



DEPUTY GENERAL
COUNSEL

LINDA BLAUHUT

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EXPERTISE

Veterans Law • Veterans Benefits • U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims • Paralyzed Veterans of America Corporate Governance • Paralyzed Veterans of America Research Foundation • Paralyzed Veterans of America Education Foundation

Landmark Cases:

Viegas v. Shinseki, 705 F.3d 1374 (Fed. Cir. 2013) (counsel to Viegas)
Henderson v. Shinseki, 131 S. Ct. 1197 (2011) (amicus supporting Henderson)
Splane v. West, 216 F.3d 1058 (Fed. Cir. 2000) (counsel to Splane)

BACKGROUND

Linda E. Blauhut, Deputy General Counsel of Paralyzed Veterans of America, has dedicated her career to America's veterans and is among the nation's top experts in veterans law. With more than 21 years of experience representing veterans and other VA claimants before the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims (CAVC) and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, Blauhut manages Paralyzed Veterans' litigation program and supports its General Counsel team.

Blauhut joined Paralyzed Veterans as a litigation attorney in 1994, representing veterans before the appeals courts. She also represents the organization in corporate bylaw issues, contracts, compliance with local and federal law on issues ranging from charitable giving to labor law, and has developed outreach and awareness campaigns to educate universities, the public and other external stakeholders on veterans law.

But Blauhut's primary focus remains ensuring excellent representation for Paralyzed Veterans' members and other veterans before the courts. During her tenure, she has been involved in more than 250 veterans' appeals at the CAVC and Federal Circuit. Her recent win in the landmark case *Viegas v. Shinseki* overturned 20 years of case law on how the courts and the Department of Veterans Affairs had interpreted statutes that were designed to help veterans who sustained additional injuries while seeking treatment at a VA hospital or medical facility. This decision requires that VA be accountable for the condition of the

clinic or hospital when VA provides care for all veterans in the VA healthcare system.

In addition to Blauhut's work on behalf of Paralyzed Veterans members, she currently chairs the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims Rules Advisory Committee. She also participates in the Federal Circuit Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association, and the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims Bar Association. Blauhut regularly speaks at bar association and continuing legal education programs, and has taught a veterans benefits course at the Columbus School of Law at the Catholic University of America. She is also an active mentor to attorneys nationwide who take veterans cases through the Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program.

EDUCATION

BA, Michigan State University
 JD, George Washington University Law School
 (admitted in VA, DC)

MEDIA EXPERIENCE

Television: NBC Nightly News • ABC, Primetime

Print: *Wall Street Journal* • *Washington Post*

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Distinguished Service Award, District of Columbia Bar • Member of the bars of the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims