

2009 Current Fiscal Year Report: Advisory Committee on OIF-OEF Veterans and Families

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Veterans Affairs

2. Fiscal Year

2009

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Advisory Committee on OIF-OEF
Veterans and Families

3b. GSA

Committee No.

30917

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

04/20/2007

6. Expected Renewal Date

7. Expected Term Date

04/20/2009

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

Yes

8b. Specific Termination Authority

Secretary Decision

8c. Actual Term Date

04/20/2009

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Merge

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

10b. Legislation Pending?

11. Establishment Authority

Agency Authority

12. Specific Establishment Authority

Secretary Decision

13. Effective Date

04/20/2007

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

16a. Total Number of Reports

16b. Report

Date

Report Title

05/08/2009

Recommendations to the
Secretary

Number of Committee Reports Listed: 1

17a.

Open

1 17b. Closed0 17c. Partially Closed0 Other Activities0 17d. Total 1

Meetings and Dates

Purpose

Start

End

Reviewed information gathered by the Committee during the past two years and discussed the possibility of transferring records and sharing the results of its various fact-finding initiatives with other VA advisory committees which have complementary jurisdictions and similar areas of interest. 04/15/2009 - 04/16/2009

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 1

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$5,400.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$40,000.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$11,757.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Administrative Costs (FRNs, contractor support, In-person/hybrid/virtual meetings)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Other (all other funds not captured by any other cost category)	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
18e. Total Costs	\$62,157.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.50	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Committee assesses both the effectiveness of

existing VA programs and the demand for new initiatives to address the particular needs of OIF/OEF veterans and their families. The Committee makes recommendations on how to tailor VA benefits and services to the needs of this most recent generation of veterans.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

Membership of the Committee includes individuals who can express the views of OIF/OEF soldiers, affected families, veterans service organizations, National Guard and Reserve members, relevant medical specialties, and those engaged in transitional assistance activities.

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

The Committee meets as often as necessary to provide timely advice to the Secretary, usually 3-4 times each year.

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

Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom are presenting a variety of challenges that are particular to the current conflicts. Those challenges include appropriate treatment for extraordinarily severe combat injuries, special rehabilitation techniques to address those injuries, the physical and emotional strains of multiple deployments, the social and economic effects of National Guard and Reserve mobilizations, and family financial problems associated with extended periods of hospitalization and/or rehabilitation. Although VA addresses those challenges through its combination programs to deliver veterans benefits and health care there is no office or other entity within VA that is designed

to focus on this collection of issues. Therefore, it has been determined that the guidance to be provided by a panel of independent experts and advocates would greatly assist VA in achieving its goal of addressing the needs of this group of veterans as effectively and efficiently as possible. It is also important to note that no existing VA advisory committee is directed to focus on the special needs of veterans' families.

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

The Committee's normal operational policy is to hold meetings that are open to the public.

21. Remarks

The Committee completed their two year charter and is being terminated. It was determined that rather than have a single focused committee that their issues could be mainstreamed into the following statutorily chartered committees: Advisory Committee on the Readjustment of Veterans, Advisory Committee on Prosthetics and Special-Disabilities and Veterans' Advisory Committee on Rehabilitation.

Designated Federal Officer

Laura O'Shea Designated Federal Officer

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Ayoub, Michael	04/20/2007	04/20/2009	OIF Army Reservist	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Barno, David	04/20/2007	04/20/2009	Served in command positions in OEF	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Biggers, Elizabeth	04/20/2007	04/20/2009	Caregiver of brother (deceased OIF veteran)	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Estes, Pamela	04/20/2007	04/20/2009	Caregiver for son - OIF veteran	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Hackett, Frances	04/20/2007	04/20/2009	Executive	Representative Member
Halfaker, Dawn	04/20/2007	04/20/2009	OIF Veteran	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Hazelgrove, Kimberly	04/20/2007	04/20/2009	OIF Veteran/Widow of OIF Veteran	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Livengood, Paul	04/20/2007	04/20/2009	Virginia Employment Commission	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Maney, Caroline	04/20/2007	04/20/2009	Spouse of OEF Veteran	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
McClain, Tim	04/20/2007	04/20/2009	Former General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
McPherson, Warren	04/20/2007	04/20/2009	Retired Marine/Executive Director of Florida Veterans Affairs	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Moore, Lonnie	04/20/2007	04/20/2009	National staff of Wounded Warrior Project	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Rodriguez, Manuel	02/01/2008	02/28/2010	OIF/OEF veteran; Alion Science and Technology	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Tilley, Jack	04/20/2007	04/20/2009	Vietnam Veteran	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Whitehorn, Delrick	08/28/2007	04/20/2009	OIF Veteran/Employment Specialist	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Wilson, Gary	04/20/2007	04/20/2009	Retired Marine Colonel	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Yoder, Charles	04/20/2007	04/20/2009	Former Counselor to the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 17

Narrative Description

The Committee provided advice to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the full spectrum of health care, benefits delivery and related family support issues that confront servicemembers during their transition from active duty to Veteran status and during their post-service years. The Committee focused on the concerns of all men and women with active military service in Operation Iraqi Freedom and/or Operation Enduring Freedom with particular attention to severely disabled Veterans and their families. One of the Committee's goals was to promote a seamless transition from military to civilian life, and a transitional process that is also a major component of VA's strategic plan.

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

Checked if
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

N/A

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

45

Number of Recommendations Comments

This is the total recommendations made through FY 2009.

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

The Committee has been terminated. It was determined that rather than have a single focused committee that their issues could be mainstreamed into other statutorily chartered VA committees.

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

The Committee has been terminated. It was determined that rather than have a single focused committee that their issues could be mainstreamed into other statutorily chartered VA committees.

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

Yes ☐ No ☒ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

NA

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

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

The Committee has been terminated. It was determined that rather than have a single focused committee that their issues could be mainstreamed into other statutorily chartered VA committees.

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

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

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

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

NA