



12 March 2026

Dear fellow Australian Ronin Veterans,

A few quick questions:

1. Have you lodged your DVA claims? If not, reach out and we can help you through the process.
2. If you have lodged claims, were you issued a Gold Card? Also, did you know your accepted conditions can be reassessed for additional compensation every 12 months?
3. Did you know that delaying your claims can reduce the compensation you receive? Your payout is calculated based on life expectancy, so the longer you wait to lodge, the less you are entitled to.

I served in the military and QLD Police expecting to move into close protection work full time after completing the Ronin course. Instead, I shifted my focus to helping veterans access the support they're entitled to after service, which led me to establish Red Poppy Advocates, a movement which provides tangible support and advocacy for Australian Veterans by lodging compensation claims on their behalf for service-related injuries.

One of the most difficult things we see is how many veterans assume they're not entitled to any support. Around 90% believe they can't claim compensation because nothing was recorded in their medical file while they were serving.

The reality is that many service-related injuries don't fully show themselves until years later. When you're young and in the military, you push through pain, you don't want to be the one going to the medical centre and often you're just focused on getting on with the job, worried about workplace perception. By the time the injuries start affecting everyday life, many veterans have already left the ADF and feel like it's too late.

I recently helped an infantry veteran who was in this exact position. Very little was documented while he was serving, so he assumed he had no chance of claiming anything. Once we went through everything properly and linked his conditions back to service, he ended up receiving \$580,000 in compensation.

He also had two dependent children, which meant an additional \$111,000 per child. His total outcome was around \$802,000 lump sum in compensation (tax free).

As of March 2026, Red Poppy Advocates has assisted more than 1,000 Australian veterans and their families in similar situations, including 10 Ronin graduates.

Common medical conditions we assist with include:

- Tinnitus
- Sensorineural Hearing Loss
- Bilateral Knee Osteoarthritis
- Thoracolumbar Spondylosis
- Cervical Spondylosis
- Bilateral Rotator Cuff Syndrome
- Bilateral Shoulder Osteoarthritis
- Mental health conditions, with secondary conditions such as alcohol use disorder, substance use disorder, insomnia and erectile dysfunction linked to the impacts of mental health.

Our experienced psychiatrists and doctors who specialise in veteran care can facilitate appointments via telehealth, meaning we are able to assist veterans anywhere in the world.

It's also important to understand that lodging a DVA claim or receiving compensation does **not** necessarily impact future civilian employment. These supports exist to help veterans and their families maintain long-term health and financial stability after service.

Programs like the Ronin Course help veterans rebuild confidence and direction. My goal is to ensure they also access the support and entitlements available to them so they can build long-term financial security for themselves and their families.

If you're completing or have completed Ronin South Africa and are unsure whether you may be eligible for support, feel free to reach out. Many veterans we speak with are entitled to more than they initially realise.

Kind regards,



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Reference: [REDACTED]

Number: [REDACTED]



Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs

20 February 2026

Mr [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr [REDACTED]

Payment Advice

I am writing about your compensation payment for Permanent Impairment under the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004* (MRCA).

Thank you for your correspondence of **20 February 2026**. In accordance with your request I have processed the following payment into your nominated bank account.

Lump Sum Amount	\$569,129.41
Arrears payable	\$10,870.59
Total Paid to you	\$580,000.00

There is nothing further you need to do at this stage.

If you have any questions you may email them to brisbanepi@dva.gov.au, quoting the reference number included above.

You can access DVA services online

The easiest way to submit and track claims and to provide additional information is to use MyService. Go to dva.gov.au/myservice to create an account or sign in to your existing one.