



## **Department of Veterans Affairs**

### **Senior Executive Biography**

#### **Richard J. Hipolit, JD**

##### **Deputy General Counsel for Legal Policy Office of the General Counsel**

In his current position as Deputy General Counsel for Legal Policy, Richard J. Hipolit oversees and coordinates the work of several Office of the General Counsel (OGC) Central Office Law Groups and OGC's Loan Guaranty National Practice Group, which provide legal services in areas encompassing all of VA's Veterans' benefit programs, including health care. He also participates in strategic planning and other management functions and coordinates legal services through liaison with the Deputy General Counsel for Legal Operations and Accountability.



In his previous position as Assistant General Counsel for OGC Staff Group II, Mr. Hipolit managed the staff group responsible for legal issues arising primarily in connection with VA's compensation, pension, insurance, and burial benefit programs. Mr. Hipolit supervised his staff group's participation in litigation before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and other Federal courts, conduct of legislative and regulatory law matters, and provision of legal advice to agency officials at all levels.

Mr. Hipolit joined VA in 1982 as a staff attorney and was appointed Deputy Assistant General Counsel in 1989 and Assistant General Counsel in 2005. He assumed his present position in April 2014. Prior to joining VA, he was employed for five years as an attorney in the Office of the Chief Counsel, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), U.S. Department of Transportation, where he engaged mainly in regulatory and legislative matters involving motor vehicle safety.

#### **CAREER CHRONOLOGY:**

April 2014 – Present	Deputy General Counsel for Legal Policy, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs
2005 – April 2014	Assistant General Counsel, Professional Staff Group II, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs
1989 – 2005	Deputy Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs
1982 – 1989	Staff Attorney, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs
1977 – 1982	Staff Attorney, Office of the Chief Counsel, NHTSA, Department of Transportation

#### **EDUCATION:**

J.D. George Washington University, National Law Center  
B.A. University of Rochester

#### **AWARDS AND HONORS:**

2009 Meritorious Presidential Rank Award  
2009 Attorney General's John Marshall Award for Outstanding Legal Achievement