

Memo:

Date: 6/17/2013

To: (b) (6) Louisville VBA Regional Office

From: (b) (6) DMA

Re: "neurobehavioral effects" claims based on exposure to Camp Lejeune Contaminated Water (CLCW)

Neurobehavioral conditions have a "limited and suggestive" link to exposure to CLCW. Neuropsychiatric conditions have no known causal links to exposure to CLCW. Neurobehavioral conditions and neuropsychiatric conditions are distinct and separate conditions which are frequently co-mingled in claims based on exposure to CLCW as filed by veterans or their Power of Attorney.

Neurobehavioral effects related to the contaminants at Camp Lejeune are due to acute toxic exposures. Common presenting neurobehavioral symptoms include acute loss of consciousness, reduction in cognitive function (i.e. slowed thinking), memory loss, irritability, dizziness, headaches and loss of fine motor function. These are considered acute effects and occur at high levels of inhalational exposure. Individuals who display neurobehavioral effects of exposure to solvents do not exhibit chronic effects unless they have had acute effects of exposure. Stated another way, there are no known delayed onset of neurobehavioral symptoms

Neuropsychiatric disorders are not related to exposure to CLCW. Common unsubstantiated neuropsychiatric disorders claims due to CLCW are: PTSD, depression, mood disorders, schizophrenia, anxiety disorders, adjustment disorders, panic attacks and manic depressive psychosis.

Therefore, the following is a non-inclusive list of common psychiatric conditions with no plausible scientific evidence to support a causal link with exposure to CLCW:

- PTSD
- Depression
- Bi-Polar depression
- Mood disorder
- Schizophrenia
- Anxiety disorders
- Adjustment disorder