

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS



Inquiry Routing & Information System (IRIS)

I've noticed a VA "Warning to Veterans" popping up on many veterans support w...

Discussion Thread

Response (Department of Veterans Affairs)

12/07/2010 12:11 PM

In 2006, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Office of the General Counsel (OGC) corresponded with Veterans Affairs Services (VAS) regarding concerns that the organization's name and seal created the impression that VAS was affiliated with, or endorsed by, the Department. OGC advised the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) of these concerns and VBA circulated the information. VAS later added a disclaimer at the top of its website home page that addressed some of our concerns. No further action was taken.

Section 5902(a) of title 38, United States Code, authorizes VA to recognize organizations for the limited purpose of ensuring competent representation of Veterans seeking benefits. Organizations like VAS may provide services to Veterans without VA recognition, including informational websites, if the services do not include assistance with the preparation, presentation, and prosecution of claims for VA benefits.

The recent e-mail message warning Veterans about VAS' activities, which has been widely disseminated, is from an unknown source but contains some of the information discussed with VAS and VBA in 2006.

Inquirer (Joe Torsani)

12/07/2010 09:52 AM

I've noticed a VA "Warning to Veterans" popping up on many veterans support websites. It appears to be an old communication from 2006 and does not currently appear on any VA.gov website pages.

Can you tell me if this is still a legitimate "warning from the VA"?

You can see the verbiage at: http://www.viennava.gov/cgi-bin/media_releases/12-03-2010Warning%20to%20All%20Veterans.pdf

I maintain a Vets website at Kennedy Space Center and am trying to ensure our folks have the straight info. Thank you.

[Update Inquiry](#)

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