



Use of the SDVOSB/VOSB Certification Trademark Fact Sheet

Summary:

Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (SDVOSBs) and Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (VOSBs) not **currently** verified, as demonstrated by being listed on the VetBiz Vendor Information Pages/VIP, are prohibited from using the SDVOSB or VOSB certification trademarks.

Discussion:

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) owns United States Trademark Registration 4,026,406, which consists of a **wreath, stars, and the wording "Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business SDVOSB CVE"** and **"Veteran Owned Small Business VOSB CVE"** (pictured below). The mark is intended to be used by authorized persons and entities to **certify that the user is verified under 38 U.S.C. § 8127(f) (2) by VA's Center for Verification and Evaluation (CVE) as a SDVOSB or VOSB.**



[Section 32\(1\) of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1072](#) states that "registration of a mark on the principal register serves as constructive notice that the registrant claims ownership of the mark." This means only firms who have received an approval determination as a result of their application CVE are legally allowed to use VA's registration of the mark.

Firms that use the logo without going through the VA verification process, firms that have withdrawn from the application process, or firms whose verification has lapsed may

possibly mislead the public into believing, *incorrectly*, that they are currently verified as a SDVOSB or VOSB under [38 U.S.C. § 8127\(f\)\(2\)](#).

When VA discovers a firm is using the logo fraudulently, a firm is sent a cease and desist letter. The letter requests the firm cease all use of the mark consisting of a wreath, stars, and any other misrepresentation of the firm being a verified SDVOSB or VOSB. VA must make this request to preserve the value of our certification mark. Firms are given 30 days to remove the logo.

Of note, 38 CFR Part 74.2 (b) states that Veterans, Service-disabled Veterans, and surviving spouses with ownership interest in VetBiz verified businesses must have good character.

Quickly access VA verification application resources via [Verification Assistance](#).

For more information about VA Small and Veteran Business Programs, visit <https://www.va.gov/osdbu>.

Center for Verification and Evaluation Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization

1-866-584-2344

Monday-Friday

8 a.m.-6 p.m. (Eastern)

Status Update:

verificationfollowup@va.gov

Profile Questions:

vip@va.gov



**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Center for Verification and Evaluation
Washington DC 20420**

2/13/2019
In Reply Refer To: **00VE**

Mr. John J. Gagliano
Law Offices of John J. Gagliano, LLC
DBA: Gagliano Law Offices
DUNS: 108413823
230 S. Broad St., Fl. 17
Philadelphia, PA 19102-4103

Dear Mr. Gagliano:

On behalf of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Center for Verification and Evaluation (CVE), I am writing to inform you that Law Offices of John J. Gagliano, LLC DBA: Gagliano Law Offices (Law Offices of John J. Gagliano, LLC) has been verified as a Veteran-Owned Small Business (VOSB) and added to the Vendor Information Pages (VIP) at <https://www.vip.vetbiz.gov/>. Law Offices of John J. Gagliano, LLC will be eligible to participate in Veterans First Contracting Program opportunities with VA.

This verification is valid for three (3) years from the date of this letter.

Please retain a copy of this letter to confirm Law Offices of John J. Gagliano, LLC's continued program eligibility in accordance with 38 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 74.12. You may reapply 120 days prior to your expiration date by logging in to your VIP profile.

To promote Law Offices of John J. Gagliano, LLC's verified status, you may use the following link to download the logo for use on marketing materials and business cards: https://www.vetbiz.gov/cve_completed_v.jpg. In addition, please access the following link for information on the next steps and opportunities for verified businesses: <http://www.va.gov/osdbu/verification/whatsNext.asp>.

To ensure that Law Offices of John J. Gagliano, LLC is correctly listed in the Vendor Information Pages, check Law Offices of John J. Gagliano, LLC's profile for the verified logo. Please notify us if the logo is not present within 72 hours of receipt of this letter.

While CVE has confirmed that Law Offices of John J. Gagliano, LLC is presently, as of the issuance of this notice, in compliance with the regulation, Law Offices of John

*"World Class Professionals
Enabling Veteran Business Opportunities by Protecting the Veteran Advantage - One Vet at a Time"*

J. Gagliano, LLC must inform CVE of any changes or other circumstances that would adversely affect its eligibility. Eligibility changes not reported to CVE within 60 days could result in a referral to the Office of Inspector General (OIG), a referral to the Debarment and Suspension Committee, and the initiation of cancellation proceedings—all of which could result in Law Offices of John J. Gagliano, LLC being removed from the VIP Verification Program.

Please be advised all verified businesses may be required to participate in one or more post-verification audits at CVE's discretion. Additionally, this letter and other information pertaining to Law Offices of John J. Gagliano, LLC's verification application may be subject to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. However, FOIA disclosures include exceptions regarding the personal privacy of individuals, and VA policy similarly provides limitations on the release of individual records.

If Law Offices of John J. Gagliano, LLC receives a negative size determination from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), CVE must act in accordance with 38 CFR § 74.2(e). Also note, if at any time Law Offices of John J. Gagliano, LLC discovers that it fails to meet the size standards for any NAICS Code(s) listed on its VIP profile, CVE requires such NAICS Code(s) be removed within five (5) business days. If the NAICS Code(s) are not removed within the allotted five (5) business days, CVE may request SBA conduct a formal size determination. In addition, CVE may initiate a referral to OIG, a referral to the Debarment and Suspension Committee, and pursue cancellation proceedings. All of the aforementioned referrals and procedures could result in Law Offices of John J. Gagliano, LLC being removed from the VIP Verification Program.

Thank you for your service to our country and for continuing to serve America through small business ownership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Thomas J. McBrath". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "T".

Thomas McGrath
Director
Center for Verification and Evaluation