



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Regional Office
1240 East Ninth Street
Cleveland OH 44199

October 29, 2001

In Reply Refer To: 325/261
Information Letter 26-01-21

TO: All VA LAPP Lenders Doing Business In New Jersey

SUBJ: Staff Appraisal Reviewer (SAR) Processing Change

1. **PURPOSE:** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is continuing our reorganization drive to provide more efficient and cost-effective service to our veterans and to the mortgage industry.

2. **SAR PROCESSING TRANSFER:** Effective November 1, 2001, the Cleveland Ohio Regional Office will be processing all VA work relating to VA LAPP Lender SAR (Staff Appraisal Reviewers) approvals and changes for New Jersey. Please note that these changes affect ONLY SAR approvals, completion of the five SAR test cases, SAR training, changes in SAR employment status, and other LAPP SAR related activities, and ONLY for SARs physically located in New Jersey. Chapter 15 of the VA Lenders Handbook, VA Pamphlet 26-7, has more information on LAPP SAR processing related activities

3. **SAR PROCESSING FOR NEW JERSEY:** Requests for SAR approvals, submission of the five SAR test cases, requests for SAR training, notices of changes in SAR employment status, and other LAPP SAR related activities are to be forwarded to:

Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Office
Construction and Valuation (325/262)
1240 E. 9th St.
Cleveland, OH 44199

The Cleveland VA office is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. eastern time. The telephone number is 1 (800) 729-5772. The fax line is (216) 522-2514.

4. **Operations Remaining in Newark:** Newark will retain all other activities related to guaranteed home loan appraisals and acquired property sales until further notice. Lenders should continue to order VA case numbers for properties located in New Jersey through the VA Assignment System (VAAS), and should continue to correspond with the New Jersey office concerning appraisal issues.

5. Thank you for your continuing participation in our VA Loan Guaranty program.

/s/

JAMES L. BRUBAKER, JR.
Loan Guaranty Officer