

SUPPORTING STATEMENT - PART A

Request for Disinterment – OMB Control Number 2900-0365

Summary of Changes from Previously Approved Collection

- Title of the collection: Request for Disinterment – There is no change in the title.
- Revisions to instruments including adding new ICs, removing ICs or any major revisions to a previously approved IC (such as adding/removing SSN): Minor grammatical edits
- Changes in burden: The cost burden has decreased since the previous approval due to a decrease in the estimated number of respondents, even though there has been an increase in the hourly mean wage and the hourly basic rates since the previous approval.
- Received comments on FRN? NCA received no comments on the 60-day FRN.

1. Need for the Information Collection

Interments made in National Cemeteries are permanent and final. Under regulations in section 38.621, Title 38, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), VA may approve requests to disinter eligible decedents from national cemeteries when certain requirements are met. If all a decedent's immediate living family members and the person who initiated the decedent's burial consent to the decedent's disinterment, their written consent must be provided on VA Form 40-4970. If the person who initiated the decedent's burial in a national cemetery does not consent, or is not alive to provide consent, anyone seeking disinterment of an eligible decedent must obtain a court order from a court or State instrumentality of jurisdiction to direct the disinterment. The form also serves as a control mechanism that ensures compliance with VA disinterment regulations. Title 38 U.S. Code § 2411 mentions that otherwise eligible individuals may be barred from burial for committing certain serious crimes.

2. Use of the Information

The purpose of VA Form 40-4970 is to allow a person who has a sincere wish and cogent reason to request the removal of remains from a national cemetery for interment at another location. VA Form 40-4970 is an affidavit that requires signatories to execute the document before a notary. This document then becomes a permanent record. Federal programs are unaffected since this is not an advocated action. This requirement is for a specific purpose peculiar to a particular circumstance. Regulations, policies, and procedures provide uniform methods for a disinterment since national cemeteries are in many states. VA Form 40-4970 provides decision-making data for approving or disapproving the disinterment request.

3. Use of Information Technology

Present format and procedures are effective. This form is available on the VA website.

4. Non-duplication

The information obtained through this collection is unique and is not already available for use or adaptation from another cleared source.

5. Burden on Small Businesses

This information collection does not impose a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small businesses or entities.

6. Less Frequent Collection

Requests for disinterment are generally made by the next-of-kin of a decedent interred in a national cemetery. Frequency of such requests cannot be regulated.

7. Paperwork Reduction Act Guidelines

This collection of information does not require collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with the guidelines delineated in 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2).

8. Consultation and Public Comments

Part A: PUBLIC NOTICE

A 60-Day Federal Register Notice (FRN) for the collection published on Monday, February 2, 2026. The 60-Day FRN citation is 91 FRN 4791.

No comments were received during the 60-Day Comment Period.

A 30-Day Federal Register Notice for the collection published on Thursday, April 16, 2026. The 30-Day FRN citation is 91 FRN 20572.

Part B: CONSULTATION

No additional consultation apart from soliciting public comments through the Federal Register was conducted for this submission.

9. Gifts or Payment

No payments or gifts are being offered to respondents as an incentive to participate in the collection.

10. Confidentiality

The information collection conforms to the Privacy Act of 1994 and is subject to the conditions of disclosure contained therein. The records are maintained in the system identified as (42VA41), Veterans Dependents National Cemetery Interment Records – VA, as published in the Federal Register as 40FR38095, August 26, 1995.

11. Sensitive Questions

Some information given by the requester may be of a sensitive or personal nature. This is provided voluntarily in order that permission will be granted for the disinterment. Questions are basic. Disinterment requests are not scheduled. Requests fluctuate, and it is impossible to determine the amount from year-to-year. Requests are made at the volition of the requester.

12. Respondent Burden and its Labor Costs

Part A: ESTIMATION OF RESPONDENT BURDEN

- 1) Collection Instrument(s)
[Request for Disinterment]
 - a) Number of Respondents: 1,400 Respondents
 - b) Number of Responses Per Respondent: 1
 - c) Number of Total Annual Responses: 1,400 responses
 - d) Response Time: 10 minutes¹
 - e) Respondent Burden Hours: 233 hours²

- 2) Total Submission Burden (Summation or average based on collection)
 - a) Total Number of Respondents: 1,400
 - b) Total Number of Annual Responses: 1,400
 - c) Total Respondent Burden Hours: 233 hours³

Part B: LABOR COST OF RESPONDENT BURDEN

- 1) Collection Instrument(s)
[Request for Disinterment]
 - a) Number of Total Annual Responses: 1,400 responses
 - b) Response Time: 10 minutes
 - c) Respondent Hourly Wage⁴: \$32.66
 - d) Labor Burden per Response: \$5.44

¹ 0.167 hours = 10 minutes ÷ 60 minutes.

