



NEWS RELEASE

October 26, 2009

USDVA Representatives to Visit Baguio, San Fernando, Cebu, Davao During Four Months Remaining to File Filipino WWII Veterans Equity Compensation (FVEC) Claims

Filipino World War II (WWII) veterans have until **February 16, 2010** to file their claims for the FVEC benefit that was included among the many provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 passed by the U.S. Congress and signed into law February 17, 2009 by U.S. President Barack Obama.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 formally recognizes the service of qualified Filipino WWII veterans as active military service in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes of this law. It authorizes a one-time lump-sum payment of US \$15,000 to eligible Filipino WW II veterans with U.S. citizenship and US \$9,000 to non-U.S. citizen veterans. The United States has approved US \$198 million for the benefit of all eligible Filipino WWII veterans. This additional payment will not change or affect other benefits an individual may be currently receiving.

The United States Embassy, through its United States Department of Veterans Affairs Manila Regional Office (USDVA), has already processed more than 11,000 FVEC claims and has paid out more than \$105 million for this benefit. For those claimants who have not yet filed an application, instructions are posted on the U.S. Embassy website at <http://manila.usembassy.gov>. We ask claimants not to file duplicate applications if they have already received acknowledgement of receipt of their claim. New applications may be mailed to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Manila Regional Office located at the U.S. Embassy, 1131 Roxas Boulevard 0930, Manila, Philippines. U.S. citizens are asked to submit a copy of their U.S. passport.

Those seeking assistance completing their application can make an appointment with a USDVA representative by calling (632) 528-2500 or 1-800-1888-5252 outside of Metro Manila.

The USDVA will have representatives available to accept claims at the following locations on the dates listed below:

Location / Province	Address	Date	Times
Philippine Veterans Affairs Office Baguio City, Benguet	USAFIPNL Camp Henry T. Allen, Baguio City, Benguet	11/05/09	0800-1400
Philippine Veterans Affairs Office San Fernando, Pampanga	Cleofer's Bldg., Gen. Hizon Extension, San Fernando City, Pampanga	11/19/09	0800-1400
Philippine Veterans Affairs Office Cebu City, Cebu	CENTCOM, Camp Lapu-Lapu Lahug, Cebu City, Cebu	01/14/10	0800-1400
Philippine Veterans Affairs Office Davao City, Davao del Sur	Door 4, Gutierrez Compound, Abad Santos Ave., Davao City, Davao del Sur	2/11/10	0800-1400

All Filipino WWII veterans are requested to bring the following information and documentation (if applicable)

when filing their claims:

- Two forms of Identification (such as passport, driver's license, Senior Citizen ID, Bureau of Post ID, Voter ID, etc.)
- VA Claim number
- Service Number
- Proof of military service (AGO Form 23)
- U.S. Passport (if a U.S. Citizen)

The USDVA pays approximately \$17 million per month to veterans residing in the Philippines. Some \$8 million of this goes to Filipino WWII veterans or their survivors.

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