted 3 medical retirement administrative appeals, 1 medical retirement litigation matter, 12 Combat-Related Special Compensation cases, 6 TSGLI cases, 3 discharge upgrade cases, and 17 discharge upgrade file review matters.

Anneke Altieri	Emily Gibson	Al Lindsay	Les Reese
Alicia Balthazar	Bothwell Graham	Dave Locascio	Chrissy Reynolds
Lexi Bender	Kevin Greenslade	Chuck Loughlin	Alaina Rodriguez
Lauren Berkebile	Rose Grover	Theresa Luk	A.J. Santiago
Isabella Bosetti	Stacy Hadeka	Brian Malat	Alyssa Saviss
Logan Breed	Xochitl Halaby	Kate Mancuso	Eric Segal
Adam Cooke	Barbara Hayes	Baily Martin	Rebecca Shames
Aaron Crane	Mark Heimlich	Lauren Massie	Craig Smith
Tim DeKeyser	Taylor Hillman	Tom McGovern	David Smith
Emma Dowell	Cameron Hughes	DH Nam	Annie Spencer
Kevin Downey	Ayaka Isaji	Komal Nigam	Jonathan Stulberg
Caroline Farrington	Andrew Klokiw	Bruce Oakley	Claude Szyfer
Christiana Fell	Katie Kramer	David Olstein	Marta Urrea
Ari Fridman	Stefan Krantz	Christine Pinnkathok	Nellie Yu
Tony Fuller	Ajay Kuntamukkala		Kelly Zhang

Holland & Hart: 8 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Teague Donahey

Holland & Hart accepted 8 matters at the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

Teague Donahey Julie Hamilton Zack McCraney

Thank You for Your Legal Representation

Hunton: 46 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Kelsey Bottoms, Kevin Gaunt, Maeve Malik, Toni Poole

Hunton is a leading LSW partner for Combat-Related Special Compensation, TSGLI, and medical retirement cases. Hunton accepted 15 Combat-Related Special Compensation cases, 6 TSGLI cases, 2 medical retirement appeals, and 3 cases at the Board of Veterans' Appeals. Hunton further assisted NVLSP with research regarding removal from the Temporary Disability Retired List (TDRL) and drafted a Federal Circuit amicus brief in *Bee v US*.

Hunton also accepted 4 discharge upgrade matters and interviewed 15 veterans at a virtual discharge upgrade clinic. Veterans from across the country met with pro bono attorneys through virtual meeting platforms to discuss their discharge upgrade cases.

Gil Acevedo	Andrea Gardner	Michael Kruse	Reuben Pearlman
Britt Anderson	Kevin Gaunt	Nikita Kulkarni	Ryan Pedraza
Arjana Balaj	J.A. Glaccum	Rebecca Lee	Robert Quackenboss
Emily Benedict	Madison Godsey	Charlotte Leszinske	Michael Reed
Theanna Bezney	David Goldman	Patrick Macher	Jennifer Scherschel
Timothy Biller	Sevren Gourley	Maeve Malik	Allison Schmidt
Peter Birghoffer	Tyler Grant	Eric Markus	Tom Schulte
Jason Brown	Brendan Harney	Walfrido Martinez	Dan Shanley
Daniel Butler	Ashley Harper	Asha McCorvey	John Shepherd, Jr.
Aaron Carroll	Matthew Hayes	William Merone	Nicholas Stellakis
Abigail Contreras	Mark Hedberg	Gray Moeller	Quince Thompson
Candace Cravey	Eileen Henderson	Eric Mogel	James Tsimis
Jennie Cunningham	Travis Hill	Nicholas Monico	Joshua Venne
Andrew Demick	Joseph Holloway	Madalyn Moore	James Waller
Christopher Dufek	Michael Horne	Marcus Nelson	Evan Weisberg
Monika Dziewa	Jae Lynn Huckaba	Alexandra Noetzel	Alexa Williams
Robert Edwards	Jamie Zysk Isani	Leah Nommensen	Amy Williams
Nicholas Esposito	David Julien	Peter O'Brien	Jennifer Wuebker
Karen Evans	Trlica Kennedy	Leslie Okinaka	Angelina Yearick
Haley Fortner	Sami Khan	Brian Otero	Jin Yeo
Lindsey Foster	Jaime Kirschke	Anna Page	Torrye Zullo
Katherine Gallagher	Gabrielle Kraushaar	Christopher Pardo	

Thank You for Your Legal Representation

Intel: 2 matters

Intel accepted 2 CRSC matters with partner DLA Piper.

Christopher George

Jones Day: 27 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Amy Zywicki, Dean Griffith

Jones Day accepted 6 matters at the Board of Veterans' Appeals, 1 with an attorney at Google. Jones Day further accepted 2 discharge upgrade matters and 19 discharge upgrade file review matters.

Rubina Ali	Cealagh Fitzpatrick	Ryan McMullan	Evan Singer
David Aron	Mike Gladman	Jeffrey Meehan	Sean Skedzielewski
Nathan Brownback	Dean Griffith	Stephanie Mishaga	Jacob Thackston
Nicole Camacho	Montserrat Irene	Hannah Rozow	Michaela Yip
Kelly Carrero	Hoover	Owolabi	Christopher Zepf
John Cheretis	Leigh Hughes	Mahesh Parlikad	
Miguel Eaton	Jennifer Kane	Nick Rawls	
	Collin Li	Rebecca Searle	

K&L Gates: 4 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Amy Groff, Craig Leen

K&L Gates accepted 4 matters at the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

Paul Andersen	Michael Harper
Rachel Berman	Catherine Johnson
Wiley Cole	Craig Leen
	Katy Ramos

Thank You for Your Legal Representation

Katten: 2 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Joe Fiorill

Katten accepted 2 matters at the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

Bob Baker

Vinny Baumann

King & Spalding: 7 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Radha Manthe, Josh Toll, Larry Slovensky

King & Spalding accepted 2 discharge upgrade cases (1 involving Military Sexual Trauma), 1 case before the Board of Veterans' Appeals, and 4 Combat-Related Special Compensation cases.

