

VETERANS CLAIM PRELIMINARY CHECKLIST

COMPLETED GENERAL INFORMATION SHEET

DD – 214 OR OTHER DISCHARGE DOCUMENTS¹

MARRIAGE CERTIFICAT – CURRENT MARRIAGE

DIVORCE DECREE(S) – ALL PRIOR MARRIAGES

DEATH CERTIFICATE (FORMER SPOUSE IF APPLICABLE)

DEATH CERTIFICATE – VETERAN (IF FILING FOR WIDOWER/WIDOWS BENEFITS)

BIRTH CERTIFICATES – DEPENDENT CHILDREN

SOCIAL SECURITY CARD(S) – DEPENDENT CHILDREN

GUARDIAN and/or CONSERVATORSHIP DOCUMENTS (IF APPLICABLE)²

HELPLESS CHILD³ INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE)

Note: If you believe that you have a valid claim for benefits from the USDVA get to your nearest service officer and submit an Intent to File (ITF) as soon as possible. An ITF will hold the date of your claim for one year and give you time to prepare a solid case to present to the USDVA.

¹ Prior to the early 1950's veterans did not receive the standard DD discharge form.

² If the claimant has been adjudged by a local court to need a Guardian or Conservator, you will need to supply that documentation to the USDVA at the time of the claim.

³ For VA purposes a Helpless Child is one who has been determined to be incapable of self-support by competent medical authority prior to age 18.