

**Task Force 73 Agent Orange and
Task Force 73 Veterans Health Care Crises Project**

Update - 28 May 2018

Task Force 73 Agent Orange (TF 73 A.O.)

This is an important update to our TF 73 A.O. gouge. The last two updates included on this website are dated 12 and 14 March 2017 and remain good gouge. To date, many of our 73er Classmates have been assisted in filing an Agent Orange related VA health care claim. A huge BZ and thank you goes to all who immediately joined our Team to help our Classmates/ Teammates/ Shipmates and Brothers. In doing so, we were able to help all navigate the challenging VA health claim process while building a library of knowledge and experience. So far, to the best of our knowledge, 100% of those who have either filed bona fide new claims or re-filed past bona fide claims that originally needed additional information submitted and/or were disapproved have subsequently received approval. Many engaged immediately to answer the call to help: among those were Kevin Callahan, John DiLeanardo, John Edvardsen and Wes Bergazzi.

If another 73er Classmate (or any Veteran) needs assistance in this regard in the future, all he/she has to do is contact our Team. Any of us can help. My email is billshort@earthlink.net. Upon receipt, I'll route a request for assistance to our Team and help will be immediately be received.

Task Force 73 USA Veterans Health Care Crises (TF 73 VHCC)

From our experience with 73ers exposure to Agent Orange, a natural outgrowth has been a much larger concern for the two major crises in VA health care: (1) insufficient care...for a myriad of reasons; and (2) a suicide epidemic. Until recently, approximately 22 Veterans were taking their own lives every day. The most recent estimate is 20 of our Veterans take their own lives per day in our USA. That's over 7000 per year. Why? What more can be done to prevent, reduce, and eventually eliminate, this epidemic?

*The **mission**: to make a positive contribution to our US national security by helping to prevent, reduce, and eventually eliminate the two major crises in Veterans health care: (1) insufficient care; and (2) a suicide epidemic. We have a: **Vision + Mission + Objectives** + (a rapidly developing) **Strategy** to face this challenge. Any 73er who feels they have the interest, passion and skills to contribute to achieving our objectives and accomplishing this mission can contact me. More info will follow.*

Best/ Bill/ Non Sibi.

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