



## The Veteran's Survival Guide: How to File and Collect on VA Claims, Second Edition

By John D. Roche

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"Claim denied!" All too often millions of veterans have received this response to their legitimate claims for federal benefits. In most cases, writes veterans' advocate John D. Roche, the claimant didn't understand the procedures needed to meet the myriad requirements of the Department of Veterans Affairs. With the appeals process requiring years to resolve disputes, deserving veterans and their dependents are left confused and frustrated by the agency and a system that was created to serve them. The answer is to submit a well-grounded claim initially, which *The Veteran's Survival Guide*, now in a revised, second edition, analyzes in detail. This unique book, written in an accessible self-help style, will be required reading for any veteran or veteran's dependent who wishes to obtain his or her well-earned benefits and for those officials of veterans' service organizations who assist veterans with their claims.

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**The Veteran's Survival Guide: How to File and Collect on VA Claims, Second Edition** By John D. Roche **Bibliography**

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**Editorial Review**

From Library Journal

The author, a former claims adjudication specialist for the Veteran's Administration (VA), assembles the information veterans and their dependents need to file a claim for their federal benefits. According to Roche, the process is slow and complicated, and the VA is not helpful to those pursuing their rights. Roche concentrates on instructing readers in the key elements for securing benefits: constructing a "well-grounded claim" and complying with claims procedures. In plain language, he provides detailed descriptions of the steps involved and illustrates the discussion with examples and cautions. The author pulls no punches regarding the difficulties claimants encounter and succeeds in providing them with the information they need to work through a tangled system. Highly recommended for public libraries.

*Joan Pedzich, Harris Beach LLP, Rochester, NY*

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Review

"BEST DAMN BOOK ON VA CLAIMS EVER WRITTEN! . . . This is 'the gold standard' of this genre. This is truly the best and most helpful book on the subject that I have come across in my three decades of helping veterans. . . . Author John D. Roche has taken all his personal experience of having worked for the VA and for veterans in Florida and put it into readable, simple, and easy-to-follow language. Not only does he tell you what to do, but he also gives you insights on how the VA operates and makes decisions on claims. If you have a claim to file or have one being processed right now, then you should run down and buy this book I sincerely mean that. You cannot afford not to have a copy. . . . I most highly recommend this book for every veteran. . . . The MWSA awards this book five stars--the highest rating we can give."—Bill McDonald, president of the Military Writers Society of America  
(Bill McDonald)

"Highly recommended for public libraries."—*CHOICE*  
(*CHOICE*)

"Any collection catering to veterans needs this 'bible' of information."—*Midwest Book Review*  
(*Midwest Book Review* 2008-03-06)

From the Publisher

Updated and revised to include changes to chapters on the veterans' benefit system, the internal structure of the VA's Adjudication Division, and total disability claims

Offers step-by-step instructions on how to prepare a well-grounded claim for veterans' benefits

Written from an insider's perspective on the VA's claims adjudication and appeal process

**Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**Stephanie Knowles:**

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**Douglas Johnson:**

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