



# VFW Service to Veterans

*From lobbying Congress and monitoring the Department of Veterans Affairs to assisting veterans filing claims, VFW remains a dedicated advocate for America's veterans, service members and their families.*

## Media Contacts:

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## National Veterans Service (NVS)

The NVS is responsible for accrediting and training VFW service officers. NVS provides annual training to VFW Service Officers. NVS staff represents veterans at the Board of Veterans Appeals in Washington, D.C. Each year NVS provides \$1.9 million to VFW Departments in support of their veteran service programs.

- **Department Service Officers (DSOs)**

A nationwide network of highly trained and accredited service officers helps veterans navigate the complicated VA claims process. Department of Veterans Affairs statistics show that for 2017, the VFW helped recoup \$7.7 billion in earned benefits. This amount includes \$1.2 billion in new claims, submitted on behalf of 101,000 veterans.

- **Tactical Assessment Center (TAC)**

VFW's TAC operates a toll-free hotline for veterans with questions or concerns about VA health care and benefits. The number is 1-800-VFW-1899. Veterans can also email [vfw@vfw.org](mailto:vfw@vfw.org).

- **Health Screenings**

VFW hosts a health fair at its national convention. Attendees can receive health screenings, eye exams, cholesterol checks, respiratory function testing, blood pressure screening and blood glucose testing. Many lives have been saved thanks to these free screenings.

- **Pre-Discharge Program**

Introduced in 2001, VFW's pre-discharge program (formerly known as Benefits Delivery at Discharge) provides claims assistance to separating military personnel on more than 24 military installations and military populated regions throughout the country.

## National Legislative Service

The NLS educates Congress and advocates for policies that improve the lives of veterans, active duty military and their families.

- **Action Corps**

This grassroots lobbying effort has more than 300,000 volunteer advocates who write, call and visit lawmakers to discuss issues related to veterans. Also, Action Corps members receive the VFW *Action Corps Weekly*, an e-newsletter relating to current legislation and events.

## National Security and Foreign Affairs

The welfare of active-duty, Guard and Reserve personnel and their families is of a prime concern to VFW.

- **POW/MIA**

VFW national officers visit Asian and European countries to meet with host-country officials to stress the importance of conducting MIA investigation and recovery operations, as well as gaining access to documents and archival research facilities.

## Employment Services

VFW is a strong supporter of veterans' preference in government positions. The Washington Office actively works to advance veteran-specific employment legislation.