

## Warren County Veterans Service Officer's Report for January 2014

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HAPPY NEW YEARS!

**POSSIBLE DONATION SCAMS!!!** I received a call this week from a lady asking about donating to a group to purchase medical supplies for the troops overseas. They immediately asked her for no less than a \$25 donation via credit card. My response to her was that I could not confirm nor deny whether this group was legitimate, however, I suggested if she wanted to do something for the troops overseas there are plenty of local organizations right here to donate to and I could give her information on them. Please be aware this holiday season and every day of who is cold calling you for a donation. **DO NOT** release your debit/credit card number over the phone, unless you made the call to a legitimate organization to which you wanted to contribute to.

If you are facing tough times and may have difficulty meeting basic needs, unable to find work, coping with financial strains or chronic health conditions. Maybe you're dealing with several issues at once—all of which makes everyday life a challenge. As a Veteran and Veteran-supporter, please let others know that [VA can help](#).

VA provides a variety of benefits to help eligible Veterans live healthy, productive lives, including:

- **Compensation for those with service-connected disabilities**
- **Education and training to make Veterans more competitive in the workforce**
- **Employment services to open up new career possibilities**
  - No matter when they served, Veterans may be eligible for education and training benefits or employment services
- **Home financing and foreclosure prevention assistance**
- **Home modification grants to accommodate disabilities**
- **Physical and mental health care services**
- **Pension benefits for low-income Veterans and their families**

See what VA has to offer at [VA.gov/Explore](http://VA.gov/Explore). And then call me at the above listed number for an appointment to submit an application for those benefits in which you may be entitled to.

**VA to Expand Benefits for Traumatic Brain Injury:** Adds Five Illnesses Related to Service-Connected TBI; Some Veterans with traumatic brain injury (TBI) who are diagnosed with any of five other ailments will have an easier path to receive additional disability pay under new regulations developed by the Department of Veterans Affairs. The new regulation, which takes effect 30 days from today, impacts some Veterans living with TBI who also have Parkinson's disease, certain types of dementia, depression, unprovoked seizures or certain diseases of the hypothalamus and pituitary glands. The entire presser can be found at the following link: <http://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2506>