DOMAIN NAME CHANGE FOR THE VA HOME LOAN PROGRAM INTERNET WEBSITE

1. <u>Purpose</u>: This circular provides guidance regarding an Internet web address change for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Home Loan Internet website.

2. <u>Background</u>: The reason for creating a new domain is to provide a clearer identity for the VA Home Loan program's website, as an entity within the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA). The following table displays the old Internet web address and the new Internet web address:

Old Internet Web Address	New Internet Web Address
http://www.homeloans.va.gov/	www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans

3. <u>Redirects</u>: It is important to stress that the existing VA Home Loan program domain, homeloans.va.gov, still exists, and when users type it into their browser, it will redirect them to the new domain name, www.benefits.va.gov/homeoans. The server will have permanent redirects for all sites using the www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans address. This means that the public, when using the prior web address (homeloans.va.gov), will be taken instantaneously to the new web address. The redirect will work regardless of where the user is in the website. For example, if a user has a bookmark or favorite of the prior web address (homeloans.va.gov), or the user is in eBenefits or on another website that links to the homeloans website, the user will automatically be taken to the new website.

4. <u>Printed Materials</u>: The new web address will not change the program's brand name; i.e., homeloans.va.gov. The VA Home Loan program may use its existing printed materials and continue to use the service line's trademark. Nothing in this initiative will dilute the program's identity, as the changes are essentially transparent to the user. However, when modifications/updates are made to printed materials, please add the new domain name; i.e., www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans wherever the program's web address is provided.

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- 5. <u>Questions</u>. Questions may be sent to <u>lgyweb.vbaco@va.gov</u>.
- 6. <u>Rescission</u>: This circular is rescinded January 1, 2012.

By Direction of the Under Secretary for Benefits

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