



OCTOBER 2025, Issue 14 NEVADA AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY NEWS

Happy October Holidays and Observances

- October 12 – Columbus Day
- October 13 – US Navy Birthday
- October 26 – National Day of the Deployed
- October 31 – Happy Halloween





We are deeply saddened to announce the passing of our Immediate Past President, Fred Doten.

Frederick S. Doten (Dept of Nevada), died September 21, 2025 at the age of 87. War Army Veteran with 54 continuous years of membership.

A Veteran and graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, Fred later carried his dedication to excellence into every part of his life. He was a proud Rotarian, longtime member of the Laughlin Town Advisory Board, and a leader within the American Legion, serving as National Historian and Past Commander of Post 60. His leadership and service will never be forgotten. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family and honor his lasting legacy in Laughlin and beyond.

Dept C&Y Chmn 7-16-2017 to 7-15-2018; 7-11-2019 to 6-27-2021

Dept Historian 6-23-2013 to 6-27-2021

Dept Media & Communications Chmn 6-23-2014 to 6-27-2021

Natl 100th Anniversary Committee Ex-Officio Memb 2018 to 2019

Natl Americanism Council Memb 2022 to 2024

Natl Distinguished Guests Committee Vice Chmn 2011 to 2013

Natl Historian 2018 to 2019

Natl Media & Communications Council Memb 2014 to 8-30-2018

Natl Security Council Memb 2013 to 2014

For God and Country

Pam Walker

Department Commander



Department Auxiliary President

Greetings Members,

August 23rd – 28th I attended the ALA National Convention. It was an awesome Convention. I reconnected with many and met many new people.

My husband and I headed out on a much-needed long vacation August 9th in our RV and returned to Las Vegas September 28th. We logged 4,194 miles and visited 11 States. It's good to be home.

I'm looking forward to hearing about and receiving flyers for your upcoming events in the next 3 months and I will try to attend as many as I can.

For God and Country,
Charmaine Meana
ALA Department President
AL Webmaster/Newsletter
charnvaux@gmail.com

"American Legion Family - Be the Team!"



The Department of Nevada would like to Welcome our new AL Adjutant Randy Connors.

Randy Connors is the new Adjutant for the Department of Nevada. He was born in Deer Lodge, Montana and raised in Great Falls. He attended public school grades K - 12. While in high school, Randy attended the 1975 session of Montana Boys State and he played American Legion Baseball for the Great Falls Electrics. Randy graduated from Montana State University and then applied to Air Force Officer Training School. After completing OTS, he graduated from Undergraduate Navigator Training, Electronic Warfare Training, B-52D Combat Crew Training and then served as an Electronic Warfare Officer (EWO) on B-52D and B52G aircraft. His initial assignment was at Andersen AFB, Guam. He was then assigned to Grand Forks AFB, North Dakota. During this assignment he became an Instructor EWO, then was selected to serve as a Standardization Evaluator EWO. Randy then served as a flightline and academic instructor at Castle AFB, CA. At Castle AFB, Randy obtained a master's degree in human resource management. While at Castle AFB, Randy volunteered to crew missions for Operation Desert Shield and later flew seven combat missions during Operation Desert Storm. Upon return, Randy then assigned to the flight scheduler's office to schedule B-52 training missions. He separated as a captain in 1992 and was later promoted to major in the Individual Ready Reserve.

After serving in the Air Force, Randy initially worked in management and human resources positions for Mervyns Department Stores, Circus Circus Enterprises, and The Home Depot. In 2004, Randy found employment as a Geospatial Information Systems professional with Michael Baker International, (MBI) a world-wide engineering firm. At MBI, Randy first served as a Human Resources Specialist, then trained and worked as a GIS Analyst, and then later became a Certificated FAA Part 107 UAV operator. Randy retired after 21 years with MBI.

Randy became a member of Duby Reid American Legion Post 30, Sparks, Nevada in 2012 after being introduced to the post by his WWII veteran father-in-law Valdo Renucci. Since then, he has served Post 30 as the adjutant, building manager, finance officer, and commander. He has also held positions as District Vice Commander and Adjutant. He has actively worked with the JROTC students of Sparks High School on many community service projects at Post 30 including clean up details and colors presentations at post dinners. He was the post representative for JROTC Awards ceremonies and participated in Nevada Boys State as co-chair. He coordinated three Eagle Scout projects. Recently, Randy managed a project to install pavers in the front entryway of the building. For many years, Randy has worked with The Home Depot to obtain a grant to help the post with badly needed renovations and repair work. Finally, Post 30 secured a grant from The Home Depot Foundation for \$20,000. The money will go to replace the current vinyl tile flooring, kitchen appliances, toilets and possibly interior lighting. Currently, Randy continues to assist with various Post 30 building management duties, local JROTC programs, and Nevada Boys State. Randy is very enthusiastic about becoming Adjutant for the Department of Nevada and hoping to match the accomplishments and standards set by the previous Adjutant Lionel Motta.

