

News Release

Office of Public Affairs Media Relations

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VA Makes Contract Awards Totaling up to \$6.8 Billion for

Medical Disability Examinations

Provides efficient, streamlined process in support of the MyVA Initiative of Medical

Disability Examinations for Veterans

WASHINGTON – The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) today announced the award of twelve major contracts that will enhance its ability to deliver timely disability benefits claims decisions to the nation's Veterans in line with the MyVA initiative. The contracts make up a \$6.8 billion enterprise-wide Medical Disability Examination Program under Public Law 104-275, and represent a major step forward in improving the disability examination experience for Veterans.

A unique feature of this multi-contract award will see the consolidation of the contracts under a single program management initiative, with representation in the central management group from both the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) and the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). To date, contracts for medical examinations have been managed by both administrations with varying degrees of efficiency and delivery time of exam reports, which are critical to Veterans' disability determinations supporting their compensation and pension claim.

The new program management and delivery process will also continue to ensure broad national and international coverage of medical examination requirements to meet Veterans' needs world-wide. Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Benefits, Tom Murphy noted that, "This will be a major accomplishment for Veterans going forward, not only for the efficiencies and additional oversight, but VA can now maximize the capacity of inherent capability and leverage the contract expertise and capacity as needed. The goal will be to reduce the veteran's wait times for examinations as much as possible thereby providing faster claims decisions and enhancing Veterans' experience in a positive way." Contracts were awarded to the following firms:

- VetFed Resources, Inc., 2034 Eisenhower Ave., Ste 270, Alexandria, VA Large Business
- Veterans Evaluation Services, Inc., 3000 Richmond Avenue, Ste 540, Houston, TX Large Business
- QTC Medical Services, Inc, 21700 Copley Drive, Ste 200, Diamond Bar, CA Large Business

The contracts are being awarded for a period of 12 months with four, 12-month options, with an aggregate ceiling of \$6.8 billion. The contract will be managed by VA's Strategic Acquisition Center based in in Frederick, MD.