



Volume 19

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# SERV Study Newsletter

Survey of Experiences of Returning Veterans



Department of Veterans Affairs



## SERV Study progress

The main number for the SERV Study is (203) 932-5711 extension 8634 or 8605

Thanks to all Veterans who have participated in the study so far— your input is extremely helpful to us. We have spoken to male and female Veterans of all ages and from all branches of military service. We now have 490 male and 280 female Veterans enrolled all 50 states. **We desperately need more female Veterans.** 36 month follow up surveys have begun and are going very well.

### ***We have a raffle winner!***

Congratulations to Maggie from Pennsylvania. Her name was chosen from a random drawing on June 1st, 2015. She won a \$100 check to spend as she chooses. Our next drawing will take place on Tuesday, September 1st, 2015. Good luck to all our Veteran participants! The winner will be notified by phone. ***Note that we are no longer allowed to issue Visa gift cards— your raffle winning will now be in the form of a check or direct deposit.***

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### ***Update on payments:***

For your regular SERV Study payments, some of you may get your payment deposited directly into your bank accounts. This is likely if you have provided your bank routing number to the federal government in the past. The SERV Staff have no way of knowing whether you will receive a check or direct deposit. Please check your bank statements before reporting a missing check, even if you have received checks for previous interviews.

## Other research opportunities

### **Coming soon: Survey of OEF/OIF Veterans' Partnerships and Well-Being:**

Another web-based study which will require 100 SERV participants and their spouses or partners– stay tuned...

***Please do not feel obligated– your participation is voluntary and will have no effect on your regular participation in SERV or on your health care at the VA.***

**For our 36 month participants:** Some of you have been with us for 3 years now, and we are very grateful. Your participation in the main study is basically completed. THANK YOU for staying with us through the years.

#### Our mailing address:

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## Survey of Experiences of Returning Veterans

### Miscellaneous

**Long Term Follow Ups**– After you have completed the 12-month follow up, you only need to receive calls every 6 months. Some changes with the 18-month and beyond: religious/spirituality questions are removed, and a few questions are added concerning exercise habits, PTSD diagnosis and complementary/alternative medicine. It is actually about 5 minutes shorter!

**Response booklets**– please have your booklet handy at the time of the interview. We know that our survey is a long one, and the booklet allows you to finish your telephone call more quickly and get on with your day.

**BLUE** Booklets: Baseline (first) interview only

**YELLOW** Booklets: 3-, 6-, 9-, and 12-month follow ups only

**PINK** Booklets: 18-, 24-, 30-, 36-month follow ups only

### Useful links:

National Resource Directory:

[www.nrd.gov](http://www.nrd.gov)

National PTSD website:

<http://www.ptsd.va.gov/>

PTSD Program Locator:

[http://vaww1.va.gov/directory/guide/PTSD\\_flash.asp?isFlash=1](http://vaww1.va.gov/directory/guide/PTSD_flash.asp?isFlash=1)

IAVA (Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America)

<http://iava.org>

For a VA facility near you:

<http://vaww1.va.gov/directory/guide/home.asp?isFlash=1>

**We're on the web!**

<http://www.mirecc.va.gov/visn1/serv/>