

**SOUTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT SERVICE  
OFFICE MISSION  
STATEMENT**

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the US Department of South Carolina (VSO) is responsible for assisting veterans, their surviving spouse, dependent children or other eligible relatives of a veteran throughout the State of South Carolina, in preparing and submitting claims for compensation or pension benefits to the Department of Veteran Affairs.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars has been serving Veterans and their families since 1899. The duties and responsibilities of this office is to assist the Veteran in obtaining benefits, completing forms such as Power of Attorney, pension, burial benefits and submitting supporting documents to the VA. This office will appear with the Veteran at Administrative Hearings. The Department Service Office also advises veterans and refers them to the appropriate professional resources to help alleviate their hardships.

The VSO provides contact information to veterans in need of emergency aid funds and or other aid organizations for assistance. The VSO attends Veterans Organizations meetings, participates in veterans functions and provides out reach to colleges.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Office is located in the Columbia Veterans Administration Regional Office.

**Membership in VFW is NOT required.**

**DEPARTMENT  
STAFF**

Department Service Officer  
**John Johnson**

Admin Asst/Claims Consultant  
**Valarie Singleton**



South Carolina  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Department Headquarters  
210 Glassmaster Rd  
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803-808-0317



**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**

South Carolina

**SERVICE OFFICE**



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH  
CAROLINA SERVICE OFFICE**

6437 Garners Ferry Rd. Suite 1124  
Columbia, SC 29209

Phone: 803-647-2442  
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## VETERAN'S SERVICES

1. Service Connected Disability
2. Non-Service Connected Pension
3. Dependency Indemnity Compensation (DIC) (Surviving Spouse)
4. Death Benefits (Surviving Spouse)
5. Individual Unemployability
6. Increase on Service Connection claims
7. Aid & Attendance & House-bound
8. Temporary 100% compensation due to surgery
9. Filing Appeals
10. Representation for Veteran at Appeals Hearing

## DOCUMENTS NEEDED

1. DD-214
2. Private Medical Records
3. Marriage Certificate (If Applicable)
4. Birth Certificate (Dependents)
5. Divorce Decree (If Applicable)
6. Banking Information

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **What is my Claim Number?**

If you have filed your claim, your claim file number or Social Security number is on the upper right hand of the letter you receive from the VA.

### **What are my responsibilities?**

Most importantly, keep a file of all correspondence between you and the VA. When you telephonically contact the VA, record the number you called, the date and time and the person you spoke with.

### **How long will it take?**

There is no one who can predict the time it will take to process any one claim. FDC claims can be 180 days or longer.

### **What happens if your claim is denied?**

In the unfortunate event that your claim is denied, you have **one year** to appeal before the decision becomes final. There are several stages of the appellate process and your Service Officer can discuss these options with you.

## Helpful Information

### **Veterans Administration**

*www.va.gov*

### **VA Forms**

*www.va.gov/vaforms*

### **Burial & Memorial Benefits**

*www.cem.va.gov*

### **VA Vet Centers**

*www.vetcenter.va.gov*

### **Military Personnel, Medical Records & DD214**

*www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel*

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**VA Benefits** 1-800-827-1000

**Health Care** 1-877-222-8387

**Bereavement Counseling** 1-202-461-6530

**Women Veterans** 1-877-222-8387

**Mental Health America** 1-800-969-6642

**Survivor Assistance** 1-800-959-8277

**Social Security** 1-800-772-1213

**National Center for PTSD** 1-802-296-6300

*www.ptsd.va.gov*

### **THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS**

**National Headquarters** (816) 756-3390

**Washington DC Office** (202) 543-2239

**E-BENEFITS** *www.va.gov*