



VA St. Louis Health Care System
Jefferson Barracks Campus
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St. Louis, MO 63125

Media Advisory

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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July 13, 2023

Summer Vet Fest and PACT Act Event to be held July 26, 2023

ST. LOUIS – The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) St. Louis VA Regional Office and VA St. Louis Health Care System are hosting a PACT Act Event on July 26, 2023, from 9:00am to 3:00pm at VBA offices at 9700 Page Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63132.

Called the Summer Vet Fest, the event coincides with the upcoming first anniversary of the PACT Act enactment which expanded VA health care and benefits for millions of Veterans and their survivors – including many Vietnam era, Gulf War era, and post-9/11 Veterans. Signed into law in August 2022, the PACT Act is perhaps the largest health care and benefit expansion in VA history.

“There are millions of Veterans and survivors across America who are eligible for new health care and benefits, and we will not rest until every one of them gets what they’ve earned,” said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. “That’s what this Summer Vet Fest is all about: educating Veterans, their families, and survivors — and encouraging them to apply today.”

During Summer Vet Fest, St. Louis VBA and VHA teams will be provide information, answer questions, process claims, and hear Veteran feedback. Veterans, caregivers, and survivors will also have access to resource tables, including toxic exposure screenings, Veterans benefits, Eligibility information, Whole Health, Women Veteran Programs, Homeless Veteran programs, and more.

“We want to remind Veterans and Survivors that if they file their PACT Act claims before August 9, 2023, and their application is granted, any benefits they receive may be backdated to August 10, 2022, said Candace Ifabiyi, CEO and Medical Center Director of VA St. Louis Health Care System. “Join us on July 26, get your questions answered, and file your claim.”

Location/Date/Time:

**St. Louis Regional Office
Veteran Benefits Administration
9700 Page Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63132
Wednesday, July 26, 2023
9am – 3pm**

Attendees can enjoy free refreshments while they explore the event; there will also be a truck with food available for purchase from 11am – 1pm. Personnel will be on hand at Summer Vet Fest to answer questions and assist in filing claims. Veterans are asked to bring a copy of their DD214 and identification.

For more information, visit VA.gov/PACT or call 1-800-698-2411 to learn more about PACT Act-related health care and benefits. Follow www.facebook.com/VASTLouis for upcoming PACT Act and Veteran related events.

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MEDIA: VA Subject Matter Experts will be available for interview at event site.

About the VA St. Louis Health Care System

The VA St. Louis Healthcare System is a Joint Commission accredited, complexity level 1a facility serving 65,000 veterans across Missouri and Illinois. The Healthcare System is a two-division, dual-affiliated tertiary care facility with a division downtown St. Louis (John Cochran Div.) and in South St. Louis County (Jefferson Barracks Div.) and outpatient clinics located in: Shiloh, Illinois, North St. Louis County, Missouri, St. Charles County, Missouri, and Washington, Missouri. For more information, visit www.stlouis.va.gov. Connect with us on [Facebook](#).