

agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before September 23, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information through Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov) or to Jonathan Taylor, Office of the General Counsel (022D), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420 or email to [jonathan.taylor2@va.gov](mailto:jonathan.taylor2@va.gov). Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0018" in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jonathan Taylor at (202) 461-7699 or FAX (202) 273-6404.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA of 1995, Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, OGC invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of OGC's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of OGC's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

*Authority:* 38 U.S.C. 5901, 5902, 5904; 38 CFR 14.629, 14.633.

*Title:* Application for Accreditation as Service Organization Representative.  
*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0018.

*Type of Review:* Reinstatement of a previously approved collection.

*Abstract:* Service organizations are required to file an application with VA to establish eligibility for accreditation for representatives of that organization to represent benefit claimants before

VA. VA Form 21 is completed by service organizations to establish accreditation for representatives and recertify the qualifications of accredited representatives.

Organizations requesting cancellation of a representative's accreditation based on misconduct, incompetence, or resignation to avoid cancellation of accreditation based upon misconduct or incompetence are required to inform VA of the specific reason for the cancellation request. VA will use the information collected to determine whether service organizations' representatives continue to meet regulatory eligibility requirements to ensure claimants have qualified representatives to assist in the preparation, presentation and prosecution of their claims for benefits.

*Affected Public:* Individuals, not-for-profit institutions, and state, local, or tribal governments.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 1,013 hours (650 hours for new applicants, 350 hours for recertifications, and 13 hours for accreditation cancellation information responses).

*Estimated Average Burden per Respondent:* 13 minutes (15 minutes for new applicants, 10 minutes for recertifications, and 60 minutes for accreditation cancellation information responses).

*Frequency of Response:* One time.  
*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 4,713 (2,600 new applicants, 2,100 recertifications, and 13 accreditation cancellation information responses).

By direction of the Secretary.

**Danny S. Green,**

*VA Interim Clearance Officer, Office of Quality, Performance and Risk, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

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**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0800]

### Agency Information Collection Activity under OMB Review: Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry (AHOBPR) Web-Accessible Self-Assessment/Questionnaire

**AGENCY:** Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that the Veterans Health Administration,

Department of Veterans Affairs, will submit the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden and it includes the actual data collection instrument.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before August 26, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information through [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov), or to Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attn: VA Desk Officer; 725 17th St. NW, Washington, DC 20503 or sent through electronic mail to [oira\\_submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:oira_submission@omb.eop.gov). Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0800" in any correspondence.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Danny S. Green, Office of Quality, Performance and Risk (OQPR), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420, (202) 421-1354 or email [danny.green2@va.gov](mailto:danny.green2@va.gov) Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0800" in any correspondence.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Authority:* 44 U.S.C. 3501-21.

*Title:* Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry (AHOBPR) Web-accessible Self-Assessment/Questionnaire, VA Form 10-10066.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0800.

*Type of Review:* Reinstatement with change of a previously approved collection.

*Abstract:* Public Law 112-260 Section 201, enacted by President Obama on 10 January 2013, required Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to establish and maintain an "Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry (AHOBPR)" no later than one year from enactment. VA launched the AHOBPR in June 2014. There is no sunset date identified in the law. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may "include any information in such registry that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs determines necessary to ascertain and monitor the health effects of the exposure of members of the Armed Forces to toxic airborne chemicals and fumes caused by open burn pits." Currently, VA plans to operate the AHOBPR indefinitely, and we request approval to continue administering the questionnaire. The Qarmat Ali (QA) program is a new request for a follow-up information collection for a subset of Veterans impacted by a specific airborne hazard. In the Spring and Summer of 2003,

approximately 700 U.S. Servicemembers may have been impacted by a specific airborne hazard while serving at a water injection plant in Qarmat Ali, Iraq. The Department of Defense (DoD) was unable to determine specific exposure levels near the water treatment facility. In 2010, in response to DoD's notification, the VA offered no-cost medical evaluations and encouraged the cohort to enroll in a new Qarmat Ali medical surveillance program within the Gulf War Registry. The QA cohort is also eligible to participate in the AHOBPR program due to their deployment to Iraq. As part of the planned 5-year periodic medical follow-up and surveillance program, self-reported information will be collected through the AHOBPR as outlined above. Information collected is voluntary and is used to provide outreach and quality health services to AHOBPR participants. Collected data contributes to VA's ability to understand the potential health effects of the exposure to burn pit emissions and other airborne hazards during deployment, such as particulate matter.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published at 84 FR 19829 on May 6, 2019, pages 19829 and 19830.

#### **Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry (AHOBPR) Self-Assessment/ Questionnaire**

*Affected Public:* Individuals and households.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 33,333 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden per Respondent:* 40 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* Once.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 50,000.

#### **Subset of AHOBPR, Qarmat Ali Questionnaire**

*Affected Public:* Individuals and households.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 114 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden per Respondent:* 10 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* Once.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 686.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Danny S. Green,**

*Interim VA Clearance Officer, Office of Quality, Performance and Risk (OQPR), Department of Veterans Affairs.*

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## **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

[OMB Control No. 2900-0605]

### **Agency Information Collection Activity: Application for Accreditation as a Claims Agent or Attorney, Filing of Representatives' Fee Agreements and Motions for Review of Such Fee Agreements**

**AGENCY:** Office of General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of General Counsel (OGC), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before September 23, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information through Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov) or to Jonathan Taylor, Office of General Counsel (022D), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420 or email to [jonathan.taylor2@va.gov](mailto:jonathan.taylor2@va.gov). Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0605" in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jonathan Taylor at (202) 461-7699 or FAX (202) 273-6404.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA of 1995, Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, OGC invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of OGC's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of OGC's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

*Authority:* 38 U.S.C. 5901, 5904; 38 CFR 14.629, 14.636.

*Title:* Application for Accreditation as a Claims Agent or Attorney, Filing of Representatives' Fee Agreements and Motions for Review of Such Fee Agreements.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0605.

*Type of Review:* Reinstatement of a previously approved collection.

*Abstract:* Applicants seeking accreditation as claims agents or attorneys to represent benefits claimants before VA must complete VA Form 21a. The applicant is required to file the application with OGC to establish initial eligibility for accreditation. The information requested includes basic identifying information, as well as certain information concerning training and experience, military service, and employment. The information is used to evaluate qualifications, ensure against conflicts of interest, and to establish that statutory and regulatory eligibility requirements, *e.g.*, good character and reputation, are met. If a potential area of concern is identified on the application, additional information may be requested. Applicants who become accredited as agents and attorneys may not lawfully represent claimants without completing and maintaining accreditation requirements. The data is used to determine the applicant's eligibility for accreditation as a claims agent or attorney. The information collected with regard to an attorney or agent's good standing with other courts, bars, and Federal and State agencies and completion of their ongoing CLE requirements is used by OGC in monitoring accredited attorneys and agents to determine whether they continue to have the appropriate character and reputation and that they remain fit to prepare, present, and prosecute VA benefit claims.

The data collected under Filing of Representatives' Fee Agreements is used by OGC to associate the fee agreement