

**AMENDMENT to INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE, Pages 18-28,**  
under the sub-section of “**Assisting Denied Claims**”, the claimant should fill out and send in to the VARO (whichever one issued the adverse decision) VA form 3288. This is the form to use when requesting a complete copy of a veteran’s VA claims file folder.

**Recommend** - a veteran send in this completed form; because, by seeing the contents of the veteran’s complete VA claims file contain all of the veteran’s military service records (OMPF, SMR’s, etc.), one is able to see all of the efforts to develop the claim the VA has undertaken thus far. This is especially important as it pertains to radiated veterans; because, the VA has a duty to assist in developing the veteran’s claim, including efforts to obtain military and, or medical evidence re: a veteran’s claim. In addition, many radiated veterans’ VA files may have been destroyed in the 1973 fire at the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC), and if so, the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims has held that the VA has a heightened duty to assist that veteran in obtaining evidence in support of this claim by alternate means.



## REQUEST FOR AND CONSENT TO RELEASE OF INFORMATION FROM CLAIMANT'S RECORDS

**NOTE:** The execution of this form does not authorize the release of information other than that specifically described below. The information requested on this form is solicited under Title 38, United States Code, and will authorize release of the information you specify. The information may also be disclosed outside VA as permitted by law to include disclosures as stated in the "Notices of Systems of VA Records" published in the Federal Register in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974.

**RESPONDENT BURDEN:** VA may not conduct or sponsor, and the respondent is not required to respond, to this collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB Control Number. The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) and VA's confidentiality statute (38 U.S.C. 5701) as implemented by 38 CFR 1.526(a) and 38 CFR under any other provision of law. The information requested is approved under OMB Control Number 2900-0025 and is necessary to ensure that the statutory requirements of the Privacy Act and VA's confidentiality statute are met.

Responding to this collection of information is voluntary. However, if the information is not furnished, we may not be able to comply with your request. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 7.5 minutes per respondent, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspects of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the VA Clearance Officer (045A4, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. **SEND COMMENTS ONLY. DO NOT SEND THIS FORM OR REQUESTS FOR BENEFITS TO THIS ADDRESS.**

<b>TO</b>	<b>Department of Veterans Affairs</b>	NAME OF VETERAN <i>(Type or print)</i>	
		VA FILE NO. <i>(Include prefix)</i>	SOCIAL SECURITY NO.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF ORGANIZATION AGENCY, OR INDIVIDUAL TO WHOM INFORMATION IS TO BE RELEASED

### VETERAN'S REQUEST

I hereby request and authorize the Department of Veterans Affairs to release the following information from the records identified above to the organization, agency, or individual named hereon: ▶	NAME
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INFORMATION REQUESTED *(Number each item requested and give the dates or approximate dates - period from and to - covered by each.)*

PURPOSE(S) FOR WHICH THE INFORMATION IS TO BE USED.

*NOTE: Additional information may be listed on the reverse side of this form.*

SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS OF CLAIMANT, OR FIDUCIARY, IF CLAIMANT IS INCOMPETENT	DATE
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