

## An Overview: The Camp Lejeune Justice Act of 2022 (CLJA)

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# The Camp Lejeune Justice Act of 2022

- On August 10, 2022, the President signed into law the Honoring our PACT Act (Public Law 117-168). Section 804 is the CLJA
- The CLJA establishes a Federal cause of action that allows individuals, or their legal representatives, to seek to obtain “appropriate relief for harm that was caused by exposure to the water at Camp Lejeune” by bringing a lawsuit in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina
- Such individuals must have resided, worked, or otherwise been exposed to water at Camp Lejeune for not less than 30 days between August 1, 1953, and December 31, 1987.
- Prior to bringing a lawsuit under the CLJA, an individual must comply with 28 U.S.C. 2675

# Relationship Between CLJA Actions & Claims for VA Benefits

- Both CLJA action and claims for VA benefits may be based upon the same service
- Whether you decide to seek relief under the CLJA is entirely your decision and will not influence VA's decision to provide you benefits or health care based upon your exposure
- It also will not affect the amount of benefits or health care VA can provide you
- However, if you are awarded relief by the court in a lawsuit brought under the CLJA, the award must be offset by the amount of any disability award, payment, or benefit VA provided to you or your legal representative relating to exposure to water at Camp Lejeune
- This would reduce the amount of the award you receive from the court, but it would not affect your VA benefits

# Public Attention and Advertising Related to the CLJA

You may have seen advertisements from lawyers, law firms, or others seeking to represent Veterans and others in litigation related to the PACT Act or the CLJA.

From what we have reviewed, these lawyers, firms, and private parties are not connected with VA benefits or services.

Whether Veterans or their survivors seek relief under the CLJA is entirely their decision and will not influence VA's decisions.

It will not affect the amount of the benefits or health care VA can provide them.

# Contact Information

## To contact OGC's Accreditation, Discipline, & Fee Program:

- [ogcaccréditationmailbox@va.gov](mailto:ogcaccréditationmailbox@va.gov)
- 202-461-7699
- <http://www.va.gov/ogc/accréditation.asp>

## To contact the Department of Justice with questions regarding claims filed under the CLJA:

- [camplejeune.pactact@usdoj.gov](mailto:camplejeune.pactact@usdoj.gov)
- 202-353-4426

## For information regarding the PACT Act, visit:

- [va.gov/PACT](http://va.gov/PACT)