

## **President pledges new, improved record system for veterans**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** (AP) — President Barack Obama on Thursday promised a more efficient record system to ease delays in health care for wounded veterans, as the government copes with more than 33,000 military personnel injured in wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Under the new system, an electronic record would follow a service member in the military and then later in the Veterans Affairs Department's medical system.

There is currently a six-month backlog in disability claims at the VA. Because the two agencies have different medical systems, veterans have complained about bureaucratic hurdles and long waits as they enter the VA system.

He said his new military and veterans affairs budget focuses heavily on more spending for diagnosing brain injuries and psychological disabilities that have gone untreated.

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