What we think a “Claim Shark” is:
• A Claim Shark is an individual or company that charges hefty fees to “assist” or “consult” veterans with filing their VA benefit claims – this practice is illegal!
• Claim Sharks are not VA accredited, meaning they aren’t required to adhere to the well-established professional and ethical standards of VA accreditation, so their advice can often be misleading or even fraudulent.
• Like a “Loan Shark,” once you’re in, you can’t get out, and may be subject to new and hidden fees whenever you get a new rating, no matter who does the work.

Some of their predatory practices are:
• Promising or guaranteeing an increased disability rating or percentage increase.
• Advertising expedited VA claims decisions.
• Requesting login credentials to access a veteran’s personal information through secure VA websites like eBenefits or VA.gov.
• Using confusing tactics or ambiguous language to mislead claimants or coerce them into signing a contract.
• Telling veterans to forego VA exams and offering health consultations within their own network of doctors.

Who we think the Claim Sharks are:
- Trajector Medical
- Veteran Benefits Guide
- Veterans Guardian
- VA Claims Insider
- Teledemica
- Patriot Angels
- Veteran Care Services
- REE Medical
- VA Claims Academy
- Vet Assist
- Just4Veterans
- Veterans Disability Help

Veterans can protect themselves by:
• Always working with VA accredited representatives.
• Attending all exams ordered by VA.
• Not signing contracts.
• Not agreeing to fees or payments from future benefits.
• Not agreeing to pay for medical consultations or opinions.
• Not providing access to Protected Health Information or Personal Identifiable Information.

Who is NOT a Claim Shark?
• VA accredited veterans service organization representatives, like the VFW
• VA accredited claims agents
• VA accredited attorneys
• Attorneys assisting with Camp LeJeune lawsuits who do not charge excessive fees