

# 2009 Current Fiscal Year Report: Advisory Committee on VA Disability Compensation and Related Benefits

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<b>1. Department or Agency</b>	Department of Veterans Affairs	<b>2. Fiscal Year</b>	2009
<b>3. Committee or Subcommittee</b>	Advisory Committee on VA Disability Compensation and Related Benefits	<b>3b. GSA Committee No.</b>	34766
<b>4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?</b>	No	<b>5. Current Charter</b>	09/10/2008
		<b>6. Expected Renewal Date</b>	
		<b>7. Expected Term Date</b>	
<b>8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?</b>	Yes	<b>8b. Specific Termination Authority</b>	
		<b>8c. Actual Term Date</b>	11/03/2008
<b>9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year</b>	Terminate	<b>10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?</b>	No
		<b>10b. Legislation Pending?</b>	
<b>11. Establishment Authority</b>	Agency Authority	<b>12. Specific Establishment Authority</b>	Secretary Decision
		<b>13. Effective Date</b>	09/10/2008
		<b>14. Committee Type</b>	Continuing
		<b>14c. Presidential?</b>	No
<b>15. Description of Committee</b>	Non Scientific Program Advisory Board		
<b>16a. Total Number of Reports</b>	No Reports for this Fiscal Year		
<b>17a. Open</b>	0	<b>17b. Closed</b>	0
		<b>17c. Partially Closed</b>	0
		<b>Other Activities</b>	0
<b>17d. Total</b>	0		
<b>Meetings and Dates</b>	No Meetings		

	<b>Current</b>	<b>Next</b>
	<b>FY</b>	<b>FY</b>
<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.00	0.00

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

Public Law 110-389 mandated the establishment of the Advisory Committee on Disability Compensation and that the Secretary regularly consults with and seeks the advice of the Committee with respect to the maintenance and periodic readjustment of the schedule for rating disabilities. This statutorily authorized Committee takes precedence; therefore this Committee was terminated because it had the same objectives and scope of activities.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its**

**membership?**

Members were selected from among recognized experts, Veterans (stakeholders), and others with special competence in areas such as disability claims adjudication, vocational rehabilitation, disability programs management, workers' compensation, rehabilitative medicine, mental health research, military medical services management, Veterans' benefits advocacy, and survivor benefits advocacy.

**20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?**

The Committee did not meet due to the short duration and then termination of the Committee.

**20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

Payment of disability compensation to Veterans who suffer from the effects of service connected disabilities is one of the core VA responsibilities. Proper management of the payment program is essential to the Department's business. The newly established Advisory Committee on Disability Compensation provides advice to the Secretary on establishing and supervising a schedule to conduct periodic reviews of the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities.

**20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?**

No meetings were held.

**21. Remarks**

It should be noted that a comprehensive review of the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities (VASRD) has been recommended by a major federal panel during the past year. That panel was a statutorily-established commission which operated

as a federal advisory committee and submitted its recommendations in October 2007. A comprehensive review of the VASRD has also been discussed in various congressional hearings during the past several years.

## Designated Federal Officer

### Ersie Farber Designated Federal Officer

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Battaglia, Charles	09/10/2008	11/03/2008	Board of Directors, Wounded Warrior Project	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Blanck, Ronald	09/10/2008	11/03/2008	Vice Chairman, Martin, Blanck and Associates	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Burke, Robert	09/10/2008	11/03/2008	Assoc. Prof./Chair, Dept. of Hea. Svcs. Mgmt. and Leadership; Dir., Wertlieb Educ. Inst. for Long-Term Care Mgmt., George Washington University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Carney, Thomas	09/10/2008	11/03/2008	Retired; CALIBRE Board of Directors	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Carroll, Bonnie	09/10/2008	11/03/2008	National Director, Tragedy Assistance Programs for Survivors (TAPS)	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Epley, Robert	09/10/2008	11/03/2008	Consultant (strategic planning, training, performance management, and operations of federal entitlement programs)	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Gade, Daniel	09/10/2008	11/03/2008	Former Associate Director, Domestic Policy, White House Domestic Policy Council	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Katz, Richard	09/10/2008	11/03/2008	Professor, Clinical Neurology, Washington University School of Medicine	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Lott, Deneise	09/10/2008	11/03/2008	Administrative Judge, Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Reese, Edward	09/10/2008	11/03/2008	Disabled combat veteran; Persian Gulf War; Natl. Svc. Dir., Disabled American Veterans	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Scott, James	09/10/2008	11/03/2008	Partner, Watson and Associates (financial services)	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 11**

### **Narrative Description**

Public Law 110-389 mandated the establishment of the Advisory Committee on Disability Compensation and that the Secretary regularly consults with and seeks the advice of the Committee with respect to the maintenance and periodic readjustment of the schedule for rating disabilities. This statutorily authorized Committee takes precedence; therefore this Committee was terminated because it had the same objectives and scope of activities.

### **What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?**

Checked if  
Applies

- Improvements to health or safety
- Trust in government
- Major policy changes
- Advance in scientific research
- Effective grant making
- Improved service delivery
- Increased customer satisfaction

- Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements
- Other

**Outcome Comments**

This Committee was terminated November 3, 2008.

**What are the cost savings associated with this committee?**

Checked if Applies

- None
- Unable to Determine
- Under \$100,000
- \$100,000 - \$500,000
- \$500,001 - \$1,000,000
- \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000
- \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000
- Over \$10,000,000
- Cost Savings Other

**Cost Savings Comments**

This Committee was terminated November 3, 2008.

**What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?**

0

**Number of Recommendations Comments**

This Committee was terminated November 3, 2008.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?**

0%

**% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

N/A

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?**

0%

**% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

N/A

**Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes  No  Not Applicable

**Agency Feedback Comments**

This Committee was terminated November 3, 2008.

**What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

- Reorganized Priorities
- Reallocated resources
- Issued new regulation
- Proposed legislation
- Approved grants or other payments
- Other

**Action Comments**

This Committee was terminated November 3, 2008.

**Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

No

**Grant Review Comments**

**How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

- Contact DFO
- Online Agency Web Site
- Online Committee Web Site
- Online GSA FACA Web Site
- Publications

Other



**Access Comments**

This Committee was terminated November 3, 2008.