Steve Baskin

Marissa Grabowski

Matt Rowan

Michael Wheaton

Andrew Calica

Charles McGee

Mark Villapando

Thank You for Your Legal Representation

Kirkland & Ellis: 19 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Jacqueline Haberfeld, Kate Barry, Ashley Huebner, Alison King, Amy Heaton, Jeseñia Brown, Julissa Saragoza Arroyo, Sarah Rezendes, and Emily Sullivan

Kirkland accepted 11 discharge upgrade cases (with 5 involving Military Sexual Trauma), 7 cases at the Board of Veterans' Appeals, and 1 appeal at the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

Will Atnipp	Sydney Corry	Marissa Kinsey	Craig S. Primis
Xavier Avery	Akshay S. Deoras	Tyler Kuhn	Eric Provost
Stuart Babcock	Daniel T. Donovan	Logan Lewis	Karthik Ravishankar
Emily Barber	Lucie H. Duvall	Andrew Liu	Hope Rovner
Jack Baumruk	Kaitie Farrell	Jennifer Liu	Barbara Rowinska
Wilson Beattie	Karen E. Flanagan	Christine Logan	Andrew Schilling
Jonathan Benloulou	Brittney Fricks	Nicole Martin	Jessica H. Schultz
Alex James Burt	Grant Gannon	Kayla Monique	Philippe Simard
Christopher Buxton	Akhil K. Gola	McCallum	Grace Sponaugle
Joseph M. Capobianco	Amber Harezlak	Sean M. McEldowney	Courtney Stone
Serge Elie Charles	Grace Hartnett	Aislinn McManus	Mirski
Annie Chiang	Bernadette Marie	Sewit Mehanzel	Margaret Susman
Sydney Corry	Hayden	Dana R. Bucy Miller	Samantha Tidwell
Akshay S. Deoras	Ajay Iyer	Ragan Naresh	Daniel Tully
Daniel T. Donovan	Desiree Mariah	Dan O'Connor	Joe Walter
Lucie H. Duvall	Jones	Michael Patton	Quin Wetzel
Kaitie Farrell	Daniel Kahl	Mike Pergler	Kate Wilson
Karen E. Flanagan	Sarah Kaplan	William Phalen	Xiaorui Yang
	Ryan Kearney	John L. Polansky	Jordan Anne Young

Thank You for Your Legal Representation

Latham & Watkins: 26 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Spencer Chatellier, Dominique Luongo, Alfred Hwang

A leading LSW partner across case types, Latham accepted 2 discharge upgrade cases, 7 Combat-Related Special Compensation cases, 4 medical retirement administrative appeals, 4 medical retirement litigation cases, 3 TSGLI cases, and 2 appeals at the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

Latham partnered with Chevron to host an IDES clinic, providing virtual brief advice to 4 service members going through the IDES process.

Lauren Anderson	Ashley Gebicke	Amanda Kurzydowski	Catherine Sims
Stephen Barry	Robert Gilbert	Akosua Kyereme-Tuah	Gursahibveer Singh
Abby Timmons	Jason Gott	Kimberly Lucas	Darryl Steensma
Billeci	Michael Harris	Dominique Luongo	Amanda Tsatsis
Gabriel Bell	David Hlavka	Kailen Malloy	Steven Van Iwaarden
Lisa Brabant	David Homrighausen	Elizabeth McElvein	Holly Victorson
Spencer Chatellier	Thomas Humphrey	Robert McGuire	Mindy Vo
Michael Clemente	Paul Hunt	John Niemeyer	Brian Wolgast
Jordan Cook	Alfred Hwang	Rachel Mitchell	Kathryn Worthington
Michael David	Kyle Jefcoat	Blake Page	Christopher Yates
Ruth Davila	Christina Jensen	Priya Purohit	Elizabeth Yonkoski
John Detrich	Lindsay Kenney	Mitchell Rabinowitz	Henry Zaytoun
Patrick English	Michelle Kim	David Rowe	Ivy Ziedrich
Nilam Faqhir	Craig Kornreich	Daniel Sack	
Daniel Filstrup			

Thank You for Your Legal Representation

Linklaters: 55 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Karen Carbonell, Riya Gupta

Linklaters accepted 55 discharge upgrade file review matters.

Alexander Auster	Chloe Forgie-Williams	Michael Lamson	Lauren Schnoebelen
Chino Anukwuem	Rachel Francklyn	Margaret Ledak	Tina Shen
Josh Berliner	Chaila Fraundorfer	Chee Lee	Rachel Silberstein
Deling Chen	Megan Gallagher	Olivia Lin	Simon Song
Hwan Choi	Alexander Gatlin	Austin Lowe	Ethan Taveras
Barris Creenan	Anna Gooding	David Mba	Filippo Turci
Krystal Dillon	Sean Grishpan	Lena Mencin	Liz Walker
Victoria Dodev	Ray Hou	Stephanie Odigie	Lauren Wells
Adam Fitzgerald	Mason Kim	Alex Reed	Peter Williams
Michal Folczyk		Samantha Rodriguez	Scarlett Ying

Mayer Brown: 33 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Jennifer Cheung

Mayer Brown accepted 33 discharge upgrade file review matters.

Danika Jo Anderson	Alec Dussault	Natalie Holman	Jack Murray
Teresa Arnold	Esha Bajaj	Nic Jackson	Tyler Nellis
Carli Berasi	Alex Edge	James Kendall	Rachel Nolan
Sami Bourjas	Fressia Ferrantino	Melissa Kilcoyne	Inyoung Park
Marissa Cascio	Michael Gaffney	Alex Kingsley	Ryan Regan
Megan Cicotte	Travis Gantt	Paul Meyer	Brian Saleeby
Anna Comer	Nicole Grabianowski	Gail Levin	Jon Schlotterback
Kimberly Cornella	Lindsey Gilbert	Matthew Mannering	Girindra Selleck
Brandon Dennis	Ethan Haddon	Aubrey McEachern	Lorenz Taets
Ally Denton	Laura Hayden	Paul Meyer	Lauren Watson
Timothy Dondanville	Andrew Hogan		Natalie Witter

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McCarter & English: 2 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Michelle Pallak

McCarter & English accepted 2 discharge upgrade matters.

Jim Donoian

Gaston Fontela

Kris Henning

Matt Van Eman

McDermott Will & Emery: 3 matters

**LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Elizabeth Lewis, Rosie Washington-Chambers,
Marshall Jackson Jr.**

McDermott Will & Emery accepted 2 Combat-Related Special Compensation matters and 1 discharge upgrade matter.

Emily Curran

Ryan Forman

Sam Neel

Ben Curtis

Marshall Jackson Jr.

Rebecca

Llewelyn Engel

Milind Khurana

Richard

Mac Routh

McGuireWoods: 42 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Michael Podberesky, Angie Zimmern, Drew Austria

McGuireWoods, with their partners Wells Fargo and Mr. Cooper Group, conducted two separate two-day virtual clinics for 36 injured Special Operations servicemembers in 2024.

McGuireWoods accepted 1 Combat-Related Special Compensation case, 2 discharge upgrade cases, and 3 appeals before the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

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McGuireWoods (Continued)

Joel Allen	Kyle Dudney	Mary Catherine High	Micaylee Noreen
John Anderson	Matthew Durham	Brooke Johnson	Justin Opitz
Justin Aufderhar	Mike Elliott	Salwa Kamal	David Pivnick
Drew Austria	Michaela Enger	Christopher Keegan	Elizabeth Redpath
Alex Boros	Julia English	Drew Kozlowski	Kyle Smith
Kyle Brantley	Kasey Erb	Jordan LaPointe	Alec Smith
Ed Brooks	James Ewing	Emma Leonelli	Elizabeth Thomas
Laura Campoli	Emily Fletcher	Hannah Lewis	Elizabeth Timmermans
Karli Celestin	Joseph Florczak	Casey Lucier	Meadow Walshaw-Wertz
Heather Chaney	Krystal Gollogly	Abigail Maner	Daniel Withers
Jeffrey Chapman	Joshua Green	Will Matthews	Carol Pedersen
Faith Chudkowski	Dennis Gregory	Ryan Miao	Wyatt
Matt Cornelia	Jill Griset	Gabriel Milunas	Madison Wyche
Katie Dackiewicz	Jonathan Harmon	Branden Moore	Angie Zimmern
Royce DuBiner	Jonathan Helwink	Anne Muhl	
Lourdes Duarte	Melissa Hensley	Vindya Murthy	

Medtronic: 17 matters

A new LSW partner in 2024, Medtronic accepted 1 discharge upgrade matter with partner DLA Piper. Medtronic also partnered with DLA Piper to interview 16 veterans at a virtual discharge upgrade clinic. Veterans from across the country met with pro bono attorneys through virtual meeting platforms to discuss their discharge upgrade cases.

Katie Blakley
Pat Duft

Mark Kertz
Shelley Mixon

Thomas Schumacher

Thank You for Your Legal Representation

Microsoft: 22 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Adrian Palma, Mohana Bhirangi, Bill Hayden, Beth Henderson

Microsoft accepted 22 discharge upgrade file review matters. Microsoft also partnered with Orrick to interview 12 veterans at a virtual discharge upgrade clinic. Veterans from across the country met with pro bono attorneys through virtual meeting platforms to discuss their discharge upgrade cases.

Tony Azure	Beth Henderson	Avni Patel	Paolo Sy
Mohana Bhirangi	Norm Hodne	Cindy Randall	Haley Tyne
Tim Dunbar	Geoffrey Hoggard	Meghan Romano	Andrea Yopez
Erin Flaucher	Mackenzie Houck	Mary Jo Schrade	
Allison Girvin	Donna Killmon	Alison Shea	
Erik Guzman	Syeda Maghrabi	Cindy Staley	
Lauren Haight	Ryan McFarland		
Jenn De Heer	Ranti Okunoren		
Pamela Helman	Adrian Palma		

Morgan Lewis: 14 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Rachel Strong, Namita Mani, Alison Sclater, Jay Lee, Andrea Fitanides

Morgan Lewis accepted 9 appeals at the Board of Veterans' Appeals and 5 discharge upgrade matters, 1 with partner Constellation.

Amir Ali	Marino D'Alessandro	Joe Nuccio	Michael J. Schwab
Brendan J. Anderson	Thomas R. Davis	N. Mira Palakodaty	Albert W. Shay
W. Barron A. Avery	Marco DiLeonardo	Zoe Elizabeth Perez	J. Daniel Skees
Carson William Bailer	Brian C. Frontino	Arjun Prasad	Paul R. St. Lawrence
Emily K. Burge	Joshua Goodman	Ramadevanahalli	Sydney Reed
Charles A. Condro	C. Erik Hawes	Frank Ren	Swanson
Jeffrey Connor	Douglas E. Kingston	Matthew N. Riehle	Lisa Taormina
Lindsay R. Craft	Moshe Y. Klein	Dan Salemi	Catherine Wang
William S.D. Cravens	Evan J. McGillin	Philip Sarid	Phillip D. Wolfe

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Mr. Cooper Group: 19 matters

A new LSW partner in 2024, Mr. Cooper Group partnered with McGuireWoods to conduct a two-day virtual clinic for 19 injured Special Operations servicemembers in 2024

Jan Boyd	Waldo Gray	Carlos Pelayo
Clint Burton	Lawrence Halpern	Timothy Petty
Shawn Carter	Corrine Hufft	Karen Russell
Kathy Connell	Jessica Hughes	Shari Turkish
Lydia Ferrer	Brooke Johnson	Barbara Walther
John Fietz	Carolyn Johnson	Tamra Wilder
		Tara Wood

National Football League: 10 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Dolores DiBella

The NFL, through its in-house legal department, partnered with Paul, Weiss to conduct 10 virtual discharge upgrade clinic interviews. Veterans from across the country met with pro bono attorneys through virtual meeting platforms to discuss their discharge upgrade cases.

