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May 17, 2011

WDVA Bulletin No. 959

TO: Veterans Service Organizations County Veterans Service Officers

SUBJECT: Military Funeral Honors (MFH) Stipend Outage

The purpose of this bulletin is to announce that \$68,900 of additional funding has been recommended for funeral honors stipend reimbursement requests for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2011 by the Joint Finance Committee (JFC) of the Wisconsin State Legislature as part of the 2011-13 biennial budget. Assuming the 2011-13 biennial budget bill is enacted on or prior to June 30, 2011, this recommendation would provide funding to cover the stipend program funding shortfall previously identified in WDVA Bulletin No. 958.

No funding has been received at this time. In anticipation of receiving the funding recommended by the Joint Finance Committee, Veteran Service Organizations are encouraged to continue to submit reimbursement requests for stipends using the normal submission process. Reimbursement requests received between May 11, 2011 and June 30, 2011 will be held pending approval of the funding recommendation as part of the biennial budget. Payment of these stipends would then occur on or after June 30, 2011. If the funding recommendation is eliminated, then no stipend payments will be available until the start of the new biennium as outlined in WDVA Bulletin No. 958.

Please check our website at http://www.WisVets.com/FuneralHonors/#Stipend for future program updates. For more information on the WDVA Funeral Honors Program, please call 1-800-WIS-VETS (947-8387) and ask to speak with someone in the Military Funeral Honors Section.