



# *Veterans' Advisory Board on Dose Reconstruction (VBDR)*

## VBDR Communication Issues

Ken Groves, Chairman  
VBDR, Subcommittee 4  
(Communications and Outreach)

# VBDR Communication Issues

Last meeting of VBDR SC4  
April 2-3, 2009  
Department of Veterans Affairs,  
Washington, DC



# VBDR SC4 Meeting

- Participants
  - VBDR SC4 Members
  - VBDR SC2 and SC3 Representatives
  - VBDR Chair
  - DTRA (PAO and NTPR Representatives)
  - VA (VHA and VBA Representatives)
  - NCRP (VBDR) Support Staff



# Communications Issues Addressed

- Reviewed VBA Letter to Atomic Veterans-- pilot program for outreach to identified Veterans who may have exceeded 5 rem exposure as a part of their military duties (approximately 675 Veterans).
- Discussed other issues that might be included in the letter (information about the Ionizing Radiation Registry).

# Communications Issues Addressed

- Reviewed status of IRR Newsletter (normally released to Veterans who had any exposure to ionizing radiation while serving on active duty AND have been added to the Ionizing Radiation Registry).
- Current projected release date is Summer 2009.
- Discussed the DOJ program for Atomic Veterans

# VA/DTRA Brochure

- Reviewed the distribution of the VA/DTRA Brochure explaining the Dose Reconstruction Program and how Atomic Veterans' doses are estimated as well as eligibility for the VA's program.
- Discussed additional distribution beyond the Office in Jackson, MS (approximately 5000 on hand in Jackson).

# Discussion Items for June VBDR Meeting to be held in Bethesda, MD

- Other VA and DTRA correspondence that can be reviewed by VBDR SC4
- Frequency and distribution of the IRR Newsletter
- Joint communications plan for VA and DTRA for Atomic Veterans
- Prepared draft agenda for the June VBDR Meeting

# Final Thoughts

There appears to be a commitment from both the VA and DTRA, with support from VBDR, to work together to foster even better communication and outreach efforts and programs to inform the Atomic Veterans' community on issues concerning dose reconstruction, compensation and medical care.