AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF INFORMATION

In order for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to assess and verify my educational background, professional qualifications and suitability for employment, I:

- Authorize the VA to make inquiries concerning such information about me to my previous employer(s), current employer, educational institutions, State licensing boards, professional liability insurance carriers, other professional organizations and/or persons, agencies, organizations or institutions listed by me as references, and to any other appropriate sources to whom the VA may be referred by those contacted or deemed appropriate;
- Authorize release of such information and copies of related records and/or documents to VA officials;
- Release from liability all those who provide information to the VA in good faith and without malice in response to such inquiries; and
- Authorize the VA to disclose to such persons, employers, institutions, boards or agencies identifying and other information about me to enable the VA to make such inquiries.

SIGNATURE	DATE

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT AND PRIVACY ACT NOTICE

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to VA Clearance Officer, 810 Vermont Avenue NW; Washington, DC 20420, and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (2900-0205), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. DO NOT send applications to this address.

AUTHORITY: The information requested on the attached application form and Authorization for Release of Information is solicited under Title 38, United States Code, Chapter 74.

PURPOSES AND USES: The information requested on the application is collected primarily to determine your qualifications and suitability for employment. If you are employed by the VA, the information will be used to make pay and benefit determinations and, as necessary, in personnel administration processes carried out in accordance with established regulations and published notices of systems of records.

ROUTINE USES: Information on the form or the form itself may be released without your prior consent outside the VA to another Federal, State or local agency, to the National Practitioner Data Bank which is administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, to State licensing boards, and/or appropriate professional organizations or agencies to assist the VA in determining your suitability for hiring and for employment, to periodically verify, evaluate and update your clinical privileges and licensure status, to report apparent or potential violations of law, to provide statistical data upon proper request, or to provide information to a Congressional office in response to an inquiry made at your request. Such information may also be released without your prior consent to Federal agencies, State licensing boards, or similar boards or entities, in connection with the VA's reporting of information concerning your separation or resignation as a professional staff member under circumstances which raise serious concerns about your professional competence. Information concerning payments related to malpractice claims and adverse actions which affect clinical privileges also may be released to State licensing boards and the National Pratitioner Data Bank. The information you supply may be verified through a computer matching program at any time.

EFFECTS OF NON-DISCLOSURE: See statement below concerning disclosure of your social security number. Disclosure of the other information is voluntary; however, failure to provide this information may delay or make impossible the proper application of Civil Service rules and regulations and VA personnel policies and thus may prevent you from obtaining employment, employees benefits, or other entitlements.

INFORMATION REGARDING DISCLOSURE OF YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER UNDER PUBLIC LAW 93-579, SECTION 7(b)

Disclosure of your SSN (social security number) is mandatory to obtain the employment and related benefits that you are seeking. Solicitation of the SSN is authorized under the provisions of Executive Order 9397, dated November 22, 1943. The SSN is used as an identifier throughout your Federal career from the time of application through retirement. It will be used primarily to identify your records. The SSN also will be used by Federal agencies in connection with lawful requests for information about you from your former employers, educational institutions, and financial or other organizations. The information gathered through the use of the number will be used only as necessary in personnel administration processes carried out in accordance with established regulations and published notices of systems of records. The SSN also will be used for the selection of persons to be included in statistical studies of personnel management matters. The use of the SSN is made necessary by the large number of present and former Federal employees and applicants who have identical names and birth dates, and whose identities can only be distinguished by the SSN.