



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

By John D. Roche



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Despite the rhetoric of “We can’t do enough for you” that has bombarded veterans since the early 1980s, veterans’ benefits are constantly being downsized, measured only by bottom-line costs. Gone are the pledges of a nation grateful for the sacrifices of those who have served. The results: a Veterans Administration with a diminished budget, and millions of veterans whose legitimate claims for federal benefits are denied, in most cases because the claimants don’t understand the procedures needed to meet the VA’s myriad requirements.

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. In *The Veteran's Survival Guide*, veterans’ advocate John D. Roche equips veterans with the knowledge they need to submit well-grounded claims the first time, stating as Rule #1 that, “If you don’t submit evidence to support your claim it will be denied.”

Written in an accessible self-help style, *The Veteran's Survival Guide* should be required reading for all veterans or veterans’ dependents who wish to obtain their well-earned benefits, and for those officials of veterans’ service organizations whose job it is to assist veterans with their claims.

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

- Rank: #1439299 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Potomac Books Inc.
- Published on: 2002-12-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.52" h x .64" w x 5.90" l, .68 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 336 pages

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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

#### **PRAISE FOR THE FIRST EDITION:**

"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 . . . easy-to-follow language. BEST DAMN BOOK ON VA CLAIMS EVER WRITTEN!"

"As a long-standing member of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I can attest to the complexity of the veterans' claims processing system. Calling on his years of experience as a county service officer, John has developed a comprehensive guide to veterans' claims processing, and I highly recommend it to all those who assist our nation's veterans in receiving the compensation and benefits they have earned."

"I've been filing disability claims with the Department of Veterans' Affairs for thirteen years, and I wish this book had been available when I first started. John Roche goes beyond just regurgitating federal regulations and gives the reader a step-by-step guide to establishing a well-grounded claim. A special note to those who are about to leave military service: please read this book before you do. It is an invaluable source of information regarding the records you'll need to copy before you go. It's much easier locating your records now than several years down the line."

"Highly recommended for public libraries."

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:**

#### **Jacob King:**

The book The Veteran's Survival Guide: How to File and Collect on VA Claims make one feel enjoy for your spare time. You can utilize to make your capable much more increase. Book can to be your best friend when you getting tension or having big problem with the subject. If you can make looking at a book The Veteran's Survival Guide: How to File and Collect on VA Claims being your habit, you can get considerably more advantages, like add your capable, increase your knowledge about several or all subjects. You can know everything if you like available and read a e-book The Veteran's Survival Guide: How to File and Collect on VA Claims. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science publication or encyclopedia or others. So , how do you think about this reserve?

#### **Guadalupe Eggleston:**

This book untitled The Veteran's Survival Guide: How to File and Collect on VA Claims to be one of several books which best seller in this year, here is because when you read this e-book you can get a lot of benefit in it. You will easily to buy that book in the book store or you can order it by using online. The publisher of the book sells the e-book too. It makes you more readily to read this book, because you can read this book in your Smartphone. So there is no reason for your requirements to past this reserve from your list.

#### **Arlene Wilson:**

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#### **Rodney Natale:**

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