² 233 hours = 1,400 responses × (10 minutes ÷ 60 minutes).

³ Note: Calculations may not be exact due to rounding.

⁴ Data extracted on September 19, 2025. <https://data.bls.gov/oes/#/industry/000000>. Accessed September 19, 2025.

- e) Total Labor Burden: \$7,621
- 2) Overall Labor Burden
 - a) Total Number of Annual Responses: 1,400
 - b) Total Labor Burden: \$7,621

VA cannot make further assumptions about the population of respondents because of the variability of factors such as the educational background and wage potential of respondents. Therefore, NCA uses general wage data to estimate the respondents' costs associated with completing the information collection.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) gathers information on full-time wage and salary workers. According to the latest available BLS data, the mean hourly wage is \$32.66 based on the BLS wage code – “00-0000 All Occupations.” This information was taken from the following website:
<https://data.bls.gov/oes/#/industry/000000>.

13. Respondent Costs Other Than Burden Hour Costs

There are no annualized costs to respondents other than the labor burden costs addressed in Section 12 of this document to complete this collection.

14. Cost to the Federal Government

Part A: LABOR COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- 1) Collection Instrument(s)
[Request for Disinterment]
 - a) Number of Total Annual Responses for Clerical Costs: 1,400 responses
 - b) Processing Time per Response to read, log, evaluate, prepare correspondence, and review: 0.5 hours
 - c) Hourly Wage⁵ of GS5 Worker(s) Processing Responses: \$22.68
 - d) Cost to Process Each Response: \$11.34 cost to process
 - e) Total Cost to Process Responses: \$15,876
- 2) Collection Instrument(s)
[Request for Disinterment]
 - a) Number of Total Annual Responses for Management and Administrative Costs: 1,400 responses
 - b) Processing Time per Response to review and implement a decision: 0.1667 hours
 - c) Hourly Wage⁶ of GS12 Worker(s) Processing Responses: \$43.98

⁵ Grade 5 Step 5 hourly wage in St. Louis, MO in 2026 = \$22.68. https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/salary-tables/pdf/2026/SL_h.pdf.

⁶ Grade 12 Step 1 hourly wage in St. Louis, MO in 2026 = \$43.98. https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/salary-tables/pdf/2026/SL_h.pdf.

- d) Cost to Process Each Response: \$7.33 cost to process
 - e) Total Cost to Process Responses: \$10,262
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- 3) Overall Labor Burden to the Federal Government
 - a) Total Number of Annual Responses: 1,400
 - b) Total Labor Burden: \$26,138

Part B: OPERATIONAL AND MAINTENANCE COSTS

- 1) Cost Categories
 - a) Equipment: \$0
 - b) Printing: \$0
 - c) Postage: \$0
 - d) Software Purchases: \$0
 - e) Licensing Costs: \$0
 - f) Other: \$0

- 2) Total Operational and Maintenance Cost: \$0

Part C: TOTAL COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- 1) Total Labor Cost to the Federal Government: \$26,138

- 2) Total Operational and Maintenance Costs: \$0

- 3) Total Cost to the Federal Government⁷: \$26,138

15. Reasons for Change in Burden

The cost burden has decreased since the previous approval due to a decrease in the estimated number of respondents, even though salaries are higher since the previously submitted information collection renewal. For example, NCA adjusted the average annual respondents to reflect the yearly average from 2020-2025.

16. Publication of Results

The results of this information collection will not be published.

17. Non-Display of OMB Expiration Date

We are not seeking approval to omit the display of the expiration date of the OMB approval on the collection instrument.

18. Exceptions to "Certification for Paperwork Reduction Submissions"

⁷ Note: Calculations may not be exact due to rounding.

We are not requesting any exemptions to the provisions stated in 5 CFR 1320.9.