## **NVLSP'S BURN PITS CLAIMS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Since October 2021, NVLSP has been accepting applications to its Burn Pits Claims Assistance Program from veterans seeking free representation before the VA on burn-pit related claims for disability benefits. Since passage of the PACT Act, NVLSP has been focusing this Program on representing veterans seeking disability benefits for conditions that may be related to exposure to burn pit toxins but <u>are not</u> one of the presumptive service-connected conditions in the PACT Act – for example, sleep apnea, GERD, and gastrointestinal issues, to name just a few. To win benefits for these non-presumptive conditions, it is often necessary to submit an expert medical opinion linking the condition to exposure to burn pit toxins. NVLSP is often able to help these veterans by obtaining and paying for a medical expert to prepare these types of opinions.

We encourage members of the TEAM coalition to direct interested veterans to our Burn Pits Claims Assistance Program intake <u>page</u> at <u>https://www.nvlsp.org/what-we-do/burn-pits-claims-assistance-program/</u>, where they can find our intake and application form (as well as a <u>short summary</u> of the major provisions of the PACT Act, and our two self-help guides on burn pit claims). NVLSP provides representation and these materials at no cost to the veteran.