NBCUniversal: 10 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Dan Cooper, Cherrey Wales

NBCUniversal accepted 10 discharge upgrade file review matters.

Matthew Brennen	Monique Duckett	Osamamen Osa-Idahosa
Matthew Cantarella	Tonya Edmonds	Riadh Quadir
Samantha Davenport	Teri Evans	Marlana Shoshtari

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Nixon Peabody: 10 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Sharmaine Heng, David Song, Matthew Richards, Brian Whittaker, Brianna Thompson

Nixon Peabody accepted 7 Combat-Related Special Compensation cases and 3 appeals at the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

Tom Brett	Matt Forzano	Tom Mealiffe	Scott Sergio
Angelo Christopher	Kelly Glynn	Marissa Muscarella	Michael Stoianoff
Neil Diskin	Maggie Horstman	David Pattee	Mike Summerhill
Keith Edeus	Bill Kirby	Amanda Przybycien	Mike Testa
			Anders Van Marter

O'Melveny: 148 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Jerri Shick, David Lash, Taylor Simeone, Chris Owens

O'Melveny accepted 2 Combat-Related Special Compensation cases, 1 discharge upgrade case, and 145 discharge upgrade file review matters.

Alli Adams	Laurie Davis	Caitlin Hogan	Kevin Loquaci
Brooke Alger	Etienne Dumas	Vino Jayaraman	Andre Magrisso
Joanne Bae	Tim Fink	Emma Jones	Mason Malpass
Brett Bautista	Sam Galvan	Marla Kelly	Bill Martin
Alice Bishop	Lana Gandler	Erin Kim	Chrissy Martin
Jessica Block	Chani Gatto-Bradshaw	Susanna Korkeakivi	Bryce May
Alyx Bogus	Joshua Goode	Nimat Lawal	Sean Milde
Kyla Butler	Sid Goswami	Kahn Leon	Pam Miller
Kate Camp	Rob Graffum	James Li	Jackie Monnat
Eamonn Campbell	Clint Harris	Dawn Lim	Andrew Montalbano
Dan Cantor	Andi Hasaj	Dawn Lim	Gregory Morris
Lauren Casale	Jordan Hittesdorf	Melisande Loeppert	Caroline Newman
Jon Clark			

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O'Melveny (Continued)

Katina Nordloh	David Safarian	Tyler Speers	AnnaLou Tirol
Brooke O'Neale	Alix Sandman	Colin Stanton	Sean Trainor
Luke Ohnmeis	Amanda Santella	Dian Stevens	Tai Vivatvaraphol
Andrea Orr	Hassen Sayeed	Coke Morgan Stewart	Iris Wang
Sofia Panarella	Jeff Senning	Bill Sushon	Sam Weiss
Angela Perry	Nolan Shaw	Gary Svirsky	Bryanna Willis
Victoria Randall	Laura Smith	Kellie Swannie	Brennan Wong
Patric Reinbold	Jen Sokoler	Blake Timmerman	Renia Zervos

OpenText: 1 matter

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Brian Pinnell

OpenText accepted 1 discharge upgrade file review matter.

Brian Pinell

Optum: 10 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Rachael Bowens, Mark Azman

Optum partnered with Faegre Drinker to interview 10 veterans at a virtual discharge upgrade clinic. Veterans from across the country met with pro bono attorneys through virtual meeting platforms to discuss their discharge upgrade cases. Optum partnered with Faegre Drinker for full representation on 1 discharge upgrade case.

Joshua Devine Sarah Russell Goddard Nathaniel Orpen

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Orrick: 26 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Rene Kathawala

Orrick accepted 8 appeals at the Board of Veterans' Appeals, 1 Combat-Related Special Compensation case, and 3 discharge upgrade matters. Orrick also drafted a Supreme Court certiorari amicus petition in *Carter v. United States* and a Fourth Circuit amicus brief in *Thompson v. Austin*.

Orrick partnered with Microsoft to interview 12 veterans at a virtual discharge upgrade clinic. Veterans from across the country met with pro bono attorneys through virtual meeting platforms to discuss their discharge upgrade cases.

Colby Allsbrook	Sue Cowell	Townsend Hyatt	Mark Parris
Megan Benton	Heather Egan	Hayden Irwin	Vann Pearce Jr.
Anna Booth	Patricia Eichar	Jon Langlois	Yael Perl
Mel Bostwick	Bill Foley	Amanda Lawrence	Seth Reagan
Dennisse Calle	Daniel Garber	Sam Leff	Cosmas Robless
Josh Carrigan	John Georgievski	Ayala Magder	Ramon Ryan
Steve Cazares	Preetha Gist	Leslie Meredith	Parth Sagdeo
Eileen Cole	Kim Goldberg	Harry Murphy	Nikita Shah
Andrew Cook	Nick Horton	Elizabeth Olien	Jay Williams

Paul Hastings: 13 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Caitlin Annatoyn, Brenda Freed, Josh Christensen

Paul Hastings accepted 7 Combat-Related Special Compensation matters and 4 discharge upgrade cases (with 1 involving Military Sexual Trauma). Paul Hastings also assisted NVLSP with research regarding toxic exposure and drafted a CAVC amicus brief in *Perkins v. McDonough*.

Brad Bondi	John Gasparini	Matthias Kamber	Vanessa Omoroghomwan
Meredith Boylan	Adam Gomes-Abreu	Eric Keller	James Razick
Chris Brewer	Josh Gordon	David Kopp	Brian Stief
Josh Christensen	Anthony Gunnell	Jacob Kornhauser	Molly Teague
Bill DeGrandis	Kari Hall	Michael Marusak	Joseph Warton
Rand Dorney	Howard Herr	Ker Medero	Brooke Wilner
David Feigenbaum	Thomas Jordan	John Michels	Josh Yin
		Cheron Mims	

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Paul, Weiss: 15 matters

**LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Emily Donohoe, Jeremy Benjamin,
Tanaz Moghadam, Kennady Wade**

Paul, Weiss accepted 2 discharge upgrade matters and 3 appeals at the Board of Veterans' Appeals. Paul, Weiss also hosted a virtual discharge upgrade clinic with the NFL, serving 10 veterans. Veterans from across the country met with pro bono attorneys through virtual meeting platforms to discuss their discharge upgrade cases.

Salem Aboghodieh	John Clementi	Angela Gu	Kyung Ho Paik
Ryan Arredondo	Michael Coiro	Serena Highley	Spencer Rosen
Matt Battaglia	Linda Dragas	Marvellous Iheukwumere	Michael Shepard
Joe Bial	Ivan Fan	Alex Jones	Adrienne Tang
Lyudmila Bondarenko	Dov Gopin	Jerald Kagele	Irini Tsounakas
Benjamin Cabranes	Lydia Graham	Hannah Kark	Shaina Vinayek
		Nisheet Karthikeyan	Ryan Zehner

Perkins Coie: 161 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Julie LaEace, Sara Malan

Perkins Coie accepted 5 Combat-Related Special Compensation cases, 2 discharge upgrade cases (with 1 involving Military Sexual Trauma), and 3 litigation matters. Perkins Coie also drafted a Federal Circuit amicus brief in *Hambridge v. McDonough*. Perkins Coie is a leading partner for discharge upgrade file reviews, accepting 150 file review matters in 2024.

Beau Bryan	Laura Gritz	Seth Locke	Janice Ta
Alex Canizares	Francys Guevara	Ryan McBrayer	Brandon Thompson
Sam Carl	Bryce Herman	Miles McCann	Thomas Tobin
Ben Dale	Maisie Ide	Christopher Phares	Rae Utterback
Evan Day	Christopher Jones	Emily Rich	Greg Vogel
Alec Farr	Megan Kilduff	Torryn Taylor	D. Sean West
Donald Friedman	Gloria Kim	Rodgers	Kathleen Wills
Kerensa Gimre	Nick Lipperd	Cara Simpkins	

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PHRMA: 1 matter

A new LSW partner in 2024, PHRMA accepted 1 discharge upgrade matter with partner Arnold & Porter.

Joanne Chan

Reed Smith: 2 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Chris Walters

Reed Smith accepted 1 Combat-Related Special Compensation matter and 1 discharge upgrade matter.

Nicholas Castriz

Shaun Lee

Lucas Liben

James Hultquist

Sarah Lee

Alex Mahfood

Ropes & Gray: 1 matter

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Roz Nasdor, Byrne Harrison, Mei Sei Fong

A new LSW partner in 2024, Ropes & Gray accepted 1 appeal at the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

Brent Bates

Kathryn Thornton

Frances Zhang

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RTX: 28 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Justin Hendrix, Wendie Wigginton

RTX accepted 4 discharge upgrade cases with partner DLA (with 1 involving Military Sexual Trauma) and 24 discharge upgrade file review matters.

Afsoon Alaghehband	Mel Coomes	Marylou Kott	Stuart Slocum
William Beeson	Faith Dalton	Kristian Loomis	Kevin Soares
Matt Carney	Donna Dorbuck	Karen Mallin	Anita Stone
Jill Cheah	Gareth Facciano	Ian McGilvray	Cheryl Wawrzonkiewicz
Michele Christopher	Justin Hendrix	Kenzie Phillips	Wendie Wigginton
			Dawn Williams

Sheppard Mullin: 2 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Abby Carrigan, Daniel Brown, Townsend Bourne

Sheppard Mullin volunteers accepted 1 discharge upgrade matter and 1 appeal at the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

Grayson Campbell	Bob Magielnicki	Skylar Stoudt
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Sidley: 143 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Emily Wexler

Sidley is a leading LSW partner for all case types. Sidley accepted 19 discharge upgrade cases (with 5 involving Military Sexual Trauma), partnering with US Bank on 1 case. Sidley further accepted 18 Combat-Related Special Compensation cases, 1 medical retirement administrative appeal, 1 litigation case, 1 Military Sexual Trauma VA claims case, and 8 appeals at the Board of Veterans' Appeals. Sidley drafted a Federal Circuit amicus brief in *Bee v US*. Sidley also accepted 78 discharge upgrade file review matters, partnering with AWS on 15 of the file review matters.

Sidley also interviewed 16 veterans at a virtual discharge upgrade clinic. Veterans from across the country met with pro bono attorneys through virtual meeting platforms to discuss their discharge upgrade cases.

Juan Arendse	Di Duan	Micaela Hannah	Stephen Laudone
Raymond Atkins	Diana Dubois	Alyssa Hartley	Phillip Laurentz
Alexia Beatriz	Chrisine Duque	Ian Helmuth	Jordan Lemoine
James Blanchard	Andy Dykstra	Charlie Hu	John Levi
Nicole Booth	Chad Ehrenkranz	Greg Jacobs	Julea Lipiz
Sarah Bourgeois	Marie Fang	Jahanzeb Jahania	Bryan Liu
Adia Brantley	Brittney Foxhall	Salim Jones	Alexander Longan
Liz Buescher	Chloe Francis	Beth Jones	Nathaniel Love
Brad Carney	Jason Friedhoff	Joshua Jorgensen	Henry Ludwig
Mark Castiglia	Estefany Chavez	Derek Kang	Jake Madsen
Jeremy Chill	Garay	Dina Kang	George Maliha
Madeline Clasen	Yolanda Garcia	Yahel Kaplan	Mimi Mallory
Melissa Craig	Grace Dickson	Paul Kariyawasam	Elizabeth Marino
Natalie Crawford	Gerbas	Seth Katz	Greg Marris
Miles Curry	Isaac Golub	Matthew Katz	Collin Marshall
Sharon DiPrinzio	Lauren Grau	Casey Khan	Kara McCall
Henry Dickinson	Nick Greenberg	Louisa Kiu	Brad McGee
Jackson Drolet	Scott Gregus	Robert Kreitman	Max Meglio
Diana DuBois	Lucas Grisham	Chloe Larsen	
	Claire Grogan		

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Sidley (Continued)

Rachel Mejias-Thompson	Anna Remis	Owen Skelding	Christoher Van Slyke
Jim Mendenhall	Philip Robbins	Kristin Smith	Arie Van Wijngaarden
Adi Milstein	Michael Roberts	Kendra Smith	Robert Velevis
Tung Nguyen	Andres Rodriguez	Stacy Stevens	Jennifer Wagener
Ben Nitschelm	Steven Rutovsky	Michael Stringer	John E. Walker
Daniel O'Shea	Simon Saddleton	LinLin Teng	Katherine Walsh
Morgan Oxner	William Schoenfeld	Alex Theodosakis	Yifei Wang
Mason Parham	Ryan Schroeder	John David Thomas	Emily Wexler
Sally Wagner Partin	Garrett Sciortino	Tong Tong	Sarah Wiley
Rakhee Patel	Dylan Sherwyn	Joanna Travalini	Irene Yang
Charlie Peskin	Andrew Shoyer	Robert Uhl	Tommer Yoked
Bianca Ramirez	Danielle Sismour		

Skadden: 24 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Anna Frances Coleman, Don Salzman

Volunteer attorneys from Skadden accepted 4 discharge upgrade cases (with 1 involving Military Sexual Trauma), 17 discharge upgrade file review matters, and 3 TSGLI cases.

Brian Babb	Yuxi Han	Raymond Liang	Mike Pierce
Nadiya Beckwith-Stanley	Evan Hill	Ed Matin	Scott Rabinowitz
Paul Cotler	Bobby Kiernan	Christopher McKinley	Lisa Rechden
Isabel Dewhurst	Sam Kim	Chris McKinley	David Wagener
Kelsey Dion	Andy Law	Andrew Muscato	Nancy Wuamett

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Step toe: 17 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Paul Lee, Carolyn Perez

Step toe accepted 10 cases at the Board of Veterans' Appeals, 2 Combat-Related Special Compensation cases, and 5 discharge upgrade file review matters.

Mert Arkan	Elaine Hartman	Louay Meroueh
Sonja Arndt-Johnson	Jules Herman	Jacob Michalakes
Shaun Boedicker	Dane Jacques	Lewis Murphy
Joe Bower	Harmony Jones	Tatsushi Nishizaki
Kelly Eberspecher	John Kavanaugh	Kane Smith
Tarran Ellis	Layla McCan	Lillian Wallace

Squire Patton Boggs: 5 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Corrine Irish

A new LSW partner in 2024, Squire Patton Boggs accepted 5 discharger upgrade file review matters.

Anna Fraser	Katy Spicer	Dan Stephen
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Taft: 9 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Rachel Jennings

Taft accepted 3 Combat-Related Special compensation matters and 6 discharge upgrade file review matters.

Chloe Altman	Aisha Hall	Amanda Pipik-Leip
Ina Avalon	Devina Patel	William Sweet
Michael Emmer		Helen Wu

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T-Mobile: 5 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Michelle Lama

T-Mobile accepted 2 matters at the Board of Veterans' Appeals with partner Davis Wright Tremaine. T-Mobile also partnered with DLA Piper to conduct 3 discharge upgrade virtual clinic interviews. Veterans from across the country met with pro bono attorneys through virtual meeting platforms to discuss their discharge upgrade cases.

Ryan Kilroy

Murray McLeod

Amanda Rosen

Michelle Lama

Richard Nguyen

Tina Silkwood

Troutman Pepper Locke: 54 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Maddie Moore, Sara Richman, Sarah Bures, Tim Bado, Nick Ramos, Daniela Lerner

Troutman Pepper Locke accepted 9 Combat-Related Special compensation cases, 5 TSGLI cases, and 3 appeals at the Board of Veterans' Appeals. Troutman Pepper further accepted 11 discharge upgrade matters (1 involving Military Sexual Trauma), partnering with Capital One on 1 matter and 9 discharge upgrade file review matters. Troutman also assisted NVLSP with several research projects and in drafting public comments on TSGLI.

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Troutman Pepper Locke (Continued)

Troutman Pepper Locke also partnered with Capital One to interview 14 veterans at a virtual discharge upgrade clinic. Veterans from across the country met with pro bono attorneys through virtual meeting platforms to discuss their discharge upgrade cases.

