



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
SECRETARY OF THE NAVY COUNCIL OF REVIEW BOARDS
720 KENNON STREET SE STE 309
WASHINGTON NAVY YARD DC 20374-5023

IN REPLY REFER TO

1850
CORB: 003
18 Nov 15

SECNAVCORB POLICY LETTER 2015-5

From: Director, Secretary of the Navy Council of Review Boards

Subj: PROCESSING OF PERIODIC PHYSICAL EVALUATIONS FOR CERTAIN MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS

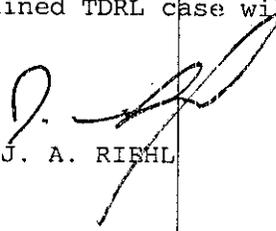
Ref: (a) 38 C.F.R. §4.129
(b) DODI 1332.18 Vol 1
(c) SECNAVINST 1850.4E

1. Purpose. To provide updated procedural guidance in accordance with the references. References (a) and (b) require the Services to review service members placed on the Temporary Disability Retired List (TDRL) for unfitting mental health conditions caused by traumatic stress to have their first Periodic Physical Evaluation (PPE) within six months of placement on the TDRL.

2. Procedure.

a. Reference (b) requires the Services to consider all medical conditions that render the Service Member unfit before determining a Service Member's disability rating. Accordingly, the PEB will readjudicate §4.129 cases within six months to the greatest extent practicable. If the only unstable condition is an unfitting and qualifying mental health condition or all unfitting and unstable conditions are addressed in the PPE, then the case can be readjudicated.

b. If there are other separately unfitting and unstable conditions that were not addressed along with the qualifying mental health condition in the PPE, then the PEB shall retain the member on the TDRL without readjudicating the case. Future processing of the retained TDRL case will continue as outlined out in reference (c).


J. A. RIEHL

Copy to:
President, PEB
CORB Counsel