VETERANS AFFAIRS ADVISORY – APRIL 2017 TOWN OF SHARON, MA BY PAUL BERGERON, DIRECTOR VETERAN SERVICES

U. S. Military and dependents who were assigned to U. S. M. C. Camp Lejeune, NC between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1987 may have been exposed to contaminated water.

Veterans who believe they may have illness due to exposure by drinking water should go to a U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Hospital. Local one is at West Roxbury or Brockton, MA. Bring Military Honorable Discharge and documentation proving you were at Camp Lejeune between above dates. Register for Camp Lejeune medical care.

Recently the V. A. benefits section was authorized to accept and process claims caused by the exposure at Camp Lejeune, NC. Prior denied claims on record with the V. A. Benefits Office are to be reviewed by the V. A.

Veterans with the below conditions should submit a V. A. claim in addition to being registered at the V. A. Hospital. Hospital records do not automatically cause a claim to be established. The veteran must prepare and submit a claim to the Benefits Office of the V. A.

Veteran Service Officers can advise a veteran on form preparation and submission of a claim for compensation.

Presumed conditions resulting from exposure are:

Kidney Cancer; Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma; Adult Leukemia; Multiple Myeloma; Parkinson's Disease; Aplastic Anemia and other Myelodys–Plastic Syndromes and Bladder Cancer.

Duration at Camp Lejeune could have been 30 days or more.

Dependents who were at Camp Lejeune can request reimbursement for medical treatment cost not paid for by medical insurance or medical care entitlements.

See <u>www.publichealth.va.gov/exposure/camp-lejeune</u> for details of entitlement and reimbursement procedures. Dependents unless they were in the military will not receive treatment or compensation for disability by the V. A.

Further information can be obtained a www.va.gov