



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

The Honorable Elaine Luria
Chairwoman
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Subcommittee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chris Pappas
Chairman
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Luria and Chairman Pappas:

This letter responds to your request to the Department of Justice (Department) for a statement for the record for the hearing entitled, "At What Cost? – Ensuring Quality Representation in the Veteran Benefit Claim Process." Thank you for holding this hearing and providing the Department the opportunity to offer our views on this important issue. The Department shares the committees' goal of ensuring that veterans can readily access the benefits to which they are entitled.

We understand that the committees are reviewing the role that non-accredited entities play when veterans seek assistance accessing veterans' benefits. Please be assured that the Department takes seriously allegations it receives regarding improper conduct by non-accredited entities. Any allegations are carefully reviewed based on their facts and the applicable law. When the Department receives a referral of this kind, we work closely with the referring agency to review the allegations. As warranted, we investigate the matter and consider all appropriate remedies available to the Department.

The Department welcomes the opportunity to work with the committees and the Department of Veterans' Affairs to ensure that veterans seeking the benefits to which they are entitled are not negatively affected by non-accredited entities.

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We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact this office if we may provide additional assistance regarding this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

Peter S. Hyun
Acting Assistant Attorney General