

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA



# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

## BENEFITS THAT VETS EARN

VOLUME I, ISSUE 1

FALL, 2008

### WHAT'S INSIDE:

WHO TO CALL FOR

- JOBS
- EDUCATION
- HEALTHCARE

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

NCMCL RESOURCES

**MARINES HELPING MARINES**



### Letter From the Editor

The Mission statement of the Marine Corps League, *Marines Helping Marines and carrying on the tradition of the Marine Corps*, well, sounds redundant to me. All through history, the key element of our tradition is helping our fellow Marines.

As you go through life as a Marine, you will find one of the most rewarding actions you will take is simply to help a brother Marine. This reward has a better feeling than rank or recognition and when the favor is returned to you, it simply fuels the pride and gratitude within you. The simple fact we make an effort to do this is called honor.

We all join the League for one reason or the other, but you have to admit, that catchy statement "Marines Helping Marines," pulls us in. The challenge of helping a Marine can be very time consuming and, without a doubt, difficult at times. The resources that provide us the best tools is the law. State and Federal Legislation drives the benefits one receives for serving this great Nation primarily through the Veterans Administration and in addition, drives job opportunities and education for Veterans.

VA Benefits are not to be confused with the welfare systems; Veterans earned their benefit package and should always be encouraged to use their VA benefits. Often, Veterans complete their active duty, go out into society and have too much pride to get the help they so rightfully desire.

Sometimes you get lucky and your efforts to save a fellow Marine are successful, however, please take time to explore all the benefits available to Veterans. But also, learn some of the techniques the professionals in these agencies use when sorting out Veteran issues. For example, what should be the first question you ask?, what paperwork should you have on hand?, what is the best way to maneuver within the "system"?

Always share your successes with other league members! During the *Good of the League* session of our meetings, it makes me proud to hear a Marine stand up and share what he or his detachment did to help a fellow Marine.

You never know when it may become your turn to help a fellow Marine or Veteran. These brothers may be on active duty and from your community, they may have just returned from active duty or from the battle field, or they may be Veterans from any era back to WWII.

Support the VAWS Efforts!

If every member in the Department of North Carolina just helped one Veteran per year, that's over 2000 Veterans with a better life to look forward to or you might look at it as, 2000 Veterans who had one moment of pride to carry with them. In most cases that Veteran carries it forward to another Vet in need.

Please remember we all not only learn from success stories but it adds to our own pride knowing we have such selfless Marines among us carrying on the tradition, so let us know your efforts and successes so we can share them with others

I have done a little recon for you with this publication to help you maneuver through the battlefield of bureaucracy. You may not be carrying a rifle anymore, but nothing will help you or your buddy more than the weapon-power of information. I pledge my best efforts to keep this publication going with periodic updates to assist you in knowing the tools that are available to assist you, your fellow Marines and their families.

Now, ... **MOVE OUT!**

Semper Fi

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Legislative Officer

Marine Corps League

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*"Marines Helping Marines"*

*It's a good thing.*

Disclaimer

*The statements and opinions of the editors are their own and do not represent the officers or members of Marine Corps League, The United States Marine Corps, Veterans Administration, Department of Defense or any other entity. The content of this publication was in part retrieved from a variety of resources on the Internet, government publications and announcements. This publication is intended for the private use of Veterans and we make no claim of ownership or copyright of it's contents. The sole intention of this publication is to disseminate vital information to Veterans and patronize the sources of the content for their never ending contribution to support those who serve this great Nation.*



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The latest Marine Corps issue of PT gear.

### The New Veteran

OK, some of us got some bum deals after serving in WWII, Korea and Vietnam , so lets make a difference. Most all of the Vietnam Vets I have the honor to serve with or work with all join in on a common goal "Never Again" will we let this society forget those who serve our great Nation and protect our liberties.

Look around. The flags are disappearing; 911 is yet just a memory to much of the public. More and more it goes back to the reality of Veterans being the only ones that help Veterans. Thank the good Lord we now have more patriots in the public that help us and let's all hope that these selfless people stick around and continue to help our fellow Veterans. Politics, as in the past, tends to make patriots wander off, but the good ones stick around.

The new Marine Corps Veterans have more resources available than any era in the past, however it is evident they still have the same 2 problems each era experiences: 1. Pride, too proud to take a handout, 2. They were either never educated on their benefits or weren't listening at the time.

Sadly, we see these young veterans in situations where they are homeless, living alone with their wounds, working jobs that they are over-qualified for and with careers unfocused. Many I have worked with didn't even know the importance of a DD-214 much less that they have benefits. Many are trying to work out their PTSD issues by themselves.

It's all facts, so Marines, when possible try to help them out. These Marines are the finest that have ever served the Corps and do so proudly as an all volunteer force.

Marine Veterans are created every day, every hour and ever minute.  
We are not the only Vets!



## League Membership

### Statistics on Who's Out There

Don't just think that the government is simply a resource for Veteran benefits! The information compiled by government agencies is vital to many elements that affect the League including recruitment.

If you ever feel like you have recruited all the Marines in North Carolina, think again. There are 12,000 Marine Corps retired veterans receiving benefits and living in North Carolina as of 2007. If all of our members were retired Marines, we'd have 2000 members in the department; that leaves 10,000 Marine retirees wandering around the state looking for your Detachment. North Carolina is second only to California in Marine Corps retirees.

*Information obtained from the DOD Office of the Actuary*

North Carolina is one of the top 5 states in the ever growing number of veterans. According to the 2000 Census, there are over one million veterans in North Carolina. Let's say 3 percent of them are Marines. That's 30,000 Marines, giving us 28,000 membership prospects for the Department. Even at 1% that leaves us 8000 prospects just waiting to find the rest of us! Although I have not found the actual number of Marine Veterans in North Carolina I feel it may exceed three percent.

*Information obtained from the US 2000 Census*

*An extra piece of statistical information from these reports shows that the rank with the highest number of retired Marines is Gunnery (E7), the rank of highest number of disabled retired Marines is Sergeant (E5).*

OK, let us look at that "movers and shakers rule." That is, 10% are the movers and shakers in most non-profit organizations. With over 1 million veterans in North Carolina we can expect up to 100,000 to come out of the woodwork and pitch in. Just facts folks.

## VA to Halt Adjustable Rate Mortgages

Unless Congress extends the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) authority to guarantee adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs) and hybrid adjustable rate mortgages (HARMs), these loan types will expire on Sept. 30, 2008.

Lenders have been told to not accept applications for VA-guaranteed ARMs and HARMs after Sept. 30, 2008. ARM or HARM applications dated Sept. 30, 2008 or earlier may be processed so long as the loan closes within a reasonable time and satisfies all other VA program requirements. This will effectively end veterans' access to VA-guaranteed adjustable rate mortgages and will limit them to fixed rate mortgages. Fixed rate mortgages offer greater stability for the borrower, but normally carry a higher interest rate.

## New Service Announced for Wounded Warriors, Families and Caregivers

DoD announced that the Military OneSource service has established a Wounded Warrior Resource Center telephone number and e-mail address for service members and their families, if they have concerns or other difficulties during their recovery process.

Service members and their family members can now call (800) 342-9647 or e-mail [wwrc@militaryonesource.com](mailto:wwrc@militaryonesource.com) 24/7 to request support.

Assistance provided by the resource center will not replace the specialized wounded warrior programs established by each of the military services, but it will offer another avenue of assistance for military facilities, health care services, and/or benefits information.

## Five Must Know GI Bill Facts

First time users of the GI Bill can find the process confusing and often frustrating. If you are planning to use your GI Bill benefit, there are 5 facts you must know to help make the process easier.

1. You Have 10 Years to Use Your Benefits
2. The GI Bill is Not Federal Financial Aid
3. You Can Stop and Start Using the MGIB as Needed
4. A "Month" of Benefits Doesn't Always Mean a Month
5. The GI Bill Pays According to the Number of Credits You Take

## Social Security Benefits for Veterans

You qualify for a higher social security payment because of your military service, for active duty any time from 1940 through 2001 (the program was done away with in January 2002). Up to \$1200 per year of earnings credited at time of application - which can make a substantial difference in social security monthly payments upon your retirement. You must bring your DD-214 to the Social Security Office - and you must ask for this benefit to receive it! Soc Sec website:

<http://www.ssa.gov/retire2/military.htm>

This is something to put in your files for when you apply for Social Security down the road. It is NOT just for retirees, BUT anyone who has served on active duty prior to January 2002. FYI - this benefit is not automatic, you must ask for it!

## 1.8 Million Veterans Uninsured

According to a recent study, 1.8 million military veterans in the U.S. neither have health insurance nor receive ongoing care at the Veterans Health Administration (VHA).

The study by Harvard Medical School and testimony given before the House Committee on Veterans Affairs by Dr. Stephanie J. Woolhandler, Associate Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, and Co-Founder, Physicians for a National Health Program, documented the problems suffered by veterans and their families because of the health insurance crisis.

## Congressional Adjournment Nears

Adjournment of the 110th Congress will occur momentarily, probably within the month of September. With elections looming, all of those who hold office want to leave Washington as soon as they can to run for reelection. In a Presidential election year, more time on the campaign trail becomes especially critical. While everyone in Congress seems to be talking about how important veterans are to the nation, and detailing what a debt we owe all of them, they are braced to leave town without enacting numerous health care bills that would actually help veterans who are sick, wounded, and even permanently disabled.

The veterans' bills that have not been passed cover a wide range of topics, from women's health to PTSD and homelessness and many others. All these bills have been subjected to Congressional hearings and some of them multiple hearings - but virtually nothing has been passed by both houses and sent to the President for approval. If Congress fails to act, these bills will die.

