

operation of the vehicle by unauthorized entrants; and ensuring the reliability and durability of the device.

For the foregoing reasons, the agency hereby grants in full Porsche's petition for exemption for the Porsche Panamera vehicle line from the parts-marking requirements of 49 CFR Part 541. The agency notes that 49 CFR Part 541, Appendix A-1, identifies those lines that are exempted from the Theft Prevention Standard for a given model year. 49 CFR Part 543.7(f) contains publication requirements incident to the disposition of all Part 543 petitions. Advanced listing, including the release of future product nameplates, the beginning model year for which the petition is granted and a general description of the antitheft device is necessary in order to notify law enforcement agencies of new vehicle lines exempted from the parts marking requirements of the Theft Prevention Standard.

If Porsche decides not to use the exemption for this line, it should formally notify the agency. If such a decision is made, the line must be fully marked according to the requirements under 49 CFR Parts 541.5 and 541.6 (marking of major component parts and replacement parts).

NHTSA notes that if Porsche wishes in the future to modify the device on which this exemption is based, the company may have to submit a petition to modify the exemption. Part 543.7(d) states that a Part 543 exemption applies only to vehicles that belong to a line exempted under this part and equipped with the antitheft device on which the line's exemption is based. Further, Part 543.9(c)(2) provides for the submission of petitions "to modify an exemption to permit the use of an antitheft device similar to but differing from the one specified in that exemption."

The agency wishes to minimize the administrative burden that Part 543.9(c)(2) could place on exempted vehicle manufacturers and itself. The agency did not intend in drafting Part 543 to require the submission of a modification petition for every change to the components or design of an antitheft device. The significance of many such changes could be *de minimis*. Therefore, NHTSA suggests that if the manufacturer contemplates making any changes, the effects of which might be characterized as *de minimis*, it should consult the agency before preparing and submitting a petition to modify.

**Authority:** 49 U.S.C. 33106; delegation of authority at 49 CFR 1.50.

Issued on April 14, 2009.

**Stephen R. Kratzke,**

*Associate Administrator for Rulemaking.*

[FR Doc. E9-8951 Filed 4-17-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-59-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Advisory Committee on Disability Compensation; Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Public Law 92-463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that the Advisory Committee on Disability Compensation will meet on May 7-8, 2009, in the Carlton Room, at the St. Regis Washington, DC, 923 16th and K Streets, NW., from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. The meeting is open to the public.

The purpose of the Committee is to advise the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the maintenance and periodic readjustment of the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities. The Committee is to assemble and review relevant information relating to the nature and character of disabilities arising from service in the Armed Forces, provide an ongoing assessment of the effectiveness of the rating schedule and give advice on the most appropriate means of responding to the needs of veterans relating to disability compensation.

On May 7, the Committee will receive briefings about studies on compensation for Veterans with service-connected disabilities and other Veteran benefits programs. On the afternoon of May 7 and the morning of May 8, the Committee will break into subcommittees to prepare recommendations. In the afternoon of May 8, time will be allocated for receiving public comments. Public comments will be limited to three minutes each. Individuals wishing to make oral statements before the Committee will be accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis. Individuals who speak are invited to submit 1-2 page summaries of their comments at the time of the meeting for inclusion in the official meeting record.

The public may submit written statements for the Committee's review to Ms. Ersie Farber, Designated Federal Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Benefits Administration (211A), 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420. Any member of the public wishing to attend the meeting or seeking additional information should contact Ms. Farber at (202) 461-9728 or [Ersie.farber@va.gov](mailto:Ersie.farber@va.gov).

Dated: April 10, 2009.

By Direction of the Secretary.

**E. Philip Riggins,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. E9-8869 Filed 4-17-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans; Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Public Law 92-463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that the Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans will meet on May 6-7, 2009, at the Residence Inn by Marriott, 1199 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. The meeting is open to the public.

The purpose of the Committee is to provide advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on issues that are unique to Veterans who served in the Southwest Asia theater of operations during the 1990-1991 period of the Gulf War.

On May 6, the Committee will hear from a panel of outreach professionals from various VA staff offices. The Committee will also receive briefings from the Executive Director of the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America and other subject matter experts on Gulf War Illness research.

On May 7, the Committee will receive a briefing from the National Director of the Post Deployment Integrated Care Initiative Model about VA's strategic plan to implement the Model. In the afternoon of May 6 and 7, the Committee will discuss recommendations for its final report.

Public comments will be received on May 6, from 3:15 p.m. until 3:45 p.m. Individuals wishing to speak must register not later than May 4, 2009, by contacting Ms. Lelia Jackson at (202) 461-5758 and by submitting 1-2 page summaries of their comments for inclusion in the official record. A sign-in sheet will be available each day. Members of the public may also submit written statements for the Committee's review to the Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420.