Scott A. Ahn	Jonathan DeMars	Adam Kaddoura	Kyara M. Rivera
Zie L. Alere	Nile Delso	Melanie K. Kersey	Rivera
Robert A. Angle	Kevin R. Dexter	Susan Koenig	Jake A. Rodon
Patrick J. Archambault	Noah J. DiPasquale	Brandon T. Liu	Alex R. Rovira
Michala D. Black	Matthew J. Divis	Punit K. Marwaha	S.R. Sidarth
Sarah B. Bures	Thomas D. Dockery Jr.	Keegan McCoy	Carly R. Siditsky
Alex G. Cabe	Kristen T. Eastman	Carlin A. McCrory	Jamanda T. Tea
Christopher J. Capurso	Ari Ebi	Jake McDonough	Edgar Vargas
Stefanie Cerrone	Peter W. Gaynor	Christopher A. Olcott	Chris Vinyard
Tareesha N. Charpentier	Nick C. Gouverneur	Matthew E. Orso	Monica Wegner
Jonathan P. Chason	DJ Griffin	Lane Page	Tyler Wilson
Martha E. Conlin	Sam S. Griffith	Val Peterson	Erica Stalnecker
Lindsey Crawford	Nicholas L. Hansen	Kim Phan	Wilson
Emily K. Davidson	Bryan M. Haynes	Daniel J. Prichard	Alan D. Wingfield
Joseph M. DeFazio	Troy C. Homesley	Nicholas A. Ramos	Elsie Yang
		Jessica Ring	Steve Zahn

U.S. Bank: 2 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Alyson Cauchy, Tara Adams, Alison Atkins

U.S. Bank accepted 1 discharge upgrade matter with partner Sidley, and 1 discharge upgrade file review matter.

Alison Atkins

James Babbitt

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Verizon: 8 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Alycia Guichard, Ashley Morgan, Avery Pollard

Verizon accepted 8 discharge upgrade file review matters.

Roberto Alonso-Olmo	Oded Friedmann	Genna Roarty	Desire Tadesse
Carey Gagnon	John McDow	Teressa Sorenson	Caden Wilcox

White & Case: 14 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Patrick Rickerfor, Otto Nunez-Montelongo, Alex Dilley, Michelle O'Brien

A leading partner at the Board of Veterans' Appeals, White & Case accepted 14 cases at the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

Alec Albright	Jordan Hill	Jason McCoy	Elliott Smith
Chisom Amanchukwu	Sandra Huerta	Jeremy Ostrander	Edward So
Heather Burke	Jonathan Lamberson	Dave Pezza	Gabe Sutherland
Michael Crowley	Tara Lee	Rucha Phadtare	Brandon Wong
Matt Drossos	Kasey Lee	Petr Polasek	Andrew Zatz
Paul Friedland	Lauren Lundy	Todd Rouse	Alex Zegger
Adam Greenfield		Stephen Shuchart	

Williams & Connolly: 6 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contact: Liam Montgomery

Williams & Connolly accepted 3 discharge upgrade matters, 1 medical retirement litigation matter, and 1 appeal at the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. Williams & Connolly volunteers also wrote Supreme Court certiorari amicus petitions for *Bufkin v. McDonough*.

Tom Boss	Rob Hartsmith	Meaghan Newkirk	Kate Wetz
Falicia Elenberg	John Murray	Alex Trobe	

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Willkie Farr: 6 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Stacey Kushlefsky, Ciara Sisco

Willkie Farr accepted 6 Combat-Related Special Compensation cases.

Nicholas Chanin	Rikki Lavine	Michael Rieger
Weston Eguchi	Bill Montemarano	Alexander Ryan
Steve Gartner	Nick Reddick	Cassandra Vangellow
Erik Holmvik		

WilmerHale: 52 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Erin Marie Meyer, Dorian Meyer Needham, Leigh Hillebrand

WilmerHale is a leading LSW partner for all case types. WilmerHale accepted 9 discharge upgrade cases, 19 Combat-Related Special Compensation cases, 5 TSGLI cases, 1 appeal at the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, and 5 cases at the Board of Veterans' Appeals. WilmerHale further accepted 2 litigation cases. WilmerHale also wrote a Federal Circuit amicus brief for Hamill v. McDonough.

Additionally, WilmerHale interviewed 10 veterans at a virtual discharge upgrade clinic. Veterans from across the country met with pro bono attorneys through virtual meeting platforms to discuss their discharge upgrade cases.

Mihdi Afnan	Ashley Bashur	Mike Cerulli	Will Dario
Magda von Albade	Matthew Benedetto	Isaiah Chatman	Andrew Davies
Jessica Aldrich	Joshua Benson-Foley	Kevin Cheng	Thomas Davis
Adam Aliano	Matthew Beville	Jason Chipman	Rachel Dober
Michael Amato	Jeannette Boot	Daniel Clark	Amy Doberman
Laila Ameri	Joseph Brenner	Megan O'Flynn Cohen	Shanelle Doher
Stephanie Avakian	John Butts	Paul Connell	Andrew Dulberg
Nitisha Baronian	Mark Cahn	Tim Cook	Fedel Estefenos
	Xinni Cai	Ryan Daily	Tranae Felicien

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WilmerHale (Continued)