It is unconscionable in an election year that Members of the House and Senate would leap into the campaign season from the darkened halls of Congress to brag about their accomplishments for veterans, their thankfulness to veterans and their loyalty to veterans - while leaving all this legislative work in the dust bin.



Congressional Adjournment Nears , continued

There are about 1,000 pieces of legislature affecting veterans on the congressional table. This publication will attempt to stay on top of the ones that have the greatest impact on veterans.

### VA Announces On-Line Claims Applications

WASHINGTON (July 16, 2008) - The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced today that on-line applications are now accepted from veterans, survivors and other claimants filing initial applications for disability compensation, pension, education, and vocational rehabilitation and employment benefits *without the additional requirement to submit a signed paper copy of the application.*

Effective immediately, VA will now process applications received through its on-line application website (VONAPP) without the claimant's signature. The electronic application will be sufficient authentication of the claimant's application for benefits. Normal development procedures and rules of evidence will still apply to all VONAPP applications.

VONAPP ([www.va.gov/onlineapps.htm](http://www.va.gov/onlineapps.htm)) is a Web-based system that benefits both internal and external users. Veterans, survivors and other claimants seeking compensation, pension, education, or vocational rehabilitation benefits can apply electronically without the constraints of location, postage cost, and time delays in mail delivery.

VONAPP reduces the number of incomplete applications received by VA, decreasing the need for additional development by VA claims processors. The on-line application also provides a link to apply for VA health care benefits and much more.

Over 3.7 million veterans and beneficiaries receive compensation and pension benefits from VA and approximately 523,000 students receive education benefits. Approximately 90,000 disabled veterans participate in VA's Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment program.

For more information about VA benefits, go to VA's website at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) or call the toll-free number at 1-800-827-1000.

### VA Announces 55 Per Diem Awards for Homeless Assistance

WASHINGTON (July 14, 2008) -- Homeless veterans and those who help them received a significant boost in their efforts when the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) made 55 new awards to public and private nonprofit organizations that assist homeless veterans.

"It's important that VA continue to help our nation's homeless veterans, many of whom are still dealing with the effects of past conflicts," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Dr. James B. Peake. "These awards provide needed resources to hard working, caring and compassionate people who provide one-on-one care and services to our veterans every day in their own communities."

Today's announcement of awards to 55 community-based organizations in 24 states will add over 1,000 transitional housing beds to the 9,400 beds already available for homeless veterans because of VA grants for the homeless.



Check with other Veteran Organizations in your area for help assisting Veterans.



American Legion  
Head Quarters  
[www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)



Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Head Quarters  
[www.lvfw.org](http://www.lvfw.org)



Disabled American Veterans (DAV)  
Head Quarters  
[www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org)



American Veterans (AMVETS)  
[www.amvets.org](http://www.amvets.org)  
Suicide Hotline 24/7 1-800-273-8255



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

## US DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs offers a wide range of benefits for our Nation's veterans, service members, and their families.

### Benefits and Services Available:

#### Compensation

VA can pay you monthly compensation if you are at least 10% disabled as a result of your military service.

#### Pension

You can receive a monthly pension if you are a wartime veteran with limited income, and you are permanently and totally disabled or at least 65 years old.

**Time Limits:** There is no time limit to apply for Compensation and Pension benefits.

#### Health Care

VA provides a number of health care services.

- Hospital, outpatient medical, dental, pharmacy and prosthetic services
- Domiciliary, nursing home, and community-based residential care
- Sexual trauma counseling
- Specialized health care for women veterans
- Health and rehabilitation programs for homeless veterans
- Readjustment counseling
- Alcohol and drug dependency treatment

Medical evaluation for disorders associated with military service in the Gulf War, or exposure to Agent Orange, radiation, and other environmental hazards

**Combat Veterans** - VA provides free health care for veterans who served in a theater of combat operations after November 11, 1998, for any illness possibly related to their service in that theater.

**Time Limits:** You have five years from the date of your discharge from active duty on or after January 28, 2003. You have until January 27, 2011, if you were discharged from active duty before January 28, 2003, and were not enrolled as of January 28, 2008.

#### Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment

VA provides assistance to veterans with service connected disabilities to prepare for, obtain, and maintain suitable employment. For veterans with serious service-connected disabilities, VA also offers services to improve their ability to live as independently as possible. There are five service delivery options available:

- Reemployment
- Rapid Access to Employment
- Self-Employment
- Employment through Long Term Services,
- Independent Living

Assistance to veterans may be provided in the form of job search, vocational evaluation, career exploration, vocational training, educational training and supportive rehabilitation services.

**Time Limits:** Generally, veterans have 12 years from the date VA informs them that they have at least a 10% rating for a service-connected disability.

#### Education & Training

VA pays benefits to eligible veterans, reservists, and active duty service members while they are in an approved education or training program. Based on the type of military service, benefit programs are:

- Active Duty Service:** Persons who first entered active duty after June 30, 1985, are generally eligible under the Montgomery GI Bill (Chapter 30). Those who entered active duty for the first time after December 31, 1976, and before July 1, 1985, are generally eligible under the Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP).
- Reserve/Guard Service:** Benefits are available to Reserve and National Guard members under [a] the Montgomery GI Bill (Chapter 1606) who signed a six-year commitment with a reserve unit after June 30, 1985, and remain actively drilling and in good standing with their unit, and [b] the Reserve Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 1607) who were activated under Federal authority for a contingency operation and served 90 continuous days or more after September 11, 2001.

**Time Limits:** Generally, veterans have 10 years from the date they were last released from active duty to use their education and training benefits, and Reserve and National Guard members have 14 years from the date they became eligible for the program unless they leave the Selected Reserves before completing their obligation.

#### Home Loans

VA offers a number of home loan services to eligible veterans, some military personnel, and certain surviving spouses.

- Guaranteed Loans:** VA can guarantee part of a loan from a private lender to help you buy a home, a manufactured home, a lot for a manufactured home, or certain types of condominiums, VA also guarantees loans for building, repairing, and improving homes.
- Refinancing Loans:** If you have a VA mortgage, VA can help you refinance your loan at a lower interest rate. You may also refinance a non-VA loan.
- Special Grants:** Certain disabled veterans and military personnel can receive grants to adapt or acquire housing suitable for their needs.

**Time Limits:** There is no time limit for a VA home loan.

#### Life Insurance

**Service members' Group Life Insurance (SGLI)** is low-cost term life insurance for service members and reservists. Coverage of up to \$400,000 begins when you enter the service. Generally, it expires 120 days after you leave the service.

**Traumatic SGLI** is automatically included in SGLI and provides for payment up to \$100,000 for Service members who lose limbs or incur other serious injuries.

**Veterans Group Life Insurance (VGLI)** is renewable term life insurance for veterans who want to convert their SGLI up to an amount not to exceed the coverage you had when you separated from service. You must apply within one year and 120 days from separation.

**Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance**, also called "RH" Insurance, is for service-connected veterans. Coverage is \$10,000. You may be eligible for a \$20,000 supplemental policy if you are totally disabled. You must apply for RH within two years of being rated service connected by VA.



US Dept. of Veterans Affairs, continued

## Dependents & Survivors

**Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)** is payable to certain survivors of:

- Service members who died on active duty
- Veterans who died from service-related disabilities
- Certain veterans who were being paid 100% VA disability compensation at time of death.

**Death Pension** is payable to some surviving spouses and children of deceased wartime veterans. The benefit is based on financial need.

**Parents' DIC** is payable to some surviving parents. The benefit is based on financial need.

**VA Civilian Health and Medical Program (CHAMPVA)** shares the cost of medical services for eligible dependents and survivors of certain veterans.

**Dependents & Survivors Education & Training:** Some family members of disabled or deceased veterans are eligible for education and training benefits.

**Home Loans:** Certain surviving spouses may be eligible for this benefit.

**Time Limits:** For education and training benefits, spouses and surviving spouses have 10 years from the date VA first finds them eligible, and surviving spouses of service members who died while on active duty have 20 years.

Children are eligible from age 18 to 26. These time limits can sometimes be extended. There are no time limits to apply for the other benefits described above.

## Burial

VA offers certain benefits and services to honor our Nation's deceased veterans.

**Headstones and Markers:** VA can furnish a monument to mark the grave of an eligible veteran.

**Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC):** VA can provide a PMC for eligible recipients.

**Burial Flag:** VA can provide an American flag to drape an eligible veteran's casket.

**Reimbursement of Burial Expenses:** Generally, VA can pay a burial allowance of \$2,000 for veterans who die of service related causes. For certain other veterans, VA can pay \$300 for burial and funeral expenses and \$300 for a burial plot.

**Burial in a VA National Cemetery:** Most veterans and some dependents can be buried in a VA national cemetery.

**Time Limits:** There is no time limit to claim reimbursement of burial expenses for a service related death. In other cases, claims must be filed within two years of the veteran's burial.

## Toll-Free Service

### Benefits Information & Assistance

For more information about specific benefits, visit the nearest VA regional office or call **1-800-827-1000**

### Special Toll-Free Numbers

- Life Insurance: 1-800-669-8477
- Health Care: 1-877-222-8387
- All Other VA Benefits: 1-800-827-1000

TDD: 1-800-829-4833

### Internet

For detailed information about all VA benefits and services, visit

**www.va.gov**

**Survivors:** Information specific to survivors is available. Select "Benefits," then "Survivors' Benefits."

**Applications:** Apply for Compensation, Pension, Health Care, Education, or Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment benefits by selecting "Apply Online."

**Inquiries:** A "Contact VA" link is available for e-mail inquiries.



## North Carolina Department of Administration (NCDOA) Division of Veteran Affairs (NCDVA) [www.ncveterans.net](http://www.ncveterans.net)

For more than 80 years, the North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs (NCDVA) has been a strong advocate for veterans and their families offering assistance through a network of District and County Veterans Service Offices at no charge to the citizen. NCDVA assist veterans and their families in the presentation, processing, proof and establishment of claims, privileges, rights and benefits as they may be entitled to under Federal, State or local laws. This division provides skilled level nursing care and provides burial plots to qualified veterans of North Carolina. NCDVA also offers a scholarship program for children of North Carolina disabled, combat or deceased war veterans.

**Motto** - "Helping those who served."

### History

The North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs (NCDVA) was first established as a part of the Commission of Labor in 1925 to "aid veterans of the World War." In 1945, the NCDVA became a separate agency to assist veterans and their families in securing benefits earned through military service.

### Contacts

#### Mailing Address

North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs  
1315 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1315

#### Physical Address

1325 N. Salisbury Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601

**Telephone Number (919) 733-3851**

Fax Number (919) 733-2834

General E-mail Inquiries [ncdva.aso@ncmail.net](mailto:ncdva.aso@ncmail.net) A Complete list of County and District Offices can be found on the next few pages.

## North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Returning Support for Veterans Program (RSVP)

(A Direct quote from their Web-Site)

As a returning veteran, the "Returning Support for Veterans Program (RSVP)" is a one-

stop location where veterans and their families can get all the information they need. Whether the concern is about military benefits, veteran's education, health services, or job or other issues, RSVP is for you.

**You can access RSVP by calling the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services' CARE-LINE at 1-800-662-7030, (TDD/TTY 1-877-452-2514) 24 hours a day, or by emailing [care.line@ncmail.net](mailto:care.line@ncmail.net).**

Our trained staff is available to assist you and your families as you reenter civilian life in North Carolina.





North Carolina Department of Administration –  
Division of Veteran Affairs

<http://www.doa.state.nc.us/vets/index.htm>

County Offices

**ALAMANCE COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**

217 College Street, Suite D  
Graham, NC 27253  
336/570-6763  
Phyllis Green, Veteran Service Director  
[Phyllis.Green@alamance-nc.com](mailto:Phyllis.Green@alamance-nc.com)  
Brenda Perry, County Service Officer  
[Brenda.Perry@alamance-nc.com](mailto:Brenda.Perry@alamance-nc.com)

**ALLEGHANY COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**

PO Box 366  
Sparta, NC 28675  
336/372-4850  
Sam Nichols, County Service Officer  
[vetsvcoff@skybest.com](mailto:vetsvcoff@skybest.com)

**ANSON COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**

112 North Greene St.  
Wadesboro, NC 28170  
704/694-3342  
Patrice Carr, County Service Officer  
[pcarr@co.anson.nc.us](mailto:pcarr@co.anson.nc.us)

**ALEXANDER COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**

621 Liledown Road Box 8  
Taylorsville, NC 28681  
828/632-5411  
Barbara Poole, County Service Officer  
[bpooles@alexandercountync.gov](mailto:bpooles@alexandercountync.gov)

**ASHE COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**

150 Government Circle Suite 2100  
Jefferson, NC 28640  
336/846-5575  
Betsy Reeves, County Service Officer  
[betsy.reeves@ashcountync.gov](mailto:betsy.reeves@ashcountync.gov)

**AVERY COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**

PO Box 640  
Newland, NC 28657  
828/733-8211  
Georgia Henry, County Service Officer  
[georgia.henry@ncmail.net](mailto:georgia.henry@ncmail.net)

**BEAUFORT COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**

220 North Market St.  
Washington, NC 27889  
252/946-8016  
Karen Melton, County Service Officer  
[beaufortvso@yahoo.com](mailto:beaufortvso@yahoo.com)

**BERTIE COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**

106 Dundee St.  
Windsor, NC 27983  
252/794-5304  
Milton Parker, County Service Officer

**BLADEN COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**

301 S. Cypress St.  
Elizabethtown, NC 28337  
910/862-6950  
Larry Hammond, County Service Office  
[bladen\\_boe@ncmail.net](mailto:bladen_boe@ncmail.net)  
Cynthia Shaw, County Service Officer  
[bvets@bladenco.org](mailto:bvets@bladenco.org)

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**

10 Referendum Dr. NE  
Bolivia, NC 28422  
910/253-2233  
Anita Hartsell, County Service Officer  
[ahartsell@brunscoco.net](mailto:ahartsell@brunscoco.net)  
Jack Garrison, County Service Officer  
[jgarrison@brunscoco.net](mailto:jgarrison@brunscoco.net)

**BUNCOMBE COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**

40 Coxie Ave  
Asheville, NC 28802  
828/250-5726  
Ellen White, County Service Officer  
[ellen.white@buncombecounty.org](mailto:ellen.white@buncombecounty.org)

**BURKE COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**

110 N. Green Street  
Morganton, NC 28680  
828/439-4373  
Nancy Duckworth, County Service Officer  
[nduckworth@co.burke.nc.us](mailto:nduckworth@co.burke.nc.us)

**CABARRUS COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**

65 Church Street SE  
Concord, NC 28026  
704/920-2869  
Lewis Williams, County Service Officer  
[lmwilliams@cabarruscounty.us](mailto:lmwilliams@cabarruscounty.us)  
Sharon Eury, County Service Officer  
[seury@cabarruscounty.us](mailto:seury@cabarruscounty.us)  
Sylvia Hucks, County Service Officer  
[shucks@cabarruscounty.us](mailto:shucks@cabarruscounty.us)

**CALDWELL COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**

905 W. Avenue, NW  
Lenoir, NC 28645  
828/757-1345  
Kathy Hutchings, County Service Officer  
[khutchings@caldwellcountync.org](mailto:khutchings@caldwellcountync.org)  
Regina Goforth, County Service Officer

**CARTERET COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**

3710-B John Platt Dr.  
Morehead City, NC 28557  
252/728-8440  
Hank Gotard, County Service Officer  
[hgotard@co.carteret.nc.us](mailto:hgotard@co.carteret.nc.us)





**Caswell - DURHAM DISTRICT SERVICE OFFICE**

Social Services Bldg.  
Yanceyville, NC 27379  
336/694-4141  
David Kennedy, District Service Officer  
[davidkennedy6@verizon.net](mailto:davidkennedy6@verizon.net)

**CATAWBA COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**

100-A 5W Blvd.  
Newton, NC 28658  
828/465-8255  
Cindy Travis, County Service Officer  
[ctravis@catawbacountync.gov](mailto:ctravis@catawbacountync.gov)

**Cherokee MURPHY DISTRICT SERVICE OFFICE (District 14)**

23 Valley River Ave  
Murphy, NC 28906  
828-837-2616  
Larry Conley, District Service Officer  
[ncdva14@cabletvyonline.net](mailto:ncdva14@cabletvyonline.net)

**CHOWAN COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE**

County Office Building  
Edenton, NC 27932  
252/482-8431  
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Bob Angeli, District Service Officer  
[ncdva4@ec.rr.com](mailto:ncdva4@ec.rr.com)  
Phil Daniels, District Service Officer  
[ncdva4@ec.rr.com](mailto:ncdva4@ec.rr.com)

**GARNER DISTRICT SERVICE OFFICE (District 5)**

315 Bellaris St  
Garner, NC 27529  
919-662-3018  
Rob Jones, District Service Officer  
[ncdva5@bellsouth.net](mailto:ncdva5@bellsouth.net)  
Ann Conde, District Service Officer  
[annconde@bellsouth.net](mailto:annconde@bellsouth.net)

**DURHAM DISTRICT SERVICE OFFICE (District 6)**

15 South Street  
Pittsboro, NC 27312  
919/542-8202  
David Kennedy, District Service Officer  
[davidkennedy6@verizon.net](mailto:davidkennedy6@verizon.net)

**DURHAM DISTRICT SERVICE OFFICE (District 6)**

1105 E. Cardinal St.  
Siler City, NC 27344  
919/742-6994  
David Kennedy, District Service Officer  
[davidkennedy6@verizon.net](mailto:davidkennedy6@verizon.net)

**DURHAM DISTRICT SERVICE OFFICE (District 6)**

Social Services Bldg.  
Yanceyville, NC 27379  
336/694-4141  
David Kennedy, District Service Officer  
[davidkennedy6@verizon.net](mailto:davidkennedy6@verizon.net)

**DURHAM DISTRICT SERVICE OFFICE (District 6)**

115 Market St, Suite 205  
Durham, NC 27701  
919-560-6672  
David Kennedy, District Service Officer  
[ncdvadurham@verizon.net](mailto:ncdvadurham@verizon.net)  
Terry McMillan, District Service Officer  
[ncdvadurham@verizon.net](mailto:ncdvadurham@verizon.net)

**GREENSBORO DISTRICT SERVICE OFFICE (District 7)**

7325 B W Friendly Avenue  
Greensboro, NC 27410  
336/294-1222  
Barry West, District Service Officer  
[ncdva7@bellsouth.net](mailto:ncdva7@bellsouth.net)

**CLEMMONS DISTRICT SERVICE OFFICE (District 8)**

2511 Neudorf Rd, Suite 1  
Clemmons, NC 27012  
336/766-1496  
Randy Greenwood, District Service Officer  
[ncdva8@bellsouth.net](mailto:ncdva8@bellsouth.net)  
Ronnie Cox, District Service Officer  
[ncdva8@bellsouth.net](mailto:ncdva8@bellsouth.net)

**CHARLOTTE DISTRICT SERVICE OFFICE (District 9)**

5500 Executive Ctr Drive  
Charlotte, NC 28212  
704-563-2037  
John Blake, District Service Officer  
[ncdva9@bellsouth.net](mailto:ncdva9@bellsouth.net)  
Tom Ratchford, District Service Officer  
[ncdva9@bellsouth.net](mailto:ncdva9@bellsouth.net)



**HICKORY DISTRICT SERVICE OFFICE (District 10)**

306 Fourth St, SW  
Hickory, NC 28602  
828-322-6616  
Steve Mains, District Service Officer  
[ncdva10@charterinternet.com](mailto:ncdva10@charterinternet.com)  
Paul Caudill, District Service Officer  
[ncdva10@charterinternet.com](mailto:ncdva10@charterinternet.com)

**MORGANTON DISTRICT SERVICE OFFICE (District 11)**

301 East Meeting Street  
Morganton, NC 28655  
828-430-7136  
Raymond Riddle, District Service Officer  
[ncdva11@bellsouth.net](mailto:ncdva11@bellsouth.net)  
Janene McGee, District Service Officer  
[ncdva11@bellsouth.net](mailto:ncdva11@bellsouth.net)

**ASHEVILLE DISTRICT SERVICE OFFICE (District 12)**

71 Turtle Creek Dr  
Asheville, NC 28803  
828-274-5559  
John Shaw, Jr., District Service Officer  
[ncdva12@mindspring.com](mailto:ncdva12@mindspring.com)  
Eddie Padgett, District Service Officer  
[ncdva12@mindspring.com](mailto:ncdva12@mindspring.com)

**Madison - ASHEVILLE DISTRICT SERVICE OFFICE (District 12)**

Mars Hill Town Hall  
Mars Hill, NC 28803  
828/274-5559  
John Shaw, Jr, District Service Officer  
[johnboyshaw@bellsouth.net](mailto:johnboyshaw@bellsouth.net)

**FAYETTEVILLE DISTRICT SERVICE OFFICE (District 13)**

416 Chicago Drive  
Fayetteville, NC 28306  
910-486-1551  
Marty Williams, District Service Officer  
[ncdva13@embarqmail.com](mailto:ncdva13@embarqmail.com)  
Frank Hicks, District Service Officer  
[ncdva13@embarqmail.com](mailto:ncdva13@embarqmail.com)

**MURPHY DISTRICT SERVICE OFFICE (District 14)**

23 Valley River Ave  
Murphy, NC 28906  
828-837-2616  
Larry Conley, District Service Officer  
[ncdva14@cabletvonline.net](mailto:ncdva14@cabletvonline.net)

**GREENVILLE DISTRICT SERVICE OFFICE (District 15)**

200-A Eastbrook Dr  
Greenville, NC 27858  
252/355-9052  
Jimmy Bowles, District Service Officer  
[ncdva15@embarqmail.com](mailto:ncdva15@embarqmail.com)

**Military Records**

<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/>  
<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/get-service-records.html>

Military records are handled through the National Archives in a sub-branch called the National Personnel Records Center.

Copies of DD214 (Report of Separation) available at the web-sites above or free from:

National Personnel Records Center  
Military Personnel Records  
9700 Page Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100  
314-801-0800

Your request must contain certain basic information in order to locate your service records. This information includes:

- The veteran's complete name used while in service
- Service number
- Social security number
- Branch of service
- Dates of service
- Date and place of birth (especially if the service number is not known).

If you suspect your records may have been involved in the 1973 fire, also include:

- Place of discharge
- Last unit of assignment
- Place of entry into the service, if known.

All requests must be signed and dated by the veteran or next-of-kin.  
<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/replacement-medals.html#marine>



## Employment for Veterans in North Carolina

North Carolina's Employment Security Commission has a dedicated veteran service staff assigned in 60 local offices to ensure the delivery of the highest caliber of employment and training services to veterans throughout the state and to ensure the application of preference and/or priority services to veterans as prescribed by federal, state, and local laws. Local veteran employment representatives (LVERs) and disabled veteran outreach specialists (DVOPs) are trained and ready to assist veterans with their employment and training needs. For assistance, contact your local employment security office today.

The Employment Service Division of the Employment Security Commission assists in endeavoring to secure suitable employment for disabled veterans. Any person desiring information and assistance with matters related to employment and job placement should contact the nearest local employment office of the Employment Security Commission. Veterans Employment Representatives are available to render specialized service for veterans.

Preference in State Government employment is granted to veterans, their surviving spouses or the spouses of disabled veterans, without regard to age, provided they are otherwise qualified. Military leave with reemployment rights is also granted State employees.

**For more information contact: Director, ESC Veterans Employment Service at (919) 733-7724.**

<http://www.ncesc.com/individual/veterans/veteransmain.asp>

The Veterans' Employment & Training Service (VETS) web site offers valuable information an employment transitioning services. <http://www.dol.gov/vets/welcome.html> The VETS is an organization within the U.S. Department of Labor that is closely affiliated with the ESC in the mission to help veterans secure meaningful, career employment. Additionally, the VETS staff within North Carolina has several responsibilities unrelated to ESC's functions. VETS provides technical assistance to employers, veterans and members of Reserve components regarding nondiscrimination and employment protections related to covered military service, and investigates and resolves related claims.

They have a similar responsibility regarding veterans' employment preference with federal agencies and departments. VETS role with businesses that contract with federal agencies and departments is somewhat different in that they promote compliance with the job listing, affirmative action and non-discrimination provisions of the contracts and collect the VETS 100 reports filed annually by each contractor.

### More Information on Employment for Veterans

There are several websites that provide information about employment. They are:

[http://www1.va.gov/ohrm/job\\_opportunities.htm](http://www1.va.gov/ohrm/job_opportunities.htm) which provides a host of information about employment opportunities and provides links to application forms, Office of Personnel Management, etc.

Jobs information about types of jobs, job qualifications, etc., may be found on VA Jobs website at <http://www.va.gov/jobs> and clicking on any appropriate links.

For information about employment in the health care field, please go to <http://VACareers.va.gov> This is the recruitment and retention Web site for the Department of Veterans Affairs, Health Care Staff Development and Retention Office. VACareers.va.gov assists qualified healthcare professionals seeking career opportunities with the Veterans Health Administration.

Employment opportunities range from physician and nursing jobs to pharmacy, occupational therapy and dentistry positions among others. VACareers.va.gov is a tool for finding available medical jobs, healthcare jobs, VA jobs and hospital jobs.

VA has a nursing website that provides information on this discipline with links to jobs information, scholarship and awards information; go to <http://www.va.gov/nursing> and click on the applicable links.

Individuals involved in dentistry can find information about jobs available in our dental service by going to: <http://www.va.gov/dental/careers.asp>

For information about VA jobs and to locate information about jobs at other agencies, go to [http://www.va.gov/jobs/Career\\_Search.asp](http://www.va.gov/jobs/Career_Search.asp)

Please go to <http://www.va.gov/nvep/> for information about the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) National Veterans Employment Program (NVEP), which assists veterans in understanding and using veterans' preference and other hiring flexibilities to gain employment in the federal government and VA. The program promotes and advocates the hiring of veterans by VA managers and supervisors and educates selecting officials on veterans' preference and federal hiring authorities developed to assist veterans in gaining federal employment. This site has links for hiring options, job fairs, search for jobs in VA, veteran centers, veterans preference, transition centers, etc all information regarding hiring in the federal sector for veterans. This site has links for hiring options, job fairs, search for jobs in VA, veteran centers, veterans preference, transition centers, etc.

Employment information for veterans is also available at [www.vba.va.gov/bln/vre/emp\\_resources.htm](http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/vre/emp_resources.htm) which is the Vocational Rehabilitation site. Look at [www.militaryjobs.com](http://www.militaryjobs.com) for careers that can capitalize on your training.

Another website to check is <http://www.usajobs.gov> This is one-stop source of information for Federal jobs and employment throughout federal government. This site provides the ability to do job searches, obtain comprehensive information about jobs and employment for veterans, obtain forms, etc.

### Other links to jobs information may be found at:

Department of Labor veterans site: <http://www.dol.gov/vets> and America's Job Bank: <http://www.ajb.org>

Some generic but powerful job hunting/posting database used by industry country and worldwide are: <http://www.monster.com>, <http://careerbuilder.com>, <http://simplyhired.com> Another resource is <http://www.hireahero.org>, which is a non-profit charity networking Web site that provides information about military-friendly employers. There are a many websites available for this purpose that can be found on the Internet.

**NOTE: On 16 July, 2008, the North Carolina General Assembly ratified an expansion of its bill to give preference to veterans for hiring in state jobs by extending the preference to spouses of disabled veterans and surviving spouses and dependents of a veteran who dies during a period of war.**

See Page 25





## Education and Training Opportunities for Veterans

**The GI Bill** (the generic term comprising various education assistance programs administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs) provides benefits to veterans, service members, and some dependents of disabled or deceased veterans wishing to pursue an education. You may contact us by telephone at **1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551)**. Be advised this line only accepts calls from 7:00 - 5:00 central time and you may experience long hold times. The web site has significant information. The address is <http://www.gibill.va.gov/>.

The **Post-9/11 GI Bill** is a new benefit providing educational assistance to individuals who served on active duty on or after September 11, 2001.

### Post-9/11 GI Bill Facts:

#### When Can I Receive Benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill?

Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits are payable for training pursued on or after August 1, 2009. No payments can be made under this program for training pursued before that date.

#### Am I Eligible?

At a minimum, you must have served at least 30 days of continuous active duty service after September 10, 2001 and be discharged due to a service-connected disability, or served an aggregate of 90 days of active duty service after September 10, 2001, and—

- - Be honorably discharged from Armed Forces; or
- - Be released from Armed Forces with service characterized as honorable and placed on the retired list, temporary disability retired list, or transferred to the Fleet Reserve or the Fleet Marine Corps Reserve; or
- - Be released from the Armed Forces with service characterized as honorable for further service in a reserve component; or
- - Be discharged or released from Armed Forces for:
  - o EPTS (Existed Prior to Service)
  - o HDSP (Hardship) or
  - o CIWD (Condition Interfered with Duty); or
- -Continue to be on active duty.

#### If I am eligible for the Montgomery GI Bill (chapter 30), Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve (chapter 1606,) or the Reserve Educational Assistance Program (chapter 1607), am I eligible for Post-9/11 GI Bill?

You may elect to receive benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill if, on August 1, 2009, you have met the requirements to qualify for the Post-9/11 GI Bill and you are eligible for chapter 30, 1606, 1607, or are serving in the Armed Forces.

#### How many months of assistance can I receive?

Generally, you may receive up to 36 months of entitlement under the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

#### How much will I receive?

You are entitled to a percentage, as determined by your length of active duty service, of the following:

- Amount of tuition and fees charged
- Monthly housing allowance and
- Yearly books and supplies stipend of up to \$1000\* per year; and
- A one time payment of \$500 may be payable to certain individuals relocating from highly rural areas

**NOTE**—Housing allowance and books and supplies stipend is not payable to individuals on active duty. Housing allowance is not payable for those pursuing training at half time or less or to individuals taking distance learning.

Individuals must serve an aggregate period of active duty after September 10, 2001.

#### How long am I eligible?

You will be eligible for benefits for 15 years from your last period of active duty of at least 90 consecutive days. If you were released for a service-connected disability after at least 30 days of continuous service, you will also be eligible for benefits for 15 years.

#### What does The Post- 9/11 GI Bill cover?

You may receive benefits for training programs approved for chapter 30 that are offered by an institution of higher learning. This includes graduate and undergraduate training, and vocational/technical training. You may also receive benefits for tutorial assistance and reimbursement of one licensing and certification test.

Additionally, if you were eligible for chapter 30, 1606 or 1607, and you elected to use benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill, you would be eligible to receive benefits for on-the-job training, apprenticeship training, correspondence courses, flight training, preparatory courses, and national exams.

#### Can I transfer my entitlement to my dependents?

If you are a member of the Armed Forces on August 1, 2009, the Department of Defense (DoD) may offer you the opportunity to transfer benefits to your spouse or dependent children. DoD and the Military Services will issue policy on use of transferability in the coming months.

Visit [WWW.GIBILL.VA.GOV](http://WWW.GIBILL.VA.GOV) for up to date information on this and other education benefits.

#### You Are Called an Adult Learner in North Carolina -

The Adult Learner program provides assistance to the nontraditional student who is seeking to begin or resume higher education. Adult students are often referred to as "nontraditional students" due to their unique circumstances, life experience, and wide array of educational needs. See [www.1cfn.org/Adult\\_Learner](http://www.1cfn.org/Adult_Learner) to learn more.

To talk with someone in the **College Foundation of North Carolina** call center, call **1-866-866-CFNC**. The call is free — and so is all the information you need to plan, apply and pay for college.

CFNC representatives are generally available by phone from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Monday - Thursday and 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Friday, ET.

Adult students should contact an admissions officer at the school of their choice to discuss special options that may exist for adults seeking to continue their education. At [www.cfnc.org](http://www.cfnc.org) potential students can find the institutions in North Carolina that have dedicated offices for Adult Student Services.

The CFNC Adult Learner section provides assistance to the nontraditional student who is seeking to:

- **complete high school.** Visit our [High School Complete](#) - portion of the Adult Learner section for more information on earning your high school diploma through the Adult High School program or the GED tests.
- **begin college as a freshman.** If you are an adult student who has decided to pursue higher education, please visit [First-Time College Student](#) - in the Adult Learner section.
- **return to school as a transfer student.** Perhaps you were previously enrolled in college and had to put your education on hold. Or you'd like to transfer from one institution to another. Visit our [Transfer Student](#) - segment of the Adult Learner section for more information on issues of specific interest to transfer students.



- **obtain a second degree, attend graduate or professional school.** Visit the CFNC [College Fair](http://www1.cfnc.org/College_Fair/home_-_College_Fair.aspx) [http://www1.cfnc.org/College\\_Fair/home\\_-\\_College\\_Fair.aspx](http://www1.cfnc.org/College_Fair/home_-_College_Fair.aspx) - to link to area schools and universities to research degree programs of interest to you.
- **return to school as a non-degree student.** Did you know that you can enroll in most 2-year and 4-year schools as a non-degree student and take classes? Perhaps you'd like to explore personal interests or take a specific course to enhance your job skills. A visit to the CFNC [College Fair](#) - allows you to explore endless education options at more than 100 North Carolina schools.
- **explore career options.** Perhaps you are interested in developing a second career, changing careers altogether, or exploring expanded career opportunities. A visit to the CFNC [Career Center](#) - could open a world of possibilities for you.

### Explore Additional Financial Assistance

For a listing of financial aid programs for military and their dependents, visit [www.cfnc.org/paying/pubs/info\\_pubs.jsp](http://www.cfnc.org/paying/pubs/info_pubs.jsp) and go to page 33 of the PDF document "Student Financial Aid for North Carolinians."

### Students with Disabilities

Another group of "nontraditional students" are students with disabilities and/or special needs. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) treats these students, once they become 18 years of age, as adults under the law.

Students with disabilities are expected to meet the same academic standards as other students at their college or university. To accomplish this, reasonable accommodations may be needed which make the method of instruction accessible to the student. If you are a student who may have need of special accommodations, contact the schools you are interested in attending for further information.

Colleges and universities are increasingly open to the needs of nontraditional students. Remember, it is never too late to begin your college career. CFNC can help you find answers to all the questions you face in every aspect of your college experience.

### North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority

#### Who they are and what they do

NCSEAA provides the State a number of services. Some of these services include the following:

- Administers inter-institutional programs of student financial assistance, created by state and federal law, as well as private resources, designed to help North Carolinians meet the cost of higher education.
- Publishes and distributes annual publications that assist students, parents, financial aid administrators and school counselors as they investigate financial assistance for postsecondary education. Publications are available on the Internet at <http://www.CFNC.org>.
- Obtains and insures capital for educational loans made available under North Carolina's Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP).
- Maintains an aggressive student loan collection system for recovery of defaulted and matured student loan obligations.
- Promotes access to financial aid opportunities through outreach activities with school counselors and financial aid administrators, so they can assist students and families in planning for postsecondary educational opportunities.

### Scholarships and Grants Programs

- Aubrey Lee Brooks Scholarship Program
- Certain Private Education Institutions Grant (CPEI)
- Golden LEAF Scholars Program
- Jagannathan Scholarship
- John B. McLendon Scholarship Fund
- NC Sheriffs Association Undergraduate Criminal Justice Scholarship
- NC Legislative Tuition Grant (NCLTG)
- State Contractual Scholarship Fund Program (SCSF)
- Teacher Assistant Scholarship Fund (TASF)
- Marine Corps League National Scholarship Program [www.mcleague.com](http://www.mcleague.com)
- Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation  
Contact June Hering at 800-292-7777 or email her at [mcsfnj@mcf.org](mailto:mcsfnj@mcf.org)

### Scholarship-Loan Programs

- Board of Governors' Dental Scholarship-Loan Program (BGDSL)
- Board of Governors' Medical Scholarship-Loan Program (BGMSL)
- Future Teachers of North Carolina (FTNC)
- Health, Science and Mathematics Student Loan Program (HSM)
- Masters Nurse Scholars Program (MNSP)
- Millennium Teacher Scholarship Loan Program (MTSLP)
- Nurse Education Scholarship-Loan Program (NESLP)
- Nurse Educators of Tomorrow Program (NET)
- Nurse Scholars Program (NSP)
- North Carolina Optometry Scholarship-Loan Program (OSL)
- North Carolina Principal Fellows Program (PPF)
- Physical Education-Coaching Scholarship-Loan Program (PEC)
- Prospective Teachers Scholarship-Loan Program (PTSL)

The North Carolina Approving Agency is an affiliate of the University system of North Carolina. If you are interested in a school check with the Agency to find out if it is listed and qualifies to accept veteran benefit. The contact number for the North Carolina Approving Agency is (919) 733-7535. The list of qualified schools can also be found on the agency web site.

There are 282 active schools and school branches in North Carolina accepting veteran education benefits. Categories of approved schools includes:

- Barber and Beauty Schools
- Bible Schools
- Business Schools
- Community Colleges
- Correspondence Schools
- Flight Schools
- Hospital Schools
- Massage Schools
- Nursing Schools
- Schools on Military Bases
- Private Schools
- Public Schools



**Veteran Health Care Facilities in North Carolina**

**Veterans Health Administration - VISN Offices**

Station ID	Facility	Address	Phone
10N6	VISN 6: VA Mid-Atlantic Health Care Network	300 West Morgan Street, Suite 1402 Durham, NC 27701	(919) 956-5541

**Veterans Health Administration - VISN 6: VA Mid-Atlantic Health Care Network  
Hospitals and Clinics**

Station ID	Facility	Address	Phone
637	Asheville VA Medical Center	1100 Tunnel Road Asheville, NC 28805	(828) 298-7911 or (800) 932-6408
659GA	Charlotte Clinic	8601 University East Drive Charlotte, NC 28213	(704) 597-3500
0317	Charlotte Vet Center	223 S. Brevard St. Suite 103 Charlotte, NC 28202	(704)-333-6107
558	Durham Clinic	1824 Hillandale Road Durham, NC 27705	(919) 383-6107
558	Durham VA Medical Center	508 Fulton Street Durham, NC 27705	(919) 286-0411 or (888) 878-6890
565	Fayetteville VA Medical Center	2300 Ramsey Street Fayetteville, NC 28301	(910) 488-2120 or (800) 771-6106
0315	Fayetteville Vet Center	4140 Ramsey St. Suite 110 Fayetteville, NC 28311	(910)-488-6252
0327	Greensboro Vet Center	2009 S. Elm-Eugene St. Greensboro, NC 27406	(336)-333-5366
558GA	Greenville Clinic	800 Moya Blvd Greenville, NC 27858	(252) 830-2149
0319	Greenville, NC Vet Center	150 Arlington Blvd. Suite B Greenville, NC 27858	(252)-355-7920
659	Hickory OPC	1170 Fairgrove Church Rd Hickory, NC 28601	(828) 431-5600
565GA	Jacksonville CBOC	241 Freedom Way Dr Ste B Midway Park, NC 28544	(910) 353-6406
558	Morehead City Clinic	5420 Highway 70 Morehead City, NC 28557	(252) 240-2349
558	Raleigh Clinic	3305 Sungate Blvd Raleigh, NC 27610	(919) 212-0129
0328	Raleigh Vet Center	1649 Old Louisburg Rd. Raleigh, NC 27604	(919)-856-4616
659	Salisbury - W.G. (Bill) Hefner VA Medical Center	1601 Brenner Avenue Salisbury, NC 28144	(704)638-9000 or (800) 469-8262
565	Wilmington CBOC	1606 Physicians Dr, Suite 104 Wilmington, NC 28401	(910) 362-8811
659BY	Winston-Salem Satellite Outpatient Clinic	190 Kimel Park Drive Winston-Salem, NC 27103	(336) 768-3296

**Veterans Benefits Administration - Southern Area Office**

Station ID	Facility	Address	Phone
318	Winston-Salem Regional Office	Federal Building, 251N. Main Street Winston-Salem, NC 27155	1 800 827 1000

**Guardians for a Veteran in North Carolina**

<http://www.dva.state.nc.us/vets/benefits-guardians.htm>

State law provides for the appointment and supervision of guardians for incompetent veterans, incompetent dependents of veterans and minor dependents of members of the armed forces or veterans in certain circumstances, to manage U.S. funds payable to such persons. Call the North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs at (919) 733-3851 for assistance.



## Is There someone to call if a veteran is at risk of suicide?

Vet Centers and VA Medical Centers stand ready to reach out and help veterans at risk for suicide.

Seek professional help NOW.

Call the toll-free National Suicide Prevention hotline and indicate you are a veteran. You will be immediately connected to VA suicide prevention and mental health professionals. They will help.

If you feel you are in Crisis...

Call the Suicide hotline (1-800-273-8255), your local VA Medical Center or Vet Center today. Those phone numbers are on page 19 of this booklet.

## VA Mental Health Services

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Mental Health Strategic Healthcare Group provides general inpatient psychiatric services at 132 medical centers as well as mental health outpatient services in 689 medical centers and community-based out-patient clinics (CBOCs). In addition, readjustment counseling services are available for veterans and their families at 209 Vet Centers across the nation.

The mental health website is [www.mentalhealth.va.gov](http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov)

Links there can be found on topics like:

- Substance Use, Abuse Drug Policy
- Veteran Recovery
- Homelessness
- Women Veterans
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- Vocation rehabilitation
- Readjustment Counseling Services
- Eligibility
- Returning Veterans Fact Sheet and
- More

## Federal Legislative Update on Mental Health Sept. 2008

**Women Veterans Health Care Improvement Act** (House Bill HR4107,1 and Senate Bill S.2799.1S). This Legislation was introduced in November 2007 in the House. It is to expand and improve health care services available to women veterans, especially those serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom and includes specific requirements for studies on the impact of serving in these theaters and to study the barriers for women veterans to health care. Also, it outlines improvement and expansion of programs to improve sexual trauma care, pilot programs for child care while women are in treatment in the facilities and counseling for newly separated veterans. It was last acted on in December 2007 and is in the Sub-committee on Military Personnel. The senate version of the bill includes some provisions for care for newborn children. It was last acted on in April 2008 and has been referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

**Public Law 110-110, also called the Joshua Omvig Veterans Suicide Prevention Act** was passed in January 2007 to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to develop and implement a comprehensive program designed to reduce the incidence of suicide among veterans. Among the provisions is the requirement for 24 Hour Mental Health Care, a Hotline outreach and education for veterans and families and a peer support counseling program. In addition, every health assessment a veteran receives from the VA will include a mental health assessment and referral to services if the veteran requests it.

At [www.va.gov/oca/](http://www.va.gov/oca/) the VA's Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs provides links to on-line resources such as:

- Legislation pertaining to veterans
- Significant Federal Regulations of interest to veterans
- Committee Rosters and Pictorial charts and
- Links to Congressional Committee and Member web sites



## Veterans Nursing Homes

The State of North Carolina is proud to offer two full-service, skilled nursing facilities for veterans. One is located adjacent to the VA Medical Center in Fayetteville and the other is on the W. G. Hefner Medical Center campus in Salisbury. Their primary mission is to provide high quality nursing care to veterans, which will improve their quality of life.

At the North Carolina State Veterans Nursing Homes, they know how to meet the special needs of veterans. Dedicated to excellence, their highly skilled professional staff provides exceptional care and activities to enrich individuals. For further information, contact the North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs, Director's Office at **919-733-2832**.

### Each Facility Provides:

- Comfort and security, encourages independence, meets individual needs and emphasizes personal choice.
- Comfortable, spacious accommodations in an attractive environment.
- Care provided by registered nurses, licensed practical nurses and certified nursing assistants under the direction of licensed physicians.
- Registered dietician on staff.
- Experienced social workers to assist veterans and families.
- Veterans Service Officer to assist veterans and families in applying for VA Benefits.
- Licensed by the State of North Carolina and approved for Medicare, Medicaid and third party insurance.
- Complete team of therapists provide physical, occupational and speech therapy within the facility.
- Specially designed therapeutic recreational programs directed by activity personnel on each unit.
- Full range of in-house activities, community outings and programs involving local volunteer groups.
- Special programs throughout the year honoring veterans.
- Hospital care provided by either the VA Medical Centers or local hospitals.

### Eligibility

They serve all qualified North Carolina veterans. The rate of payment is based on the actual cost of care and the individual's ability to pay using available resources.

To be eligible, a veteran must:

- Have served in the Armed Forces for other than training purposes.
- Have been discharged under honorable conditions from the United States Armed Forces:
- Have resided in the State of North Carolina 24 months prior to be date of application.
- Be referred by a licensed physician and be in need of skilled nursing care.

For information about the State Veterans Nursing Homes or assistance with the admission process, please refer to the following:

#### Fayetteville:

**NC State Veterans Home**  
214 Cochran Avenue  
Fayetteville, NC 28301  
Veterans Service Officer: 910-482-4131  
Main Number: 910-482-4131

#### Salisbury

**NC State Veterans Home**  
**W.G. Hefner Medical Center**  
1601 Brenner Avenue, Building #10  
Salisbury, NC 28145  
Veterans Service Officer: 704-638-4200 Ext. 204  
Admission Director: 704-638-4200  
Salisbury - Mailing Address:  
NC State Veterans Home  
P.O. Box 599  
Salisbury, NC 28145



### Marine Corps League Veteran Affairs Volunteer Services VAVS

A great resource for help within the league dealing with special situations in VA Hospitals is our State and National VAVS Officers.



Charles H. Sherlin  
VAVS Service Officer  
17 Overlook Lane  
Asheville, NC 28803  
828-684-1612  
csherlin@bellsouth.net



James Luther  
VAVS Service Officer  
8 Elm St.  
Thomasville, NC 27360  
336-848-4218  
james.luther@med.va.gov



## Burial Benefits for Veterans

### North Carolina State Veterans Cemetery Program

The following North Carolina State Veterans Cemetery Program requirements and operations information is written in general terms and should not be regarded nor taken as law or official regulation. The official law and rules guiding the State Veterans Cemetery Program is established under Article 8A, Chapter 65, General Statutes of North Carolina.

A free burial plot is provided at a North Carolina State Veterans Cemetery for eligible North Carolina veterans and their legal spouse (and dependents under certain conditions). Veterans must be discharged under honorable conditions and meet certain residency requirements.

### Eligibility

#### • A Qualified Veteran

Any former member of the U.S. Armed Forces whose service on active duty, other than for training, was terminated under honorable conditions. A veteran who is entitled to retired pay for non-regular service (i.e., service in the Reserve Components or Army or Air National Guard) or a veteran who would have been entitled to retired pay for non-regular service, but for the fact that the person was under 60 years old.

#### • North Carolina Resident

Only those veterans who are legal residents of North Carolina (1) at the time of death, (2) for a period of at least 10 years, or (3) at the time the veteran entered the Armed Forces of the United States are eligible for interment.

#### • Dependent(s)

The spouse, widow or widower of a qualified veteran or a minor child who is unmarried and dependent on the qualified veteran at the time of death. For purposes of definition, a "minor child" includes a child under 21 years of age or under 23 years of age if pursuing a course of instruction at an educational institution approved by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. In addition, an unmarried adult child of a qualified veteran who became permanently incapable of self-support because of a physical or mental disability before attaining the age of 18 years is also eligible.

### Proof of Eligibility

Documentary evidence is required to provide proof and substantiate military service, residence, marriage and children as well as dependency disability. It is the responsibility of the veteran, his survivors or legal representative to furnish any evidence necessary to establish the eligibility of the veteran or the family member before interment in a North Carolina State Veterans Cemetery can be approved and accomplished.

### Proof of Military Service

The primary document used to verify honorable military service is the DD Form 214. The DD Form 214 is more commonly called a discharge or "Report of Separation from Active Duty." Other forms of proof may be acceptable pending verification. Veterans who are unable to locate their DD Form 214 should contact the local veteran's office or the nearest state veterans service office for assistance in obtaining a replacement copy.

### North Carolina Residency

Verification of residence at time of entry into military service is documented on the DD Form 214. Residence at time of death and 10-year residency can be verified by North Carolina tax records, voter registration, personal income tax or property tax, employment or educational records, official records from U.S. government, state or municipal agencies.

### Dependents

The primary source for verification of a spouse is a marriage certificate. Dependent children may be verified by a birth certificate or other legal documents, such as adoption papers.

### Proof of Disability of an Adult Dependent

A letter is required from the dependent's physician certifying the dependent became permanently incapable of self-support because of a physical or mental disability before attaining the age of 18 years. Medical records and other documents will be considered only as supporting or corroborating documents.

### General Information

There is no charge for the gravesite or necessary interment services for a qualified veteran. There is however, a burial fee for an eligible spouse or family member.

Only government furnished headstones will be authorized for use in State Veterans cemeteries. There is no charge for installing the headstones. Government headstones are ordered from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs after consulting with the surviving family members.

Graveside services are not permitted. Committal services will be held in the chapel or at a committal shelter on the cemetery grounds. Family members may return to the gravesite after the burial of the casket or urn is complete and the area is cleared of all equipment and materials.

Three state veterans cemeteries are in operation. They are located in Black Mountain (Buncombe County), Jacksonville (Onslow County) and Spring Lake (Cumberland County). For details, consult a cemetery superintendent.

## CEMETERIES

### State Cemeteries

#### SANDHILLS VETERANS CEMETERY

400 Murchison Rd.  
Spring Lake, NC 28390  
910-436-5630  
Robert Cox, Cemetery Super  
[sandhillvetscemetery@ec.rr.com](mailto:sandhillvetscemetery@ec.rr.com)

#### JACKSONVILLE VETERANS CEMETERY

110 Montford Point Road  
Jacksonville, NC 28541  
910-347-4550  
Ronnie Taylor, Cemetery Super  
[coastalvetscemetery@ec.rr.com](mailto:coastalvetscemetery@ec.rr.com)

#### WESTERN CAROLINA VETERANS CEMETERY

962 Old US Hwy 70  
Black Mountain, NC 28711  
828-669-0684  
J. D. Whisnant  
[jdwhisnant@ec.rr.com](mailto:jdwhisnant@ec.rr.com)

### National Cemetery Administration Atlanta Memorial Service Network

<http://www.cem.va.gov/>

New Bern National Cemetery	1711 National Avenue New Bern, NC 28560	(252) 637-2912
Raleigh National Cemetery	501 Rock Quarry Road Raleigh, NC 27610	(252) 637-2912
Salisbury National Cemetery	501 Statesville Boulevard Salisbury, NC 28144	(704) 636-2661
Wilmington National Cemetery	2011 Market Street	



## Marine Corps Funeral Honors Request

### CONTACT:

Headquarters of the Marine Corps, Casualty Branch  
Funeral Honors Request  
1-866-826-3628

Have the following ready when you call

- Funeral Directors Name
- Funeral Home Phone
- The Fallen Marines Last Name
- Date of the Funeral

Note: No Fax Request

Leave this information on the answering machine and they will return your call.

Note: POW/MIA or current operations such as Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom call 1-800-847-1597, select Option #1

## Requesting Replacement of Service Awards

Requests for the issuance or replacement of military service medals, decorations, and awards should be directed to the specific branch of the military in which the veteran served. However, for Air Force (including Army Air Corps) and Army personnel, the National Personnel Records Center will verify the awards to which a veteran is entitled and forward the request with the verification to the appropriate service department for issuance of the medals.

The eVetRecs is preferred for requesting medals and awards. Provide as much information as possible in the comments field. Should you prefer to submit your request using a SF180 then provide as much information as possible and send the form to the appropriate address from the following tables for the Marine Corps:

### *Marines: Where to write for medals*

Navy Personnel Command  
Liaison Office Room 5409  
9700 Page Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

### *Where medals are mailed from*

Navy Personnel Command  
Liaison Office Room 5409  
9700 Page Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

### *Where to write in case of a problem or an appeal*

Commandant of the Marine Corps  
Military Awards Branch (MMMA)  
3280 Russell Road  
Quantico VA 22134-5100

Generally, there is no charge for medal or award replacements. The length of time to receive a response or your medals and awards varies depending upon the branch of service sending the medals.

## Directory of Marine Corps League Detachments

### **Aberdeen .....Sandhills Area Det. #1001**

Commandant Murphy G. Ragsdale, PO Box 1371, Laurinberg, NC 28353  
Phone 910 276-6660, murphygragsdale@carolina.net

### **Albemarle .....Stanly County Det. #1021**

Commandant William T. Pressley, PO Box 1111, Albemarle, NC 28001  
Adjutant Robert D. Jadlocki, PO Box 1111, Albemarle, NC 28001  
704 982-9719, jadlord@vnet.net

### **Asheboro .....Cpl Johnny A. Williamson Det. #1165**

Commandant William Beeson, 5566 Branson Davis Rd., Sophia, NC 27350  
Phone 336 498-6377 rwelborn5@triad.rr.com

### **Asheville .....Blue Ridge Det. #848**

Commandant T. Hilliard Staton, PO Box 1113, Mountain Home, NC 28758-1113 Phone 828 692-8729 fourquartets@bellsouth.net

### **Burlington .....LCpl Alan D. Lam Det. #1209**

Commandant Mark Grimley, PO Box 65, Elon, NC 27244  
marinecorpsmark@yahoo.com  
Adjutant John Boone, 1041 Ivey Rd., Graham NC 27253  
336 229-9696 jboone7@triad.rr.com

### **Calabash .....James E. Hobart Det. #1036**

Commandant Ralph Lilley, 149 Ravensside Dr. NW, Calabash, NC 28467  
Phone 910 287-3519

### **Chapel Hills .....forming**

### **Charlotte .....Charlotte Det. #750**

Commandant Jim Simpson, 11645 Reed Mine Rd., Midland, NC 28107  
704 888-4601, jimmysimpson@bellsouth.net

### **Clayton .....Carry-On Det. #1236**

Commandant Bob Learn, 58 Santa Gertrudis Dr., Clayton, NC 27520  
919 934-4723, rlearn@nc.rr.com

### **Concord .....Cabarrus Det. #1175**

Commandant Joseph C. Hunter, 51 Union St South, Concord, NC 28025-5009 phone 704 786-8211, jchunter40@aol.com

### **Durham .....Eno River Det. #872**

Commandant Larry Hall, 1526 Southwood Dr., Durham, NC 27707  
919 419-8015, nclaw8823@aol.com

### **Edenton .....Albemarle Det. #1258**

Commandant Paul Peterson, 413 Bay Point Dr., Edenton, NC 27932  
252 482-5633, pdpate413@mchsi.com

### **Fayetteville .....Shawn Kniseley Det. #983**

Commandant Andrejs Bedelis, PO Box 9422, Fayetteville, NC 28311  
910 423-0664, warlord3xray@earthlink.net

### **Franklin .....Smoky Mountain Det. #973**

Commandant Gregory Hunt, 195 Watauga St., Franklin, NC 28734  
828 342-2024, nativewarrior@semperfi.us

### **Gastonia .....Gen. Raymond G. Davis Det. #1162**

Commandant Bud Strope, PO Box 3216, Gastonia, NC 28052  
704-451-2682, budstrope@bellsouth.net

### **Greensboro .....Greater Greensboro Det. #260**

Commandant Danny Bracken, 6716 Lake Brandt Road, Summerfield, NC 27358 phone 336 399-1017, dfbracken@bellsouth.net

### **Greenville .....Down East Det. #1186**

Commandant Ronald Cooper Sr., 2617 Church Street, Winterville, NC 28590 phone 252 902-2668

### **Havelock .....Cherry Point Det. #1067**

Commandant Richard M. Young, 404 New Bern Ave., New Bern, NC 28560  
phone 910 638-9110, ryoung12@ec.rr.com

### **Hickory .....Catawba Valley Det. #1163**

Commandant Gregory Bridges, 149 Brookwood Ln., Taylorsville, NC 28681  
phone 828 495-2491, rocky386@embarqmail.com



**High Point .....PFC Terry C. Smith Det. #1193**

Commandant Tim Gullodge, 404 Janice Dr., High Point, NC 27263.  
336 847-2135c, 336 434-2857h, TCSmithMCL@aol.com

**Hillsborough ....Orange County Regulators Det. #1292**

Commandant Jesse Torres, 1114 Ranger Dr., Hillsborough, NC 27278  
phone 919 489-8632 torres1144@aol.com

**Huntersville/Cornelius .....PFC Bruce Larson Det. #1242**

Commandant Andrew Andretta, 10311 Watoga Way, Cornelius, NC  
28031 phone 704 892-0151 andretta.a@gmail.com

**Jacksonville .....Onslow County Det. #262**

Commandant Michael Rooney, 103 Deerfield Rd., Jacksonville NC 28540  
phone 910 340-6262(cell) 910 938-3515 (home) MRooney@ec.rr.com

**Kinston .....John V. Berg Det. #257**

Commandant Robert Hill, PO Box 462, Pink Hill, NC 28572  
252 568-2000

**Kitty Hawk .....Outer Banks Det. #1264**

Commandant Doug Wendling, 581 Hunt Club Dr., Corolla, NC 27927-  
2204 phone 252 457-0409, wendling.d@obxmarines.com

**Lenoir .....John E. Ferguson Det. #1208**

Commandant W. David Martin, PO Box 842, Lenoir, NC 28645  
828 757-4695 brotherdave1313@yahoo.com

**Lewisville .....forming**

**Lexington .....Davidson County Det. #1103**

Commandant Ed White, 804 Ray Street, Thomasville, NC 27360  
336 472-8759, elwhite@northstate.net

**Lincolnton .....Capt Jeb F. Seagle Det. #1265**

Commandant Hank Kaczmarek, 406 Shoal Road, Lincolnton, NC 28092  
phone 704 276-1563, kaczmarek@charter.net

**Monroe .....PFC Charles D. Hare Det. #934**

Commandant Bob Griffin III, 4414 Rollingwood La., Monroe, NC 28117  
Adjutant Lelia Ande Funderburk, 4009 Concord Highway, Monroe, NC  
28110 phone 704 291-9601

**Morehead City .....forming**

**Morganton .....Table Rock Det. #1197**

Commandant Hugh "Bob" Vess, PO Box 576, Morganton, NC 28655  
828-437-4002, bvess67@yahoo.com

**Murphy .....Cherokee Det. #1011**

Commandant Harley Hensley Jr., PO Box 1652, Murphy, NC 28906  
828-321-4479, rmhensley@webworkz.com

**N. Wilkesboro .....Brushy Mountain Det. #1187**

Commandant Raymond Handy, 514 Rock Creek Rd., N. Wilkesboro, NC  
28659 phone 366 696-2832 cplmc.handy@yahoo.com

**Raleigh .....Tar Heel Det. #733**

Commandant Richard B. Patrick, 3229 Doulton Lane, Fuquay-Varina, NC  
27526 phone 919 567-2548, RichBPatrick@yahoo.com

**Roanoke Rapids .....Roanoke Rapids Det. #1024**

Commandant George Willis, 303 Old Gaston Ext, Gaston, NC 27832  
252 535-2481

**Rockingham .....Richmond Leathernecks Det. #1252**

Commandant Bill Rohleder, 105 Woodside Drive, Rockingham, NC  
28379 phone 910 997-2298

**Rockwell .....Rockwell Det. #789**

CONTACT Jim Tant, 704 841-0745

**Rocky Mount .....Tri-County Det. #1262**

Commandant Vincent J. Tesoro, 612 S. Taylor St., Rocky Mount, NC  
27803 phone 252 212-5525 (h) 252 469-0515 (c) oroset@juno.com

**Salisbury .....Gen A. Hal Turnage Det. #1096**

Commandant, Hansel Bumgarner, 210 Carolina Blvd., Salisbury, NC  
28348 phone 704 633-6802 hambone@webkorner.com

**Sanford .....Sanford Det. #1223**

Commandant Robert N. McGehee, 319 Rhynewood Drive, Sanford, NC  
27330 phone 919 478-6280, kf4ofn@charter.net

**Shalotte .....Central Brunswick County Det. #1005**

Commandant Ralph C. Slaughter, 630 Live Oak Drive SW, Sunset Beach, NC  
28468 phone 910 579-3345

**Shelby .....NC Foothills Det. #1164**

Commandant Danny F. Harrill, 1221 Maple Sprgs. Ch. Rd., Shelby, NC 28152  
phone 704 487-7545, harrillcrew@netzero.net

**Sparta .....Walter Frank Osbourne Jr. Det #1298**

Commandant Charles Pugh, Box 3, Roaring Gap, NC 28668-0003  
336 363-2495

**Spindale .....Cpl Chris S. Ebert Det. #1221**

Commandant Robert P. Goulette, 120 Cherryview St., Forest city, NC 28403  
phone 828 248-9850 goulettea@bellsouth.net

**Spruce Pine .....Mt. Mitchell Det. #1266**

Commandant Daniel Whetstone, 1890 Arbuckle Road, Burnsville, NC 28714  
phone 828 675-5169

**Swansboro .....forming**

**Sylva .....Sgt Doug Myers Det. #1222**

Commandant Ronald Putnam, 3881 Dutch Cove Rd., Canton, NC 28714.  
Office 828 452-6634, Home, 828 648-8904 rputman@haywoodnc.net

**Surry County Det. (forming)**

Interim Commandant Troy Poindexter, 233 Mountain View Rd., Mt. Airy,  
NC 27030 phone 336 789-7054, tpoindexter@RUJA.net

**Rocky Mount .....Iredell Co. Det. #1097**

Commandant Dick Camery, 1269 Fern Hill Rd., Mooresville, NC 28117  
704 528-9445 dcamery@bellsouth.net

**Troutman .....Iredell County 1097**

**Troy .....forming**

**Wadesboro .....forming**

**Wake Forest .....Air, Land NC Det. #1257**

Commandant Joe Goodrow 7304 Valley Cross Cir., Raleigh, NC 27615  
(919) 847-4989 goodrowj@mindspring.com

**Waynesville .....forming**

**Wentworth .....PFC Jerry L. McKinney Det. #1232**

Commandant Wayne Carter, 1007 Williams St., Eden, NC 27288  
336 623-5469

**Whiteville .....Columbus County Det. #1279**

Commandant Julian Priest, 138 Shelly's Lane, Whiteville, NC 28472  
910 647-0407 julian4355@aol.com

**Wilmington .....Cape Fear Det. #1070**

Commandant John P. Kucan, Jr, 314 Bobby Jones Drive., Wilmington, NC  
28412 phone 910 790-8797, jrkucan@charter.net

**Wilson .....Gold Leaf 1276**

**Winston-Salem .....Percy John Fulton Det. #1075**

Commandant Brett Duffey, 4755 Country Club Rd., Apt. 101-A, Winston-  
Salem, NC 27104 phone 336 245-3048 bduffey@triad.rr.com

**Watauga-Mountaineer Det. (forming)**

Commandant Dennis Ray, 122 Old Barn Rd., Vilas, NC 28692  
828 964-8541 (cell)





HOUSE BILL 1412 RATIFIED BILL

AN ACT to Clarify veterans preference with State departments, agencies, and institutions.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 128-15 reads as rewritten:

**§ 12815. Employment preference for veterans and their spouses or surviving spouses.**

(a) It shall be the policy of the State of North Carolina that, in appreciation for their service to this State and this country during a period of war, and in recognition of the time and advantage lost toward the pursuit of a civilian career, veterans shall be granted preference in employment with every State department, agency, and institution.

(b) As used in this section:

(1) "A period of war" includes World War I (April 16, 1917, through November 11, 1918), World War II (December 7, 1941, through December 31, 1946), the Korean Conflict (June 27, 1950, through January 31, 1955), the period of time between January 31, 1955, and the end of the hostilities in Vietnam (May 7, 1975), or any other campaign, expedition, or engagement for which a campaign badge or medal is authorized by the United States Department of Defense.

(2) "Veteran" means a person who served in the Armed Forces of the United States on active duty, for reasons other than training, and has been discharged under other than dishonorable conditions.

(3) "Eligible veteran" means:

- a. A veteran who served during a period of war; or
- b. The spouse of a disabled veteran; or
- c. The surviving spouse or dependent of a veteran who dies on active duty during a period of war either directly or indirectly as the result of such service; or
- d. A veteran who suffered a disabling injury for service related reasons during peacetime; or
- e. The spouse of a veteran described in subdivision d. of this subsection; or
- f. The surviving spouse or dependent of a person who served in the Armed Forces of the United States on active duty, for reasons other than training, who dies for service related reasons during peacetime.

(c) Hereafter, in all evaluations of applicants for positions with this State or any of its departments, institutions or agencies, a preference shall be awarded to all eligible veterans who are citizens of the State and who served the State or the United States honorably in either the army, navy, marine corps, nurses' corps, air corps, air force, coast guard, or any of the armed services during a period of war. This preference applies to initial employment with the State and extends to other employment events including subsequent hirings, promotions, reassignments, and horizontal transfers.

(d) The provisions of this section shall be subject to the provisions of Article I of Chapter 165 of the General Statutes, and Parts 13 and 19 of Article 9 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes."

SECTION 2. G.S. 126-82 reads as rewritten:

**§ 126-82. State Personnel Commission to provide for preference.**

(a) The State Personnel Commission shall provide that in evaluating the qualifications of an eligible veteran against the minimum requirements for obtaining a position, credit shall be given for all military service training or schooling and experience that bears a reasonable and functional relationship to the knowledge, skills, and abilities required for the position. This preference applies to initial employment with the State and extends to other employment events including subsequent hirings, promotions, reassignments, and horizontal transfers.

(b) The State Personnel Commission shall provide that if an eligible veteran has met the minimum requirements for the position, after receiving experience credit under subsection (a) of this section, he shall receive experience credit as determined by the Commission for additional related and unrelated military service. This preference applies to initial employment with the State and extends to other employment events including subsequent hirings, promotions, reassignments, and horizontal transfers.

(c) The State Personnel Commission may provide that in reduction in force situations where seniority or years of service is one of the considerations for retention, an eligible veteran shall be accorded credit for military service.

(d) Any eligible veteran who has reason to believe that he or she did not receive a veteran's preference in accordance with the provisions of this Article or rules adopted under it may appeal directly to the State Personnel Commission.

(e) The willful failure of any employee subject to the provisions of Article 8 of this Chapter to comply with the provisions of this Article or rules adopted under it constitutes personal misconduct in accordance with the provisions and promulgated rules of this Chapter, including those for suspension, demotion, or dismissal."

SECTION 3. The State Personnel Commission and State agencies, departments, and institutions shall adopt rules to implement this act.

SECTION 4. This act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 16th day of July, 2007.





# THE 87TH MARINE CORPS LEAGUE NATIONAL CONVENTION

AUGUST 2010

KOURY CONVENTION CENTER

GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

A TRIBUTE TO GENERAL JOHN A. LEJEUNE

