



Department of
Veterans Services

John R. Kasich, Governor
Timothy C. Gorrell, Director

January 14, 2014

TO: All Veterans Service Commissioners
All County Veteran Service Officers

FROM: Timothy C. Gorrell, Director
Ohio Department of Veterans' Services

SUBJECT: Defense Personnel Records Information Retrieval System (DPRIS) Policy

The Ohio Department of Veterans Services (ODVS) has recently received several recommendations from the Strategic Planning Committee. This initiative combines the efforts of the Ohio State Association of County Veterans Service Commissioners (OSAVSC) and the Ohio State Association of County Veteran Service Officers (OSACVSO). The committee unanimously recommended these changes to the Director of ODVS. The latest of these recommendations have been adopted as a policy change.

Effective April 1, 2014, all county veteran service offices must have at least one accredited service officer with access to the Defense Personnel Records Information Retrieval System (DPRIS). DPRIS allows access to the Department of Defense Original Military Personnel File (OMPF) for a military service member discharged from active service after the mid 1990s. The information held in these files may be vital to ensuring claims for benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) are granted. County offices currently without DPRIS access will have 90 days from the effective date to comply with this policy. Those counties unable to comply must provide an explanation of the inability to comply to ODVS by July 1, 2014.

For any questions about the DPRIS policy or for assistance with applications for access to the DPRIS system, please contact Michael Hare at 614-728-4825. ODVS applauds the effort of the Strategic Planning Committee to recommend improvements that will enable better service to the veterans of Ohio.

Sincerely,

Timothy C. Gorrell
Director,
Ohio Department of Veterans Services