



THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

April 1, 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR THE GENERAL COUNSEL

SUBJECT: Delegation of Authority to Settle Administrative Tort Claims
(VIEWS 2470437)

1. **DELEGATION.** This memorandum delegates to the General Counsel the authority to adjust, determine, compromise, and settle a claim under the Federal Tort Claims Act where the amount of settlement does not exceed \$500,000.
2. **AUTHORITY.** 38 United States Code (U.S.C.) § 515, 28 U.S.C. § 2672, 28 Code of Federal Regulations Appendix A to Part 14, 85 Federal Register 10268 (2020).
3. **RESTRICTIONS.** When the General Counsel believes a claim presents a novel question of law or of policy, he or she shall obtain the advice of the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Civil Division. Further, any settlement in excess of \$5,000 must be reviewed by an attorney.
4. **REDELEGATION.** The General Counsel may redelegate, in writing, and authorize the redelegation of the authority delegated under this memorandum in accordance with law, regulation, and executive order, to members of his or her staff, and to the Under Secretary for Health and other officials of the Veterans Health Administration.
5. **RESCISSION.** This delegation rescinds the delegation in the January 16, 2018, Delegation of Authority to Settle Administrative Tort Claims memorandum.
6. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This delegation of authority is effective upon signature, or March 23, 2020, whichever is later. I waive the 2-year expiration date required by VA Directive 0000, Delegations of Authority, and this delegation is effective for 4 years from the date of signature.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert L. Wilkie".

Robert L. Wilkie