



AWARDS BULLETIN

**DAV National Commander's Awards recognizing
Outstanding Member of the Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration (VHA), Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA)
and National Cemetery Administration (NCA)**

DAV is pleased to announce the National Commander's Awards Program to honor an outstanding individual within the Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration (VHA), Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) and National Cemetery Administration (NCA) for 2016.

To successfully initiate these awards we will require the support of all departments and DAV national service offices in submitting deserving candidates from these categories. We strongly encourage a deserving candidate to be nominated from within each department for possible selection and recognition by DAV at the national convention.

Nominees for any of the three awards must be a Department of Veterans Affairs VHA, VBA or NCA employee. They do not need to be veterans or DAV members. While a nomination for each administration is not required, nominations for each are encouraged.

The National Commander's Award recipient will be provided with a round-trip airline ticket to New Orleans, LA to receive the award at the national convention; hotel accommodations for a maximum of two (2) nights; and following the convention, a voucher will be completed for reimbursement of per diem expense for meals and incidentals for each night's lodging.

To promote consistency among nominations, simplify the process and speed up submissions, a nomination form for each category is included. All nominations must be submitted with the complete information and necessary photos **no later than February 28, 2017**. Submittals should be sent to Garry Augustine, Executive Director, Disabled American Veterans, 807 Maine Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20024 or email commandersawards@dav.org.

A set of rules follows this introduction. The rules outline procedures to be followed in making nominations for each individual in each administration. Please adhere to these rules for each nomination made.

Your positive involvement in this program provides DAV an opportunity to nationally and locally publicize individuals within the VHA, VBA and NCA who perform outstanding work on behalf of disabled veterans and their families. It is also a way for DAV to say thank you to these truly tremendous individuals.

We look forward to receiving your nominations by **February 28, 2017** and if you have any questions please email us at commandersawards@dav.org.

J. MARC BURGESS
National Adjutant

Rules Governing the Program for DAV National Commander's Awards Recognizing an Outstanding Member of the Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Health Administration (VHA), Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) and National Cemetery Administration (NCA)

The following is a list of rules to be observed in the selection of the nominee for the National Commander's Award recognizing an outstanding member of the Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Health Administration (VHA), Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) and National Cemetery Administration (NCA). The following information must be submitted separately for each nominee:

- Name; work and home address; date and place of birth; home, work and cell number of each nominee.
- A resume of education and work activities, to include military service dates and branch, if applicable.
- If the nominee is a member of DAV, please supply chapter number, city and state where located. Remember that nominees need not be members of DAV or a veteran to be eligible for these awards.
- All nominations must be submitted with the full consent of the nominee authorizing us to use the person's name, picture and story for publicity purposes. Submit nominee's signed written consent.
- Each nominee's application must be accompanied by an 8" by 10" glossy photograph or as an electronic JPEG file on a CD/USB drive with a minimum resolution of 300 ppi of the nominee suitable for publicity purposes.
- The name, title and telephone number of the immediate supervisor of each nominee.

Nominations:

- Nominations for an Outstanding Member of the Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Health Administration (VHA), Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) and National Cemetery Administration (NCA) must generally be made by a state-level department of DAV from submissions made through the chapters. DAV national service offices nationwide may also submit nominations. Departments are also encouraged to consider nominations from individuals directly associated with or witness to the outstanding performance of a member of the VHA, VBA or NCA.
- In the event of multiple nominations, departments are requested to submit only their winning nominee in each administration to the Executive Director of DAV Washington Headquarters for consideration of the National Commander's Award to be presented at the national convention. The National Amputation and National Blind Veterans Chapters may submit nominations for the national award directly to the National Executive Director.

Selection of recipient:

- The exemplary accomplishments of the nominee in relation to how his or her employment positively impacts on DAV's mission of fulfilling our promises to the men and women who served is achieved;
- The ability of the nominee to willingly and effectively motivate others to positively serve the needs of injured and ill veterans and their families is factored;
- Public relations, writing, speaking and other proactive activities on behalf of veterans and their families will also be weighed.

Administration:

The department adjutant should be responsible on the state level for implementing this program. DAV national service offices will submit nominations directly to the Executive Director, Washington, Headquarters.

Deadline:

Each nomination, with all supporting material, must be received by the Executive Director, Washington Headquarters **no later than February 28, 2017**. The selection of the national winner by the Awards Committee will be final.

The national winner will receive the award at the national convention. The only expenses to be paid by the National Organization are for providing the recipient with a round-trip airline ticket to New Orleans, LA to receive the National Commander's Award. Hotel room and tax will be billed to the DAV master account for a maximum of two nights. Subsequently, a voucher will be completed for reimbursement of per diem expense of \$75 for meals and incidentals for lodging each night.

Publicity:

Every department is strongly encouraged to participate and urged to publicize this awards program for maximum participation. This is an effective way to recognize outstanding service by members of the VHA, VBA and NCA and encourage others to emulate their outstanding work on behalf of injured and ill veterans and their families.

Departments are requested to consider inviting representatives from the VHA, VBA or NCA in their respective areas to address members and to publicize these events. It is also suggested that the department convention would be an ideal opportunity to present a department award to each VHA, VBA and NCA selected for consideration by the national award committee, and to invite local media and press to cover the award presentations.

The anticipated cooperation of all departments is deeply appreciated. It will result in enhanced relations with members of the VHA, VBA and NCA and, ultimately, improved service delivery to veterans and their families.



2017 National Commander's Award Nomination Form
Outstanding Department of Veterans Affairs Employee

Department of _____ State

Select One: [] Veterans Health Administration (VHA) [] Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) [] National Cemetery Administration (NCA)

Nominee's Name _____

Work Address _____

Home Address _____

Phone _____ Work _____ Home _____ Cell _____

Email _____ Work _____ Home _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____ Place of Birth _____ Marital Status _____

Spouse's Name _____ Children _____

Military Service

Date [] Enlisted [] Drafted [] Commissioned ____/____/____ Date Separated ____/____/____

Branch _____ Rank _____

DAV Membership

Select One: [] Life [] Annual [] Eligible [] Not Eligible Chapter _____ Number _____ State _____

Education

School _____ Name _____ City, State _____ Degree _____

School _____ Name _____ City, State _____ Degree _____

Nominee's achievements (attach additional sheet if needed)

Nominee's involvement with DAV and community groups (attach additional sheet if needed)

Submitted by

_____ Name _____ Title _____

_____ Address _____ Phone _____

Approved by (requires at least one signature)

_____ DAV NSO _____ Department Adjutant

2017 National Commander's Award Nomination Form, continued

Outstanding Department of Veterans Affairs Employee

Award: Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) National Cemetery Administration (NCA)

Nominee's Name _____

When submitting your nomination, please include the following items:

- Nominee's resume
- Narrative explaining why the nominee was selected
- Recent photo of nominee, suitable for publicity purposes. Acceptable formats include:
 - (1) glossy print, at least 4" x 6"
 - (2) CD/USB drive containing a JPEG image measuring at least 4" x 6" and 300 ppi or higher
- Nominee's signed consent (below)

Consent Form

I, _____, hereby authorize DAV to use my name, photo and biographical information in connection with the National Commander's Awards Program.

Signature

Date

Please submit your nomination by February 28, 2017 to the DAV Employment Awards Committee via email at **commandersawards@dav.org** or via postal mail at the address below.

Garry Augustine
DAV Service & Legislative Headquarters
807 Maine Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20024