The American Legion has been a staunch supporter for the children and youth of our nation since its founding in 1919.

The American Legion's Commission on Children & Youth manages a pillar of service guided by three main objectives: to strengthen the family unit; to support quality organizations that provide services for children and youth; and to provide communities with well-rounded programs that meet the physical, educational, emotional and spiritual needs of young people. The commission works to provide hope for children who face health, safety, discipline or home-life challenges and provides opportunities for young people to succeed.

The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation provides more than \$500,000 in grants to nonprofit organizations each year that work to improve the lives of young people. These grants have aided organ-donor campaigns, supported efforts to help military children cope with deployment or loss of a parent, and funded projects that increased public awareness of Huntington's Disease, autism, Reyes Syndrome, meningitis, spina bifida, diabetes, cancer and other conditions.

The Commission on Children & Youth has focused recent attention on several important national programs, including the Children's Miracle Network, Ronald McDonald House Charities, Special Olympics, youth suicide prevention, Halloween safety, Family Support Network and Temporary Financial Assistance for families of the deployed, and Operation: Military Kids, among others.

The American Legion has been a staunch supporter for the children and youth of our nation since its founding in 1919. The commitment continues today for the National Commission on Children & Youth, as it seeks to improve the well-being of all children. The key to the future of a free and prosperous country, knows every generation of veterans, is held by the children and youth of today. The Legion strongly supports traditional family values, assistance for at-risk children and activities that promote their healthy and wholesome development. While there is no way of knowing what issues will face our youth tomorrow, our survival may well depend on the quality of care, education and training that we, as parents and citizens, provide for young people today.

The American Legion's Children & Youth pillar includes positions on:

Child Pornography. The Legion opposes any attempts to weaken U.S. laws governing production, sale and distribution of pornographic materials.

Catastrophic Illness. The American Legion supports enacting legislation to financially assist families facing catastrophic illness of a child.

Intellectual Disabilities. The American Legion supports continuing research, and early intervention efforts, to prevent intellectual disabilities, to include research on the development and function of the nervous system, fetal treatments and gene therapy to correct abnormalities produced by defective genes, and early intervention programs with high-risk infants and children.

Immunization for Needy Children. The Legion urges federal funding for state and local health agencies to ensure that indigent children are afforded the opportunity to receive needed vaccines and treatments.

Family Integrity. The Legion promotes the family as the cornerstone of society and supports National Family Week in November. The Legion further recognizes that the natural family is the fundamental unit, inscribed in human nature and centered on the voluntary union of a man and woman in a lifelong covenant of marriage.

Media Violence. The American Legion supports appropriate state and federal legislation to restrict the excessive use of violence, vulgarity and immoral expressions in movies, television programs, news, video games and the Internet.

Drug Abuse. The American Legion fully supports adequate funding for all border, state, federal and military drug-trafficking prevention programs to keep illegal substances from reaching our nation's young people.

Child Sexual Exploitation. The American Legion supports appropriate legislation aimed at the prevention, investigation and prosecution of child sexual exploitation and seeks to empower the public to take immediate and direct action to enforce a zero-tolerance policy on the problem.

Department Sgt-At-Arms

Lionel Motta

The logo for the American Legion, featuring a stylized American flag with red and white stripes to the left of the words "AMERICAN LEGION" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.The logo for "Be The One", featuring the words "BE THE ONE" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The word "THE" is smaller and colored red, positioned between "BE" and "ONE".

We had our 1st District meeting on August 9th at the White Pine Post 3 in Ely, Nevada. We had a wonderful turnout with, in person members and representatives on the Zoom link. Opening ceremony was conducted by Commander Curto, thank you for a perfect opening (having taken the Tuesday Evening on how to run a Post meeting and the presenter stressing how important a consistent ceremony sets the tone for the entire meeting). We had our largest turnout for a District meeting that I can remember, (the challenge was for the % of the District that attended a District meeting so I can say that we had 17 members attend with a 7.91% of the District participating). In attendance was two Past Department Commanders (Brenda Horton and Bob Terhune). Our next two District meeting will be totally by Zoom.

We discussed items such as Membership (stressing that retention should be the foremost and then recruitment, 2nd Vice Courtwright showed that he carries a membership application everywhere he goes). Constitution and By-Laws being updated since 2020 (Covid shutdown) to allow for advanced technology to conduct Post business. CPR's that June was the time to begin tracking for your individual Post CPR for 2025-26. Department Commander Walker will continue supporting Fisher House and Veteran's Guest Home. Encouraged every Post to promote complete transparency, this is to include having an agenda out to every Post member prior to the meeting, forwarding on all emails from Department and District to every Post member (we as leadership can never assume [everyone knows that means] what is important to a Post member). Having a calendar of Post events to District and then the District will create a Master calendar of all activities of every Post to allow every member within the District the knowledge of what is going on in our area of Nevada. During the Good of the American Legion (Adjutant Horton) brought up the intent to have monthly or more training through Zoom on a number of different topics to further the ability to preform the duties of the offices and performance within the Post to the highest degree.

