



Department of Veterans Affairs
6900 Alameda Road
Houston, Texas 77030-4200

Toll Free: 1.888.232.2571

Web Site: <http://www.vba.va.gov/Houstonrlc.htm>

May 24, 2004

BULLETIN NO. 2004-07

TO: ALL APPRAISERS

SUBJ: VA FEE APPRAISER RECRUITMENT INITIATIVE

Purpose

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide information augmenting previous information disseminated via websites, news-releases, broadcast training, etc., to all VA program participants about the recent VA Fee Appraiser and Inspector Recruitment Initiative. The VA Fee Appraiser and Inspector Recruitment Initiative began on October 1, 2003, with the goal of increasing VA fee appraiser panels by 40 percent over the following 2 years. Substantially increasing the size of the VA fee appraiser panels nationwide is expected to result in additional geographical coverage and improved appraisal completion timeliness as well as superior customer service being provided to veterans, real estate sales professionals, builders, and lenders involved in the VA appraisal process. All fee appraiser applicants must be State-licensed or certified appraisers and meet all additional VA qualification requirements detailed on VA's web-site <http://www.homeloans.va.gov/cav.htm>.

Background

This initiative was developed to address a number of items including

- (a) to correct a misperception among some that VA fee appraiser and inspector panels were highly exclusive to the extent that they were not accessible to qualified applicants; and
- (b) to immediately expand the VA fee panels to include additional appraisers and inspectors for assignment, particularly in markets with evident VA fee appraiser or inspector shortfalls.

Details

Each VA Regional Loan Center (RLC) is responsible for processing applications for additions to their fee panels from the respective applicants located and/or practicing within their respective geographical jurisdiction. Selection and appointment to VA fee appraiser and inspector panels is based on both the qualifications of the applicants and the need of the RLC within the prescribed geographical areas for additional fee appraiser or inspector coverage. Information for any appraiser or inspector interested in applying for the VA Fee Panel may be found at <http://www.vba.va.gov/ro/houston/lgy/appraisers.html>.

Rescission

This bulletin is rescinded October 1, 2005.

Questions and Comments

Please e-mail questions and comments concerning this bulletin to LGYHURAR@VBA.VA.GOV.

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R. BIAGIOLI
Loan Guaranty Officer