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For information contact:

Media:

LTC Kevin V. Arata
U.S. Army Human Resources Command
Public Affairs Office
(703) 325-9904
hrcpao@conus.army.mil

Soldiers and family members: (866) 281-3254 (CRSC); crsc.info@us.army.mil

Combat-Related Special Compensation turns four with 100,000 claims processed

Washington—Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) Division celebrated a notable milestone this month— four years in operation and 100,000 claims received.

The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) U.S. Army Physical Disabilities Agency (USAPDA) program that provides additional compensation for eligible military retirees has received more than 100,000 claims for the important benefit and has paid over 45,000 retired veterans, some with multiple claims, the compensation they deserve. In total, the program has approved about 55 percent of all claims for an estimated \$1.5 billion paid out to these honored men and women.

“When Congress passed CRSC into law restoring retired pay to hundreds of thousands of our nation’s veterans, we never dreamed that more than 6,000 claims would come through our doors the very first day,” said COL John F. Sackett, Chief of the U.S. Army CRSC Division. “They came, though, and CRSC gave each one, and the 94,000 that

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followed, the kind of care and attention that benefits those who have bravely served our country.”

To commemorate the occasion, the CRSC office held a celebration to honor four years of dedicated service to the nation’s retired veterans. As one of these veterans, LTC Roger Simmons, Ret., CRSC claim was recognized as the 100,000 claim. "This occasion is just one more example of the United States Army taking care of those who served in defense of the Nation," said Simmons, a retired intelligence officer for the Army noted.

Also in attendance at the event was BG Reuben Jones, the Human Recourses Command’s (HRC) Adjutant General.

“As we reflect on all of CRSC’s accomplishments from the last four years, we also take our lessons learned and look to the future,” said BG Jones. “We hope to ensure a stronger and more refined program to help the men and women who have served and sacrificed for our country.”

CRSC helps 20-year military retirees by providing a monthly tax-free compensation (full concurrent receipt option) that supplements Veterans Administration (VA) disability and military retired payments. The retired veteran has to have a 10 percent or greater VA disability rating, and must be able to prove that the disability is combat-related—i.e., training that simulates war, hazardous duty, an instrumentality of war, or armed conflict.

For more information regarding the CRSC Benefit, retired veterans and their family can visit the enhanced CRSC website at www.crsc.army.mil or call the CRSC Service Center

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toll free at 1-866-281-3254. Veterans who retired from a branch of service other than

the Army can submit their claim to that branch using the contact information below:

AIR FORCE

United States Air Force

Disability Division (CRSC)

550 C Street West Ste 6

Randolph AFB TX 78150-4708

Phone: 1-800-616-3775

Website: <http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/crsc/default.asp>

ARMY

Department of the Army

U.S. Army Physical Disabilities Agency/

Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC)

200 Stovall Street

Alexandria, VA 22332

Phone: 1-866-281-3254

Email: crsc.info@us.army.mil

Website: www.CRSC.army.mil

COAST GUARD

Commander (adm-1-CRSC)

U.S. Coast Guard

Personnel Command

4200 Wilson Boulevard

Arlington, VA 22203-1804

1-800-772-8274

www.uscg.mil/hq/cgpc/adm/adm1.htm

NAVY and MARINE CORPS

Secretary of the Navy Council of Review Boards

Attn: Combat-Related Special Compensation Branch

720 Kennon Street SE, Suite 309

Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374

Website: <http://www.donhq.navy.mil/corb/CRSCB/combatrelated.htm>