

Jan Dils Veterans Disability Benefits Newsletter

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**PERSONAL INJURY
VETERANS DISABILITY
& SOCIAL SECURITY**



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As part of our eNews, we have two new articles and one blog we'd like to repeat from a year ago. According to the most recent data available by the VA, the suicide rate for Veterans was 1.5 times greater than for Americans who never served in the military. About 20 Veterans a day across the country take their own lives, and Veterans accounted for 14 percent of all adult suicide deaths in the U.S. Sadly, statistics rise for rural Veterans— many in our service area in West Virginia.

On a more upbeat note, it's time to apply for the National Veterans Wheelchair Games! This year, they will be held on the eastern side of the U.S. in Louisville, Kentucky.

JAN DILS
blog 

[5 Things Veterans Need To Do To Get Their VA Disability Claim Approved in 2019](#)

[Important Questions for Every Veteran Considering VA Disability Benefits](#)

[Rural Veterans Face High Suicide Risk](#)

Visit Our Blog

We hope this gives many of our local and fierce competitors the chance to participate and show the world what we are made of. Links are available in the article for all those who wish to register.

Last but not least, the Jan Dils team is celebrating our 25th anniversary. During that time, we have seen and helped countless Veterans transition from duty to civilian life. It can be a daunting process – especially for the disabled. In our second article, we share with you some changes that were announced at the executive level at the Department of Veteran Affairs. The appointment is a Veteran herself and will oversee the transition of Veterans to civilians and economic development initiatives.

Jan Dils, Attorneys at Law, is pleased to ring in the New Year with great hope for all Veterans and their families. Of course, we are always here for you should you need us! Cheers to 2019.

Sincerely,



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America's Wounded Warriors Got Game!



DOWNLOAD

Contact a Jan Dils Case Manager

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Celebrating 39 years of competition, The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced that Veterans interested in registering for the 2019 [National Veterans Wheelchair Games](#) can do so online Jan. 7 through April 15. This year's event will be held July 11-16 in Louisville, Kentucky, at the [Robley Rex VA Medical Center](#). The Games move from city to city each year to help regional Veterans access the competition.

Presented by the VA and [Paralyzed Veterans of America](#) (PVA), this is the world's largest sports event for Veterans who use wheelchairs. The games are a sports and rehabilitation competition to engage Veterans who use wheelchairs due to spinal cord injuries, amputations or other neurological conditions.

“I encourage every Veteran interested in competing at the National Veterans Wheelchair Games to register for this important event,” said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. “The games exemplify the VA’s commitment to supporting Veterans as they navigate through recovery and rehabilitation to active, independent lives. Sports and recreation play an important role in this journey, enhancing Veterans’ positive mental health and physical well-being.”



Each year, Veterans challenge themselves and cheer on their fellow Veterans in the excitement-packed games. This year, David Zurfluh, national president of the PVA and a service-disabled Air Force Veteran, plans to compete alongside hundreds of other Veterans at the games.

The National Veterans Wheelchair Games offer 19 different competitive events, including air guns, archery, basketball, bowling, field events, hand cycling, nine-ball, power soccer, quad rugby, slalom, softball, swimming, table tennis, track, trapshooting and weightlifting. Athletes compete against others with similar athletic ability, competitive experience or age.

Last year's event was held July 30 – August 4 in Orlando, Florida. More than 610 athletes from across the nation, Puerto Rico and Great Britain gathered for the largest event ever.

As a point of reference, Louisville is approximately 287 miles from Parkersville, West Virginia, via OH-32 W and I-71 S. Let's rally, hit the road and show America that West Virginia Vets "got serious game."



NATIONAL VETERANS
**WHEELCHAIR
GAMES**
July 11–16, 2019 • Louisville, KY

For more information:

Visit www.wheelchairgames.org. Follow [VA Adaptive Sports](#) on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) at [@Sports4Vets](#).

SOURCE:

<https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=5173>



New Leadership in the VA to Oversee Transitioning of Veterans to Civilians



New Leadership in the VA to Oversee Transitioning of Veterans to Civilians and Economic Development Initiatives.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced the appointment of Cheryl J. Rawls to serve as the executive director of the Office of Transition and Economic Development (OTED).

“Cheryl Rawls has a 20-year track record as an effective VA leader with extensive knowledge of VA’s benefits, services and programs,” said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. “This Army Veteran is a proven collaborator and manager.”

Since July 2016, Rawls has served as executive director for the VA’s Pension and Fiduciary Service. Earlier, she was on the front line of creating change and building trust with Veterans as the regional office director in Winston-Salem, North Carolina; Little Rock, Arkansas; and Huntington, West Virginia.

As OTED’s executive director, Rawls serves as a primary consultant and advisor to VA senior leaders regarding highly visible, complex and enduring issues concerning the delivery and application of benefits and services that impact transition and employment-related initiatives for service members, Veterans, survivors and dependents.

OTED coordinates and strengthens partnerships between corporate, military, public and private sector and Veterans Service Organizations.



This includes supporting a seamless transition from military service to civilian life by linking benefits,

services and tools that support the transition. The responsibilities extend to advancing economic empowerment and independence of all active duty service members, national guard or reserve personnel and Veterans and their families through increasing early access to VA benefits and programs where applicable.

The VA's Transition Assistance Program, administered at more than 300 installations worldwide, supports the military-to-civilian transition for service members, and has oversight of the Educational and Vocational Counseling Program (Chapter 36).



For information about the Office of Transition and Economic Development or the VA's Transition Assistance Program (TAP), visit www.benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/oted.asp or www.benefits.va.gov/tap/tap-index.asp.

At Jan Dils, Attorneys at Law, we applaud the efforts of the VA to help our Veterans transition to civilian life. However, the system has yet to be perfected and many of our disabled Veterans continue to fall through the cracks or get the runaround. No person or family that has sacrificed for our country should ever have to hear the word "no." That's a word we don't take for an answer. If you've heard it, don't take it. Call 877-526-3457 or visit jandils.com for a free consultation.

Source:

<https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=5176>

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Jan Dils, Attorneys at Law, handles Personal Injury Claims, Social Security and Veterans Disability for clients throughout West Virginia with offices located in Parkersburg-Beckley-Charleston-Huntington-Logan as well as one additional office located in Charlotte, North Carolina. But regardless of where you are located we are able to serve you or a family member Nationwide.

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