

## VETERAN CRISIS LINE TRANSITION TO 988

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## Veterans Crisis Line has a new number— Dial 988 then Press 1

The VA administers the Veterans Crisis Line (VCL) through the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (Lifeline) national network. Veterans currently reach the VCL by calling the 10-digit Lifeline phone number, 800-273-8255, and then pressing 1 to be connected to responders trained to understand the unique needs and challenges of Veterans.

The National Suicide Hotline Designation Act, signed into law in 2020, authorized 988 as the new three-digit number for the Lifeline. All telephone service providers in the U.S. must activate 988 no later than July 16, 2022. Once a Veteran's telephone service provider makes 988 available, Veterans will be able to reach the VCL by dialing 988 and then dialing 1.