July 16, 2019

[redacted]

We made a decision on your VA benefits.

Dear Richard Reed,

This letter will guide you through the information you should know and steps you may take now that VA has made a decision about your benefits.

Your Benefit Information:

- Service connection for right lower extremity radiculopathy, sciatic nerve is granted with an evaluation of 10 percent effective May 14, 2019.
- Service connection for left lower extremity radiculopathy, sciatic nerve is granted with an evaluation of 10 percent effective May 14, 2019.
- A decision on entitlement to compensation for traumatic brain injury (TBI) is deferred.
- Service connection for lumbar strain (claimed as back injury) is granted with an evaluation of 20 percent effective May 14, 2019.
- The previous denial of service connection for hearing loss is confirmed and continued.
- The decision to deny service connection for tinnitus was clearly and unmistakably erroneous; therefore, service connection is established with an evaluation of 10 percent effective February 22, 2019.
- The previous denial of service connection for irritable bowel syndrome (stomach/intestinal problems) is confirmed and continued.

Your combined rating evaluation is:

Combined Rating Evaluation	Effective Date
80%	Feb 22, 2019
80%	May 14, 2019

We have included with this letter:

1. Explanation of Payment
2. Additional Benefits
3. Where to Send Written Correspondence
4. VA Form 20-0998
5. Rating Decision

Contact information:

Web: www.vets.gov
Phone: 1-800-827-1000
TDD: 711
To send questions online: visit https://iris.custhelp.com/

Social Media:

Twitter: @VAVetBenefits
Facebook: www.facebook.com/VeteransBenefits

How to obtain representation:

We have no record of you appointing an accredited representative. Accredited representatives are trained to help you understand and apply for VA benefits. For more information about how an accredited representative can help you, please visit: https://www.vets.gov/disability-benefits/apply-for-benefits/help/

If you or someone you know is in crisis, call the *Veterans Crisis Line* at 1-800-273-8255 and press 1.

2.360 oz 223892-O04-0/3530087 0000540 0012075 I=000000