Disease Associate with Exposure to Certain Herbicide Agents (Agent Orange). Used in Vietnam 01/09/1962-05/07/1975 and in Korea DMZ 09/01/1967-08/31/1971. Per Title 38 CFR, 3.309 (e)

Illness Caused by Agent Orange Exposure

<u>AL amyloidosis:</u> A rare illness that happens when an abnormal protein (called amyloid) enters the body's tissues or organs. These include the organs like the heart, kidneys, or liver.

<u>Chloracne (or other types of acneiform disease like it):</u> A skin condition that happens soon after exposure to chemicals. It looks like common forms of acne often seen in teenagers. Under our rating regulations, this condition must be at least 10% disabling within 1 year of herbicide exposure.

<u>Diabetes mellitus type 2:</u> An illness that happens when the body can't respond to the hormone insulin the way it should. This leads to high blood sugar levels.

<u>Ischemic heart disease:</u> A type of heart disease that happens when the heart doesn't get enough blood. This leads to chest pain.

<u>Parkinson's disease:</u> A progressive disorder of the nervous system that affects muscle movement—and often worsens over time. The nervous system is the network of nerves and fibers that send messages between the brain and spinal cord and other areas of the body.

<u>Peripheral neuropathy, early onset:</u> An illness of the nervous system that causes numbness, tingling, and motor (or muscle) weakness. Under our rating regulations, this condition must be at least 10% disabling within 1 year of herbicide exposure.

<u>Porphyria cutanea tarda:</u> A rare illness that can make the liver stop working the way it should. It can also cause the skin to thin and blister when exposed to the sun. Under our rating regulations, this condition must be at least 10% disabling within 1 year of herbicide exposure.

Cancers caused by Agent Orange Exposure

<u>Chronic B-cell leukemia:</u> A type of cancer that affects white blood cells. These are cells in the body's immune system that help to fight off illnesses and infections.

<u>Hodgkin's disease:</u> A type of malignant lymphoma (cancer) that causes the lymph nodes, liver, and spleen to grow progressively larger. It also causes red blood cells to decrease more and more over time (called anemia).

<u>Multiple myeloma</u>: A type of cancer that affects the plasma cells. These are a type of white blood cells made in the bone marrow that help to fight infection.

<u>Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma</u>: A group of cancers that affect the lymph glands and other lymphatic tissue. These are parts of the immune system that help to fight infection and illness.

Prostate cancer: Cancer of the prostate and one of the most common cancers among men

<u>Respiratory cancers (including lung cancer):</u> Cancers of the organs involved in breathing. These include cancers of the lungs, larynx, trachea, and bronchus.

<u>Some soft tissue sarcomas:</u> A group of different types of cancers in body tissues such as muscle, fat, blood and lymph vessels, and connective tissues. We do not include osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, or mesothelioma on our list of presumptive diseases.

*If you have an illness that is not on our list of presumptive diseases, but you believe is cause by Agent Orange exposure, you can still file a claim for VA disability benefits. However, you will need to submit more evidence. Keep reading to learn about service requirements and supporting evidence.

Service Requirements for Presumption of Exposure

We base eligibility for VA disability compensation benefits, in part, on whether you served in a location that exposed you to Agent Orange. We call this having a presumption of exposure.

You have a presumption of exposure if you meet at least one of the service requirements listed below.

Between January 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975, you must have served for any length of time in at least one of these locations:

- In the Republic of Vietnam, or
- Aboard a U.S. military vessel that operated in the inland waterways of Vietnam, or
- On a vessel operating not more than 12 nautical miles seaward from the demarcation line of the waters of Vietnam and Cambodia, or
- On regular perimeter duty on the fenced-in perimeters of a U.S. Army installation in Thailand or a Royal Thai Air Force base. These bases include U-Tapao, Ubon, Nakhon Phanom, Udorn, Takhli, Korat, or Don Muang.

Or at least one of these must be true. You:

- Served in or near the Korean DMZ for any length of time between September 1, 1967, and August 31, 1971, or
- Served on active duty in a regular Air Force unit location where a C-123 aircraft with traces of Agent Orange was assigned, and had repeated contact with this aircraft due to your flight, ground, or medical duties, or
- Were involved in transporting, testing, storing, or other uses of Agent Orange during your military service, or
- Were assigned as a Reservist to certain flight, ground, or medical crew duties at one of the below locations.

Eligible Reserve locations, time periods, and units include:

- Lockbourne/Rickenbacker Air Force Base in Ohio, 1969 to 1986 (906th and 907th Tactical Air Groups or 355th and 356th Tactical Airlift Squadrons)
- Westover Air Force Base in Massachusetts, 1972 to 1982 (731st Tactical Air Squadron and 74th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, or 901st Organizational Maintenance Squadron)
- Pittsburgh International Airport in Pennsylvania, 1972 to 1982 (758th Airlift Squadron)

^{*}For more information about Agent Orange please click, here.

The information provided on this sheet is for general information only regarding presumptive service connection for veterans exposed to Agent Orange. For further assistance with filing, a VA compensation claim for veteran or survivor claim based upon these diseases please contact your local <u>Veteran Service Office</u>.

Thank you.