

collection and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments for information needed to determine eligibility for benefits based on a common law marriage.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before March 24, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information through [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov) or to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20M35), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420 or e-mail to [nancy.kessinger@va.gov](mailto:nancy.kessinger@va.gov). Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0115" in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 461-9769 or FAX (202) 275-5947.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501-3521), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, VBA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VBA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VBA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

*Title:* Supporting Statement Regarding Marriage, VA Form 21-4171.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0115.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

**Abstract:** The data collected on VA Form 21-4171 is used to determine a claimant's eligibility for benefits based on a common law marital relationship. Benefits cannot be pay unless the marital relationship between the claimant and the veteran is established.

**Affected Public:** Individuals or households.

**Estimated Annual Burden:** 800 hours.

**Estimated Average Burden per**

**Respondent:** 20 minutes.

**Frequency of Response:** One-time.

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 2,400.

Dated: January 11, 2008.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Denise McLamb,**

*Program Analyst, Records Management Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Allowance for Private Purchase of an Outer Burial Receptacle in Lieu of a Government-Furnished Graveliner for a Grave in a VA National Cemetery

**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Public Law 104-275 was enacted on October 9, 1996. It allows the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide a monetary allowance towards the private purchase of an outer burial receptacle for use in a VA national cemetery. Under VA regulation (38 CFR 38.629), the allowance is equal to the average cost of Government-furnished graveliners less any administrative costs to VA. The law provides a veteran's survivors with the option of selecting a Government-furnished graveliner for use in a VA national cemetery where such use is authorized.

The purpose of this Notice is to notify interested parties of the average cost of Government-furnished graveliners, administrative costs that relate to processing and paying the allowance, and the amount of the allowance payable for qualifying interments that occur during calendar year 2008.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Carl Lockamy, Budget Operations and Field Support (41B1C), National Cemetery Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420. Telephone: 202-461-6688 (this is not a toll-free number).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under 38 U.S.C. 2306(e)(3) and (4) and Public Law 104-275, section 213, VA may provide a monetary allowance for the private purchase of an outer burial receptacle for use in a VA national cemetery where its use is authorized. The allowance for qualified interments that occur during calendar year 2008 is the average cost of Government-furnished graveliners in fiscal year 2007, less the administrative costs incurred by VA in processing and paying the allowance in lieu of the Government-furnished graveliner.

The average cost of Government-furnished graveliners is determined by taking VA's total cost during a fiscal year for single-depth graveliners that were procured for placement at the time of interment and dividing it by the total number of such graveliners procured by VA during that fiscal year. The calculation excludes both graveliners procured and pre-placed in gravesites as part of cemetery gravesite development projects and all double-depth graveliners. Using this method of computation, the average cost was determined to be \$201.00 for fiscal year 2007.

The administrative costs incurred by VA consist of those costs that relate to processing and paying an allowance in lieu of the Government-furnished graveliner. These costs have been determined to be \$9.00 for calendar year 2008.

The allowance payable for qualifying interments occurring during calendar year 2008, therefore, is \$192.00.

Approved: January 15, 2008.

**Gordon H. Mansfield,**

*Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs.*

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