It was a very good meeting with socializing after. It was encouraging to witness the sharing of information.

For the month of September, the Posts have been busy getting ready for the year with membership drives, with Post 32 already achieving a 100% to the membership goal. We had a Special meeting to discuss several different topics with them all being centered around complete transparency. Budgets (this being your road map on how you plan on utilizing Post funds) and Audits (to meet legal and regulatory requirements while identifying potential financial risks) and the importance of them (complete and total transparency). Another important topic was Mentorship and how those that are elected to different positions should always have someone/s that they can call for advice. Also, those that have been in leadership roles should always reach out and offer what they have learned so the same mistakes are not made over and over again. Membership was discussed in that we should be ready to discuss the American Legion at all times and that by adding another member even if it is not for your Post makes everyone stronger. Zoom meetings were discussed with a plan to have a monthly Zoom Training, Post Commanders Zoom Round Table Meetings, 1st Vice Membership Zoom Meetings... you get the idea. This is all being done to help each Post and the District feel more connected even with the total area the District covers being is 39,807 square miles

Lincoln Litchfield
District 3 Commander

Hello my fellow Legionnaires!

I would like to say thank you to everyone who supported me as Department Commander for 2024/2025. It was an honor to serve you. I hope my officers and I have served you well.

I am going to wrap up the year with activities as Department Commander. In May, Department Detachment Commander Horton, District Commander Litchfield, and I put 88 flags on the Courthouse lawn in Elko. On Memorial Day, I was invited to speak at the Carlin Cemetery for Post 32. I also attended the Post 32 meeting and swore in the new officers. Our District 3 meeting was at the end of May and was appointed Adjutant.

In June, Shawn and I attended the District 4 meeting and swore in their new officers. I attended an event to honor our Veterans at Highland Manor put on by NDVS also attended by the Department 2nd Vice Commander and the District 3 Commander. Shawn and I helped Post 32 clean up the Maidens Trail Cemetery. Great Basin College hosted the Veterans Outreach Fair in Elko which was attended by the Detachment Commander, the Department 2nd Vice Commander, the District 3 Commander and myself. The end of June, was our Department Convention at Post 16. It was sooo awesome. A great time was had by all. In attendance was Jay Bowen, Gary Leach, and Doc Ballard. It was bitter sweet ending to a great year as your Commander.

On the Fourth of July, the District 3 Commander, the Department 2nd Vice Commander and I attended a Pow Wow in Owyhee and recruited eight members. The end of August, Shawn and I as well as other Delegates from Nevada attended the National Convention in Tampa. Hot and humid! What a change of weather compared to Elko!

With all of this free time that I have now, I don't know what to do with myself. Lol. Rest, get projects done around the house and outside. Seems odd that I made it to 64 years of age in September. It doesn't seem possible that Shawn and I have been here 10 years and spent all of that time serving The American Legion in one way or another. The American Legion is one organization worth serving in. Our Veterans Matter! Every Voice Matters!

Always in Service
Brenda Horton
Jr PDC
District 3 Adjutant

Putting flags on the courthouse lawn. Memorial Day



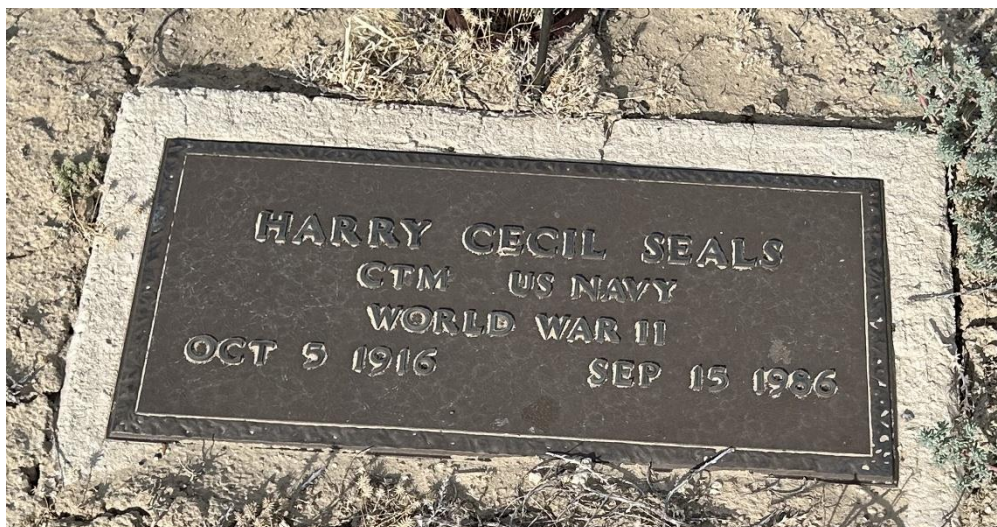
Post 32 Installation of Officers and District 3 Installation of Officers



