

Requirements to Restore the National Home for Disabled Volunteers Soldiers—Pacific Branch
and
Restore Veterans Trust

Congressional acknowledgement of (1) the March 2nd, 1887, Congressional Act which directed the establishment, *construction, and permanent maintenance of* a National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers (NHDVS) west of the Rockies. (2) the March 3rd, 1888, deed recorded by the Los Angeles County Registrar Recorder establishing the NHDVS—Pacific Branch at what is now known as the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (VAGLAHS) campus. (4) legal precedents involving VAGLAHS, specifically:

1. 2018 VA OIG Findings

11 Land-Use-Agreement were found not compliant with the West LA Leasing Act of 2016, other federal laws, or the campus's Draft Master Plan. These include:

- I. **Brentwood School:** Agreement for 22-acres of athletic facilities; OIG deemed it did not provide adequate documented benefits to Veterans.
- II. **UCLA Baseball Stadium:** A 10-acre lease deemed a "sweetheart" deal, found to be below market value with insufficient benefit to Veterans.
- III. **Breitbart Energy Partners:** An oil drilling operation on campus.
- IV. **City of Los Angeles (Barrington Park):** Popular 1.5-acre public dog park.
- V. **Safety Park:** Public Parking lot operations.
- VI. **Caltrans:** Land-use agreements identified as non-compliant.

2. 2021 VA OIG Findings

New and amended agreements created since the 2018 report still did not comply with the 2016 Leasing Act, Draft Master Plan, lacked sufficient Veteran input, and failed to meet housing development timelines. It was also determined the VA was underpaid by over \$40 million per year, as many leases were far below fair market value.

Specific Examples of Noncompliance:

- I. **Brentwood School:** Lease deemed invalid because it did not principally benefit Veterans and provided exclusive use to a private school.
- II. **UCLA:** The VA could not verify that promised "in-kind" benefits and services were delivered or that their valuation was accurate.
- III. **Bridgeland Oil Drilling & Safety. Park:** Agreements deemed illegal as they prioritized private profit over Veteran needs.

3. Valentini v. Shinseki Final Judgement Order of February 17, 2015

Order indicates that if the parties (VA & homeless Veterans) did not resolve the matter through a mutually agreed-upon strategy, the court would reinstate its 2013 judgment. The 2013 judgment declared that the VA's land-use agreements for non-healthcare purposes on the West L.A. campus were unauthorized by law and void.

4. Powers v. McDonough September 2024 Ruling

Ruling voids the four remaining illegal leases on the West LA VA campus: UCLA, Brentwood School, Safety Park, and Bridgeland Oil. The court determined these leases violated the West Los Angeles Leasing Act because they did not primarily benefit Veterans and their families. This matter is currently under review by the 9th District Court of Appeals.

5. May 19, 2025, Presidential Executive Order 14296 for the creation of the National Center for Warrior Independence at the west LA VA

President Donald J. Trump via Executive Order

“Our Nation's security, prosperity, and freedom would not be possible without our veterans. Many service members paid the ultimate sacrifice. Many others bear visible and invisible wounds from their service. Too many veterans are homeless in America. Each veteran deserves our gratitude.

Yet the Federal Government has not always treated veterans like the heroes they are...

The story of the West Los Angeles Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center is indicative of this failure. More than one hundred years ago, Senator John Percival Jones and Arcadia Bandini de Stearns Baker generously donated hundreds of acres of land that they owned in West Los Angeles on the condition that it be used to house disabled veterans. The campus once featured a chapel, billiard hall, 1,000-seat theater, and housed about 6,000 veterans, but the Federal Government has since allowed this crown jewel of veteran care to deteriorate over the last few decades.

The Department of Veterans Affairs leased parts of the property to a private school, private companies, and the baseball team of the University of California, Los Angeles, sometimes at significantly below-market prices. As of 2024, there were approximately 3,000 homeless veterans in Los Angeles, more than in any other city in the country and accounting for about 10 percent of all of America's homeless veterans.

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6. February 9, 2026, Department of VA Termination of revocable licenses at West LA VA
VA Secretary Dou Collins “These groups have been fleecing taxpayers and Veterans for far too long, and under President Trump, VA is taking decisive action to ensure the West LA VAMC campus is used only as intended: to benefit Veterans,” Effective today VA has terminated its leases with:
 - I. **Brentwood School**
 - II. **Safety Park Corporation**
 - III. **Bridgeland Resources, LLC**

Congressional Investigation of (1) State of California’s and City of Santa Monica’s use of beachfront property donated as part of the NHDVS—Pacific Branch. This property is currently a parking lot. (2) The C&H Tract operated by UCLA as student housing but originally acquired under the guise of providing care for Veterans. (3) Illegal medical waste dumping by UCLA that now renders NHDVS land un-inhabitable. (4) Enhanced Use Lease holders currently using private and public funds to construct, maintain and operate housing. The many lease holders and building operators do not provide consistent nor quality services while utilizing public grants.

Congressional Legislation (1) Ending the use of Enhanced Use Leases in favor of Congressional funding to construct and manage all structures and services for Veterans. (2) Ending non-essential public access to the NHDVS—Pacific Branch. (3) Creating a Veteran Oversight Committee with actionable power consisting of local Veteran advocates and NHDVS—Pacific Branch residents to ensure the terms of the deed-restrictions and ongoing success of the NHDVS—Pacific Branch. (4) Holding aforementioned lease holders accountable for restitution for years of underpaying the VA and destruction of land meant to rehabilitate and house disabled Veterans.