Interested parties may also listen in by teleconferencing into the meeting. The toll-free teleconference line will be open daily from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time). To register for the teleconference, contact Ms. Lelia Jackson at (202) 461-5758 or via e-mail at [lelia.jackson@va.gov](mailto:lelia.jackson@va.gov).

Any member of the public seeking additional information should contact Laura O'Shea, Designated Federal Officer, at (202) 461-5765.

Dated: April 10, 2009.

**E. Philip Riggan,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. E9-8972 Filed 4-17-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Joint Biomedical Laboratory Research and Development and Clinical Science Research and Development Services Scientific Merit Review Board; Notice of Meetings

The Department of Veterans Affairs gives notice under the Public Law 92-

463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that the subcommittees of the Joint Biomedical Laboratory Research and Development and Clinical Science Research and Development Services Scientific Merit Review Board will meet from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the dates indicated below:

Subcommittee for	Date(s)	Location
Neurobiology-E .....	May 12, 2009 .....	VA Central Office.*
Cellular & Molecular Medicine .....	May 13, 2009 .....	VA Central Office.*
Nephrology .....	May 14, 2009 .....	Crowne Plaza DC/Silver Spring.
Surgery .....	May 18, 2009 .....	St. Gregory Luxury Hotel & Suites.
Endocrinology-A .....	May 22, 2009 .....	St. Gregory Luxury Hotel & Suites.
Immunology .....	May 22, 2009 .....	Embassy Suites Chevy Chase.
Mental Hlth & Behav Sci-B .....	May 28, 2009 .....	The Westin Washington DC.
Hematology .....	May 29, 2009 .....	The Westin Washington DC.
Clinical Research Program .....	June 1, 2009 .....	VA Central Office.*
Epidemiology .....	June 3, 2009 .....	VA Central Office.*
Infectious Diseases-B .....	June 4, 2009 .....	Crowne Plaza DC/Silver Spring.
Neurobiology-A .....	June 5, 2009 .....	VA Central Office.*
Respiration .....	June 5, 2009 .....	The Westin Washington DC.
Cardiovascular Studies .....	June 8, 2009 .....	The Westin Washington DC.
Endocrinology-B .....	June 9, 2009 .....	Palomar Hotel.
Oncology .....	June 11-12, 2009 .....	The Ritz-Carlton, Washington, DC.
Gastroenterology .....	June 11, 2009 .....	The Westin Washington DC.
Mental Hlth & Behav Sci-A .....	June 15, 2009 .....	The Ritz-Carlton, Washington, DC.
Neurobiology-C .....	June 18-19, 2009 .....	Hilton Garden Inn.
Infectious Diseases-A .....	June 18, 2009 .....	Palomar Hotel.
Neurobiology-D .....	June 19, 2009 .....	The Westin Washington DC.

The addresses of the hotels and VA Central Office are:

Crowne Plaza DC/Silver Spring, 8777 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD.

Embassy Suites Chevy Chase Pavilion, 4300 Military Road, NW., Washington, DC.

Hilton Garden Inn, 815 14th Street, NW., Washington, DC.

Palomar Hotel, 2121 P Street, NW., Washington, DC.

The Ritz-Carlton Washington DC, 1150 22nd Street, NW., Washington, DC.

St. Gregory Hotel, 2033 M Street, NW., Washington, DC.

VA Central Office, 1722 Eye Street, NW., Washington, DC.

The Westin Washington DC City Center Hotel, 1400 M Street, NW., Washington, DC.

\*Teleconference.

The purpose of the Merit Review Board is to provide advice on the scientific quality, budget, safety and mission relevance of investigator-initiated research proposals submitted for VA merit review consideration. Proposals submitted for review by the Board involve a wide range of medical specialties within the general areas of biomedical, behavioral and clinical science research.

The subcommittee meetings will be open to the public for approximately one hour at the start of each meeting to discuss the general status of the program. The remaining portion of each subcommittee meeting will be closed to the public for the review, discussion,

and evaluation of initial and renewal research proposals.

The closed portion of each meeting involves discussion, examination, reference to staff and consultant critiques of research proposals. During this portion of each meeting, discussion and recommendations will deal with qualifications of personnel conducting the studies, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, as well as research information, the premature disclosure of which could significantly frustrate implementation of proposed agency action regarding such research proposals.

As provided by subsection 10(d) of Public Law 92-463, as amended, closing

portions of these subcommittee meetings is in accordance with 5 U.S.C., 552b(c)(6) and (9)(B). Those who plan to attend or would like to obtain a copy of minutes of the subcommittee meetings and rosters of the members of the subcommittees should contact LeRoy G. Frey, PhD, Chief, Program Review (121F), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420 at (202) 461-1664.

Dated: April 10, 2009.

By Direction of the Secretary.

**E. Philip Riggan,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. E9-8973 Filed 4-17-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**