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Natl. Commission - Draft info request.

In an article in the Nov. Dec. issue of the Veteran paper, along with the Locator, was a request for information on Were you Drafted - Vietnam.

I don't have a computer so I used the local library to get an address for you. The article you placed says you can submit your input on draft boards etc; up to 500 words. My story takes more than 500 words if any one there, or those you will present your findings to.

Back in 1954 when I was 12 years old, I was hit by a car & suffered brain damage. Brain damage entitles you to a 4F draft classification and exempts you from military service. I took a draft physical in Feb. 1966 & took my hospital records & also a Doctors report saying my wife was pregnant. At the end of the physical, the Drs discussed if I should get a 3A or 4F. The 3A defers you due to a hardship to dependents, but can be changed back to what you were before 3A, if that hardship goes away. Not so with a 4F for what I had. The brain damage issue would be for all my life & so would the 4F deferment. Due to circumstances, in 1968 my wife, son and I moved from Ohio to Calif. Then, in March of 69 I came back here with plans to get a job & apartment, then fly back to Calif & drive her & our son back in her car which we had purchased out there. According to

the draft registration form, you are required by Federal Law to provide change of address. When I did that, I was reclassified 1A. I went to the draft board & they said I'd get drafted in 2 weeks if my wife wasn't back here & she went there & signed papers. It had to be done in your Home Draft Board, I got reclassified on Mar. 25-69 & had until April 9th to have her there. I went to Calif with out enough \$ to drive back & ran out of time. I went to the draft board in LA & they said there was nothing they could do, but they could set me up with an Army recruiter so I wouldn't get in trouble for not reporting to Cleveland Oh. on the 9th to be inducted so that's how I ended up in the Army. I think if you were drafted & didn't show up, you could be fined & put in jail. Being in the Army when I shouldn't have been seemed like better than being in jail.

I spent 20 months & 3 days in the Army, spent 3½ months in Vietnam as a Scout Dog Handler where I walked point for infantry companies. I have a Bronze Star with V and Arcom with V, a CIB and several other combat decorations. I saw lots of combat & got confirmed kills etc on numerous missions.

Then when I got home, I developed PTSD. I filed a claim with the VA & went 100%, then 30% & 50%. In 2005, at a CFP exam the Psychiatrist she had reviewed my military records & did I know that

people who had brain damage never had to serve in the military?

So, when times allowed, I contacted my U.S. Senator - Sherrod Brown & the Senior Const. advisor, got my records & confirmed I should have never been in the Army & the Army should owe me some large compensation for what happened to me.

There's a lot more to this story, but I won't go into that unless some one there or in the government is interested in hearing it.

I sent you an email with my phone # and now this letter & I'll wait for your reply. I can come to Washington to discuss this if it would help.

According to a member of the House Armed Services Committee at the Rayburn building, this happened to others too.

Please respond.

Sincerely
James F. Meehan

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What happened to me was a violation of my Constitutional Right - to Equal Protection.

Donald Trump got a 4F after 4 yr. 2S student deferment - for Bone Spurs on his heels or heel.

Because his family's DR told the draft board he had them, he don't remember which heel. I know

I had brain damage & it was in my Army records.