



## They fought for us. They shouldn't fight for benefits

***Join IAVA in calling on President Obama to establish a Presidential Commission to end the VA disability benefits backlog.***

After a decade at war, more than half a million veterans are stuck in the VA disability claims backlog. According to the VA's own estimates, 70 percent of claims are backlogged by more than 125 days. Long wait times have a devastating impact on veterans and their families who are trying to successfully transition to civilian life.

Disability benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) are designed to fill the gaps in loss of earnings potential and quality of life caused by injuries sustained during military service. A recent report from the Center for Investigative Reporting cites documents authenticated by VA that state:

- On average, returning vets are waiting between 316 & 327 days on claims decisions.
- Despite hundreds of millions spent on digitization, *97% of claims are still on paper.*
- The wait in New Orleans is 490 days. 619 in Los Angeles. 612 in Indianapolis. 586 in Houston. 642 in New York. 681 in Reno. And the list goes on.

It's time to start taking care of our own. As a country, we must keep the promise we made to the millions of disabled veterans who have served and sacrificed to defend our nation. We must support them with the care and compensation they deserve.

I am standing with IAVA, 2.5 million veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan, 21 million veterans of all generations, and demanding a commission to end the VA backlog!

Signature

Printed Name