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MEMBER, NEW JERSEY AND PENNSYLVANIA BARS

May 1, 2007

Mr. Robert Costantini, Outreach Coordinator
Department of Veterans Affairs
5000 Wissahickon Ave.
PO Box 8079
Philadelphia, PA 19101

Re: PERS Situation and Veteran Status

Dear Mr. Constantini;

Thank you for taking the time to review the matter which I covered in the letter I gave to you at the Friends Village presentation in Woodstown, NJ. I was hoping that you would have some contact within the VA with either a legislative review person or some other advocate for veterans who are being denied benefits authorized by state law. As you may recall, the NJ laws require that veterans be enrolled in PERS (mandatory enrollment with very few narrow exceptions) and that was not done in my case. As a result, I have been retired for almost seven years and am still fighting PERS to get that which is legally due. A nudge from the VA to the legislature may be helpful, but I am without information as to who, if anyone, within the VA would be the appropriate individual with whom to have a dialog.

Anyway, if you know of such an individual, I would appreciate a contact, if not, please accept my thanks for at least taking the time to review the matter.

Sincerely,

G. Philip Lewis