



NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF VETERANS' ADVOCATES, INC. (NOVA)
1425 K Street, NW, Suite 350
Washington, DC 20005
202-587-5708
www.vetadvocates.com

NOVA Names New Executive Director *Paul Sullivan Replaces Retiring Richard Cohen*

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Contact: Michael Viterna, President (202) 587-5708

Washington, DC – The National Organization of Veterans' Advocates (NOVA) has named Paul Sullivan, the former Executive Director of Veterans for Common Sense (VCS), as NOVA's new Executive Director. Sullivan replaces Richard Cohen, who retires December 31, 2011, after leading NOVA for the past four years.

"NOVA is excited to bring Sullivan's legislative and public relations advocacy expertise to NOVA," said Michael Viterna, President of NOVA's Board of Directors. By hiring Sullivan, NOVA will be providing greater representation in Washington, DC on issues important to attorneys and agents assisting veterans and their families seeking benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Paul Sullivan is an Army veteran with decades of experience leading successful non-profits providing advocacy for veterans. He served as a Cavalry Scout during the 1991 Gulf War. He previously led the National Gulf War Resource Center and worked as a project manager at the Department of Veterans Affairs. In his former role at VCS, Sullivan testified before Congress more than a dozen times about the needs and concerns of veterans, including improving VA's claims process. He replaces Richard Cohen, one of NOVA's first members, who led the successful growth of the association into a pre-eminent veteran advocacy organization testifying regularly before Congress and appearing frequently in news media interviews.

Founded in 1993, the mission of NOVA's 500 members is "To develop and encourage high standards of service and representation for all persons seeking benefits through the federal veterans' benefits system." NOVA membership is open to any individual who represents claimants in VA's compensation and pension system and who is admitted to practice, is in good standing before the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, and/or is accredited by VA. Law students, professors, and Veterans Service Organization representatives are encouraged and welcome to join NOVA.

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