



CAMP LEJEUNE JUSTICE ACT CLAIMS FOR NATIVE VETERANS

S O N O S K Y

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Camp Lejeune Justice Act History

- ➔ President Biden signed the Camp Lejeune Justice Act (“CLJA”) in 2022.
- ➔ The CLJA created a federal tort that allows anyone injured as a result of exposure to Camp Lejeune’s contaminated water to sue the government, as long as they meet certain criteria.
- ➔ According to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, the government first discovered in 1982 the water at Camp Lejeune was contaminated. But the government did not notify former Camp Lejeune Marines and residents about the contaminated water for nearly 20 years.
- ➔ The passage of the CLJA resulted from years of efforts to recognize what happened at Camp Lejeune, where water on the base was contaminated by four different chemicals. For example, wells were built near toxic dumps and a dry cleaner.

Eligibility Under the CLJA



CLAIMANT MUST HAVE:

- Spent at least 30 days at Camp Lejeune between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1987.
- Marine Corps veterans, civilian employees, and family members are eligible claimants.



CLAIMANT MUST HAVE AN ILLNESS CAUSED BY EXPOSURE TO THE TOXIC WATER

- Under the CLJA, any illness can qualify.
- Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry health effects website:
https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/sites/lejeune/tce_pce.html



CLAIMANTS CAN BRING CLAIMS ON BEHALF OF DECEASED LOVED ONES WHO MEET THE CRITERIA

- The parties are still working with the Court to determine how to demonstrate someone is a claimant's "legal representative" under the CLJA.



CLAIMANTS DO NOT NEED TO BE, OR HAVE BEEN, SERVICE MEMBERS

- Family members who lived on or visited the base and other civilians who meet the basic criteria may file a claim.



THE OFFICIAL CASE WEBSITE WITH INFORMATION, INCLUDING FAQs:

- <https://www.camplejeunecourtinfo.com>



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Claim Filing Criteria

✓ Individuals should be confident they were at Camp Lejeune for over 30 days between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1987.

✓ Eligible conditions include:

Adverse birth outcomes (plaintiff is PARENT)
ALS / Lou Gehrig's
Aplastic anemia or myelodysplastic syndrome
Bile duct cancer
Bladder cancer
Brain / central nervous system cancer
Breast cancer
Cardiac birth defects (plaintiff was BORN with defect)
Cervical Cancer
Colorectal cancer

Infertility
Intestinal Cancer
Kidney cancer
Non-cancer kidney disease
Leukemia
Liver cancer
Lung cancer
Multiple myeloma
Neurobehavioral effects
Non-cardiac birth defects (plaintiff was BORN with defect)
Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
Ovarian cancer

Pancreatic cancer
Parkinson's disease
Prostate cancer
Sinus cancer
Soft-tissue cancer
Systemic sclerosis / scleroderma
Thyroid cancer
Laryngeal cancer
Myeloid cancer
Oral cavity cancer
Pharyngeal cancer
Throat cancer

Claim Process & Deadlines

- ★ Claimants must first file an administrative claim with the Navy before filing a lawsuit in federal court.
 - The government takes the position that all such claims must be submitted by **August 9, 2024**.
 - We strongly recommend retaining counsel before submitting an administrative claim to the Navy, as the information on the claim form may limit any potential recovery.
- ★ If the Navy denies the administrative claim, or does not respond for six months, the claimant may file a lawsuit in the Eastern District of North Carolina.
- ★ The Navy's claim website is:
<https://clclaims.jag.navy.mil>

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Camp Lejeune Litigation

- ➔ The CLJA gave the Eastern District of North Carolina exclusive jurisdiction to hear CLJA claims. There are four federal district court judges in the district.
- ➔ The Court appointed the Plaintiffs' Leadership Group, including Elizabeth Cabraser, to oversee the litigation on behalf of all plaintiffs.
- ➔ The Court plans to hear cases by disease "Track." It instructed the parties to be ready for Track 1 bellwether trials this year.
 - **Track 1:** Bladder Cancer; Kidney Cancer; Leukemia; Parkinson's Disease; Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma.
 - **Track 2:** Prostate Cancer; Kidney Disease; Lung Cancer; Liver Cancer; Breast Cancer.
- ➔ Track 1 bellwether plaintiffs have been selected and are moving through the discovery process.



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FOR MORE INFORMATION OR A FREE REVIEW
of a Camp Lejeune water contamination injury claim



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