



Department of Veterans Affairs

Brian D. Griffin

Deputy Chief Counsel, Benefits Law Group, Office of General Counsel

Mr. Griffin is a Deputy Chief Counsel in VA's Office of General Counsel (OGC) Benefits Law Group (BLG), which is responsible for all programmatic legal issues arising within VA's compensation, pension, education, vocational rehabilitation, insurance, fiduciary, and burial benefit lines. BLG reviews draft regulations, provides strategic legal advice to senior VA leaders, drafts hearing testimony and legislative proposals, and defends VA in programmatic litigation before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and other federal courts.

Mr. Griffin has served in this position since May 2015. Brian has supervised numerous legal issues of VA-wide significance during that time, such as Appeals Modernization Act passage and implementation, the scope of herbicide presumptions, the role of class actions in the VA appellate system, and *George v. McDonough* at the Supreme Court. BLG's current top priority is providing legal support to the implementation of the PACT Act, which greatly expanded presumptive service connection in the VA system.

Brian joined VA OGC in March 2010 as a staff attorney. After a couple of years, he was designated as OGC's point of contact for the Veterans Benefits Administration's modernization efforts in order to address the claims backlog of the early 2010s. During this period he played a central role in the revision of VA's claim initiation regulations.

Brian was born in Jackson, MS., attended Georgetown University undergrad, and New York University School of Law.

CAREER CHRONOLOGY:

Mar 2015 – Present	Deputy Chief Counsel, Office of General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs, Washington, DC
Mar 2010 – Mar 2015	Staff Attorney, Office of General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs, Washington, DC

EDUCATION:

2008	Juris Doctorate, New York University School of Law, NY
2005	Bachelor of Arts in Government, Georgetown University, Washington, DC