[redacted]

Issue/Contention
bilateral flat feet
Explanation
• The claim for service connection for bilateral flat feet is considered reopened. However, the evidence continues to show this condition was not incurred in or aggravated by military service. • By way of history, rating decision dated October 9, 2007 denied service connection for this condition on the basis that it was a congenital/developmental deformity which was not aggravated by your military service. We notified you of this decision in our letter dated October 9, 2007 and provided 12 months following notification for you to submit additional evidence or to appeal. That decision has become final. We have received additional medical evidence in the way of an examination and medical opinion, however, the examiner concurred with the previous assessment that your condition was congenital and not aggravated by military service. As such, our prior decision is continued.

Are You Entitled to Additional Benefits?

Did you know you may be eligible for a VA guaranteed mortgage with no down payment (potentially exempt from a funding fee depending on your rating)? For more information about this benefit, or to determine and print your Loan Guaranty Certificate of Eligibility, please visit the eBenefits website at http://www.ebenefits.va.gov.

If you served overseas in support of a combat operation you may be eligible for mental health counseling at no cost to you at the Veteran's Resource Center. For more information on this benefit please visit https://www.myhealth.va.gov/mhv-portal-web/.

The VA provides Blind Rehabilitation services to eligible blind, low vision, or visually impaired Veterans to help them regain their independence and quality of life. The Veteran's blindness, low vision, or vision impairment does NOT have to be related or caused by military service. If you need help with your vision loss, please contact your nearest Visual Impairment Services Team Coordinator (VIST) at the eye clinic at your nearest VA Medical Center. For more information, go to www.va.gov/blindrehab/.

Evidence Considered

In making our decision, we considered:

- VA Form 21-4138, Statement in Support of Claim, received April 28, 2017
- Rating Decision, dated October 9, 2007
- VA letter concerning your claim, dated August 8, 2016
- QTC Medical Services, Inc. Contract Examination with Medical Opinions, dated May 30, 2017
- VA Form 21-526EZ Veteran's Fully Developed Claim, received April 28, 2017