



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

June 29, 2017

In reply, refer to:
362/EJ
File Number:

Dear

We made a decision regarding your entitlement to VA benefits.

This letter tells you about your entitlement amount, payment start date, and what we decided. It includes the evidence used and reasons for our decision. We have also included information about what to do if you disagree with our decision and who to contact if you have questions or need assistance.

Payment Summary

Your monthly entitlement amount is shown below:

Total VA Benefit	Amount Withheld	Amount Paid	Payment Start Date	Reason
\$3,520.20	\$1,230.49	\$2,289.71	Jun 1, 2017	Retired Pay Adjustment, Compensation Rating Adjustment
\$3,520.20	\$0.00	\$3,520.20	Jul 1, 2017	Retired Pay Adjustment
\$3,439.44	\$0.00	\$3,439.44	May 26, 2023	Minor Child Adjustment
\$3,358.68	\$0.00	\$3,358.68	Sep 27, 2025	Minor Child Adjustment
\$3,277.92	\$0.00	\$3,277.92	Apr 9, 2030	Minor Child Adjustment
\$3,197.16	\$0.00	\$3,197.16	Aug 31, 2031	Minor Child Adjustment
\$3,078.11	\$0.00	\$3,078.11	Aug 26, 2033	Minor Child Adjustment

Your monthly entitlement amount includes payment for the following dependent(s):



**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Veterans Benefits Administration
Regional Office**

VA File Number

**Rating Decision
06/26/2017**

INTRODUCTION

The records reflect that you are a veteran of the Gulf War Era. You served in the Navy from May 12, 2000, to July 31, 2005 and the Army from July 6, 2009, to September 16, 2016. Since our last review of your claim, we received additional evidence on May 30, 2017. Based on a review of the evidence listed below, we have made the following decisions on your claim.

DECISION

Evaluation of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and major depressive disorder (also claimed as anxiety, adjustment disorder, insomnia, and Delayed sleep phase syndrome), which is currently 50 percent disabling, is increased to 70 percent effective May 31, 2017.

EVIDENCE

- Rating Decision, addressing the condition addressed in this rating which scheduled a routine future examination, dated October 18, 2016
- VAMC (Veterans Affairs Medical Center) treatment records, Augusta VA Medical Center Healthcare System, from October 27, 2016 through June 7, 2017
- VA Examination, QTC Medical Service Disability Benefits Questionnaire, dated May 30, 2017

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REASONS FOR DECISION

Evaluation of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and major depressive disorder (also claimed as anxiety, adjustment disorder, insomnia, and Delayed sleep phase syndrome) currently evaluated as 50 percent disabling.

The evaluation of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and major depressive disorder (also claimed as anxiety, adjustment disorder, insomnia, and Delayed sleep phase syndrome) is increased to 70 percent disabling effective May 31, 2017.

The effective date of this grant is May 31, 2017. Entitlement to an increased evaluation has been established from the date of the medical evidence showing an increase in disability. When private medical evidence showing an increase in disability is received within one year of the date of the evidence, the effective date of the increase is the date of the evidence.

We have assigned a 70 percent evaluation for your posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and major depressive disorder (also claimed as anxiety, adjustment disorder, insomnia, and Delayed sleep phase syndrome) based on:

- Occupational and social impairment, with deficiencies in most areas, such as work, school, family relations, judgment, thinking, or mood
- Persistent danger of hurting others
- Depressed mood
- Impaired judgment
- Impaired impulse control
- Chronic sleep impairment
- Difficulty in adapting to work
- Inability to establish and maintain effective relationships
- Grossly inappropriate behavior
- Impairment of short- and long-term memory
- Flattened affect
- Intermittent inability to perform maintenance of minimal personal hygiene
- Difficulty in adapting to a worklike setting
- Intermittent inability to perform activities of daily living
- Circumlocutory speech
- Persistent danger of hurting self
- Disturbances of motivation and mood
- Persistent delusions
- Near-continuous panic affecting the ability to function independently, appropriately and effectively
- Difficulty in understanding complex commands

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- Obsessional rituals which interfere with routine activities
- Persistent hallucinations
- Speech intermittently irrelevant
- Difficulty in adapting to stressful circumstances
- Speech intermittently obscure
- Circumstantial speech
- Anxiety
- Speech intermittently illogical
- Difficulty in establishing and maintaining effective work and social relationships

The overall evidentiary record shows that the severity of your disability most closely approximates the criteria for a 70 percent disability evaluation.

A higher evaluation of 100 percent is not warranted for posttraumatic stress disorder unless the evidence shows total occupational and social impairment, due to such symptoms as:

- gross impairment in thought processes or communication
- persistent delusions or hallucinations
- grossly inappropriate behavior
- persistent danger of hurting self or others
- intermittent inability to perform activities of daily living (including maintenance of minimal personal hygiene)
- disorientation to time or place
- memory loss for names of close relatives, own occupation, or own name.

Since there is a likelihood of improvement, the assigned evaluation is not considered permanent and is subject to a future review examination.

REFERENCES:

Title 38 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Pensions, Bonuses and Veterans' Relief contains the regulations of the Department of Veterans Affairs which govern entitlement to all veteran benefits. For additional information regarding applicable laws and regulations, please consult your local library, or visit us at our web site, www.va.gov.