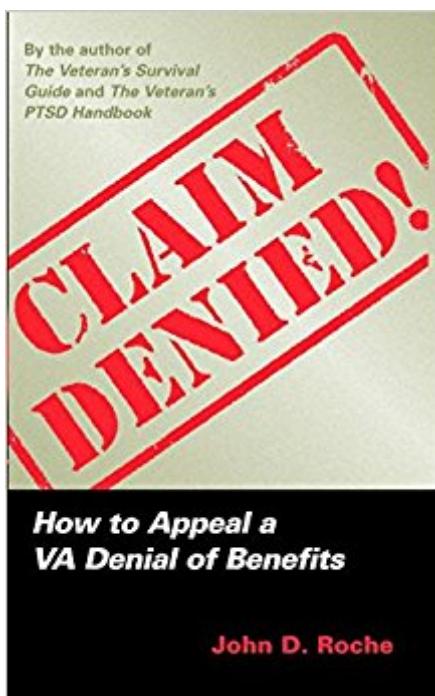


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# Claim Denied!: How To Appeal A VA Denial Of Benefits



## **Synopsis**

Ã¢ “The VA is not your loving Uncle Sam who opens his wallet and says, ‘Here you are, nephew’ --a \$1,000 check per month for the rest of your life. That should take the pain out of your service injuries,” writes John D. Roche. Far from it, he reveals. Though the Veterans Claims Assistance Act of 2000 requires Veterans Affairs to assist veterans in developing the foundation to support their claims, in reality if you rely on the VA to find and develop the evidence necessary to grant benefits then your claim is likely to be denied. *Claim Denied!* will help those veterans whose benefits have been denied correct the mistakes they made when they submitted their original claims. Appealing a VA decision is not an impossible feat, Roche says, but a veteran’s story must be presented in a well-organized and logical format, so any reviewing authority is able to understand the issues as they relate to the laws. This book explains in detail how to develop and present a successful appeal.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

“The VA is not your loving Uncle Sam who opens his wallet and says, ‘Here you are, nephew--a \$1,000 check per month for the rest of your life. That should take the pain out of your service injuries, ’ -- John D. Roche”The is truly the best and most helpful book on the subject that I have come across in my three decades of helping veterans. Author John D. Roche has taken all his personal experience of having worked for the VA and for veterans in Florida and put it into ... easy-to-follow language. Best Damn Book On VA Claims Ever Written!”

Maj. John D. Roche, USAF (Ret.), served as a bomber pilot, had combat duty in the Korean and Vietnam Wars, and held a variety of administrative assignments. Subsequently, he worked for sixteen years as a claims adjudicator specialist for the Veterans Administration and as a veterans' service officer for Pinellas County, Florida, where he was a tireless advocate for veterans and their families. Roche enjoyed one of the highest rates of wins on appeal in the state. This book is based on his experience as a successful practitioner, many years of independent research, and personal consultations with some 80,000 veterans, widows, and dependents. Roche is also the author of *The Veteran's Survival Guide*, Second Edition (Potomac Books, 2006) and *The Veteran's PTSD Handbook* (Potomac Books, 2007). He lives in Palm Harbor, Florida.

There have been only two books that dealt directly with how to file a VA disability claim, both by John D. Roche: *Claim Denied!* and *The Veteran's Survival Guide: How to File and Collect on VA Claims*, Second Edition. Sadly, Mr. Roche's books are at least five years old and will never be updated, due to his death in 2012. Plus, there are many new laws, rules and regulations that render some of Mr. Roche's advice ineffective. I have been in the VA healthcare and benefits systems for nearly 20 years and have been through the entire VA disability claims process, except to the Supreme Court. My own experiences have led me to author the upcoming book, *VA DISABILITY CLAIM: A Practical, Step-By-Step Field Manual for Active-Duty Service Members and Veterans on How to Prepare, File, Maintain, Win and Appeal a Service-Connected VA Disability Claim Without Going Insane*. This upcoming field manual will be published by Adagio Press on 01 August 2014. Mr. Roche's books still have some good material, but a lot of it is now outdated and not useful. It's time for newer books and field manuals to step up and take the reins, because service members and veterans nowadays have less time and patience than before and are not likely to wade through a lengthy book on the subject of VA disability claims and appeals. It must be a short, clear, concise field manual with concrete steps to take now.

book is okay it provides good tips , but so much of the book is outdated , the information

Excellent! A real eye opener from a former adjudicator with over 49,000 "wins" against the va. Very informative with how the process works and how to work with the system.

Appeals sometime take 1-3 Years its not mentioned and this book length of time because each VA

varies. But I will say this book has helped me out a lot. I recommend it to any veteran or family member of a veteran to help understand the process of the claims and appeals process.

An excellent book . Plenty of great advise for the veteran and good explanation of Laws & Regs. I would have liked to have seen more information on the DRO process, especially what to expect at a DRO hearing.

Good book. Would like to see periodic updates. Overall was what I needed.

Useful book

I read this book and took notes a year before leaving the AF and it was WONDERFUL. I prepared my own claim and succeeded. I found out quick that VA representatives are just thatÃ¢Â¢Â¢ they represent the VA and not so much those that served. Do yourself a favor, read it, take notes, and prepare your own claim. THEN get it reviewed by a VA representative. No one will take care of you than you. ALWAYS GET A COPY OF YOUR MEDICAL RECORDS BEFORE THEY CLAIM THEM AS LOST! You need those to follow the advice in this book.

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