Micah Fielden	Steven Horn	Sarah Murphy	Jeremy Stein
Quinn Fulton	Gary Howell-Walton	Jeff Myers	Joshua Stern
Sarah Garrett	Christie Huchro	Josh Nathanson	Robert Stiller
Doug Gates	Jarrold Ingles	Bruce Newman	Andrew Straky
Michael Gilligan	Sundai Iott	Duy Nguyen	Pooja Sudarshan
Andrew Goldman	Reade Jacob	Stephanie Nicolas	Michael Summersgill
Emily Gomez	Kelley Kling	Patrick Nyman	Xiaowei Sun
Jennifer Graber	Daniel LaMagna	Edward O'Callaghan	Anes Sung
Erin Granillo-Walker	Perry Lange	Richard O'Neill	Erik Swabb
Joel Green	Ashley Leen	Tom Oates	Kyle Swan
Josue Guerra	Joshua Lerner	Tolu Ojuola	Justin Taleisnik
Brent Gurney	Noah Levin	Sydnee Over	Jennifer Thompson
Bobby Hampton	Lauren Lifland	Andre Owens	Elizabeth Trujillo
Else Hanson	Gwen Ljung-Baruth	Arjun Parikh	David Waites
John Hardisky	Meredith Loretta	Disha Patel	Dennis Wang
Franca Harris-Gutierrez	Andrew Lux	Danny Perry	Brittany Warren
Ashley Hartman	Amy Mahan	Ryan Potts	Sydney Warren
Ted Hasen	Jessica Maneval	Sandy Ra	Jon Weingart
Michael Heyison	Daniel Martin	Alexandria Reid	Monika Weisman
Annie Himes	Caitlin McGough	Andy Reynolds	Julie Welly
Matthew Holmwood	Brendan McGuire	Thais Ridgeway	Reid Whitaker
Matt Jones	Bill McLucas	Hannah Santasawatkul	Amy Wigmore
Andrew Jumper	Sonal Mehta	Jaclyn Schofield	Nicolette Willis
Michael Katz	Seth Miller	Elliot Shackelford	Sam Winter-Barker
Kyle Kessler	Rachael Million-Perez	Howard Shapiro	Jonathan Wolfman
Omar Khan	Elizabeth Mitchell	Akshat Shekhar	Nora Xu
Jamie Kim	Zachary Mollendor	Andrew Shipley	Alex Young
John Kim	Ben Morris	Madeline Simpson	Arpi Youssoufian
Robert Kimmitt	Danielle Morris	Jeff Soller	Daniel Zimmerman
Natalie Kirchoff	Natalie Morrissey	Nick Standish	
Hayley Hopkins	Jaclyn Moyer	Alexandra Stanley	

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Winston & Strawn: 100 matters

LSW Pro Bono Contacts: Greg McConnell, Tara Moss, Maria Kutnick, Nadja Thompson

Winston & Strawn accepted 14 cases at the Board of Veterans' Appeals, 1 medical retirement administrative appeal, and 85 discharge upgrade file review matters.

Rafael Amador	Dave Coulson	Jenny Iorio	Sabrina Rishmague
Natalie Arbaugh	David Dalke	Paul Jezierny	Josh Roth
Jessica Batey	Claire Dial	Alison King	Jack Shea
Jordan Berry	Patrick Doerr	Chuck Klein	Larry Sher
Daniel Bley	Matt Durfee	Steven Laxton	Shazia Siddiqui
Dan Blouin	Claire Fundakowski	Sarah Lim	Anna Sonju
Bailey Brandon	Molly Rose Gibson	Brad Mandel	Jeremy Spankowski
Natasha Burkett	Amy Gordon	Rebecca Michael	Amanda Stephens
Wade Challacombe	Roland Hartung	Zoe Mulraine	Scott Thomas
Kara Cooper	Stephanie Hines	Aaron O'Dell	Chad Walker
Matt Costigan	Matt Hopkins	Jason Osborn	

NVLSP Staff

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Richard Spataro, Director of Training and Publications

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Shara Abraham, Appellate Attorney

Adrian Adrias, Accountant

Amy Borgersen, Appellate Attorney

George Burtsev, Office Manager

Sarah Champion, Appellate Attorney

Margaret A. Costello, Staff Attorney

Christine Cote Hill, Special Counsel

Kristin Counterman, Legal Assistant

Masha Danilenko, Development Associate

Kimberley Davis, Development Research Assistant

Emily Woodward Deutsch, Senior Appellate Attorney

Brandy Disbennett, Board Remand Project

Coordinating Attorney

McCall Dupree, Staff Attorney

Amy Fulmer, Staff Attorney

Louis George, Special Counsel

Alec Ghezzi, Appellate Attorney

Samantha Greenstein, Staff Attorney

Matthew Handley, Staff Attorney

Rebecca Harris, Skadden Fellow

Thomas Herthel, Of Counsel

Rosalee Hoffman, Senior Appellate Attorney

Alexis Ivory, Senior Staff Attorney

Paige James, Legal Assistant

Cynthia Johnson, Staff Attorney

Kennedy Johnson, Legal Assistant

Ryan Kelley, Staff Attorney

Ann Kenna, Staff Attorney

Brianna LeFrere, Legal Assistant

Esther Leibfarth, Senior Managing Attorney

Anita Meador, Paralegal

Kenneth Meador, Appellate Attorney

Erin Mee, Senior Pro Bono Coordinating Attorney

Emily Mills, Appellate Attorney

Caitlin M. Milo, Senior Appellate Attorney

Sherrie Moreira, Special Counsel

Christopher G. Murray, Senior Managing Appellate Attorney

Anita Nigam-Ritchie, Appellate Attorney

Nnamdi Okoli, Staff Attorney

Katherine Orr, Appellate Attorney

Zach Outzen, Staff Attorney

Andrew Penman, Appellate Attorney

Rebecca Pierce, Appellate Attorney

Dorrie Popovski, Paralegal

Jeffrey Price, Appellate Attorney

Kathleen Rainey, Legal Assistant

Abigail Reynolds, Staff Attorney

Sarah Ribaldo, Legal Assistant

Abigail Schopick, Senior Appellate Attorney

Dan Smith, Appellate Attorney

Abigail Schopick, Senior Appellate Attorney

Carlie Steiner, Appellate Attorney

Bart Stichman, Co-Founder and Special Counsel

Elizabeth Tarloski, Staff Attorney

Monica Toeh, Senior Accountant

Dale Ton, Appellate Attorney

Jonathan Trickey, Appellate Attorney

Alie Venuti, Senior Staff Attorney

Lora Vineberg, Staff Attorney

Christopher Wallace, Special Counsel

Tekey Wallace, Staff Attorney

Margaret Wilks, Appellate Attorney

Hannah R. Zacharias, Appellate Attorney



We thank you for your continued support in our efforts to ensure that the government delivers to our nation's 18 million veterans and active duty personnel the benefits which they have earned because of disabilities resulting from their military service to our country.



www.nvlsp.org

Email: info@nvlsp.org