Highland Manor



Maidens Grave Cemetery



Veterans Outreach Fair

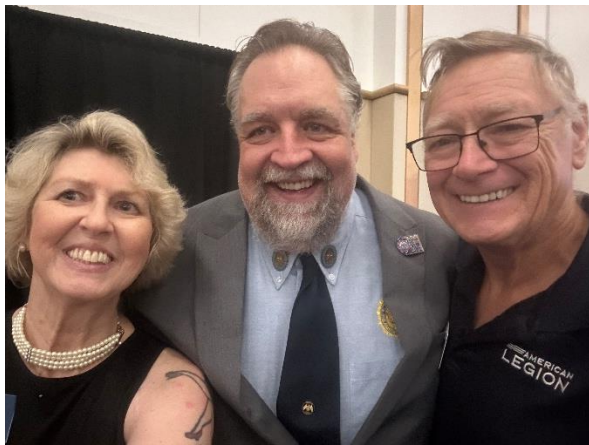


Department Convention; can't fit all of the pics



National Convention

District 3, Adjutant, cont.



RSVP is still open. Respond to Eileen Maurice on Flyer. Don't Miss out!!!

YOU'RE INVITED!

INTER-POST VETERANS GATHERING 2025



OCTOBER 17-19, 2025

AMERICAN LEGION POST 10

1905 H ST, LAS VEGAS, NV 89106

RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 1, 2025

EILEEN MAURICE

(860) 391-3267

DDIAMONDZ4U@YAHOO.COM

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING
YOU TO LAS VEGAS!**



SALUTING SERVICE, STRENGTHENING BONDS

Inter-Post Visitation Itinerary

Friday, October 17, 2025 – Sunday, October 19, 2025

Hosted by:

Peter Gunn American Legion Post 10

1905 H Street, Las Vegas, NV 89106

Thursday, October 16, 2025 – Post 10 & Auxiliary Volunteers (Wear Blue Shirts)

Evening Activities –

Meet & greet for early arrivals,
Kitchen open **3:00 PM – 8:00 PM**,
Auxiliary Raffle tickets available.

Friday, October 17, 2025 – Post 10 & Auxiliary Volunteers (Wear Red Shirts)

12:00 PM – 4:00 PM – Welcome Committee:

Sign-in for out-of-town members/guests (Membership Card/ID required).

- Wristbands are issued for weekend entry, breakfast, and dinner.

In-town members bring 2025 membership cards (No wristbands).

11:00 AM – 10:00 PM – Kitchen opens for purchase.

12:00 PM – 4:00 PM – Happy Hour Meet & Greet with **appetizers** for members and guests.

12:00 PM – 5:00 PM – Auxiliary raffles.

Evening Events

7:00 PM – Veterans Toast by Commander Jeffrey Jones or 1st Vice Jimmy Yerger.

12:00 PM – 11:00 PM – Entertainment & DJs.

Saturday, October 18, 2025 – Post 10 Volunteers (Wear Blue) | Auxiliary Volunteers (Wear Purple)

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM – Welcome Committee: Sign-in for out-of-town members/guests. Wristbands for weekend entry, breakfast, and dinner.

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM – Free Continental Breakfast, Auxiliary raffles, and vendors open.

11:00 AM – 3:00 PM – Domino Tournament & Bid Whist Tournament (Pool Room).

12:00 PM – 3:00 PM – Entertainment & DJs.

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM – Dinner service.

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM – Evening Program Begins (Colors: Black & White). Legionnaires, please wear your covers.

Sunday, October 19, 2025 – Post 10 & Auxiliary Volunteers (Wear Black)

9:00 AM – 11:30 AM – Sunday breakfast and Auxiliary raffle.

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM – Post Everlasting Memorial Breakfast led by Commander Jeffrey Jones. Names read from the Everlasting Book with brief acknowledgments (2–3 minutes each).

Schedules are subject to change

Hotel Accommodations

Santa Fe Stations Casino

4949 N. Rancho Dr
Las Vegas, NV 89130
866-767-7770
Code-(ACial10)

Reservations must be made by September 23, 2025

Main Street Station Casino

200 N. Main St,
Las Vegas, NV 89106
1-800-465-0711
Code-(AMEJ25C)

Reservations must be made by September 16, 2025



**POST AND UNIT 14
FAMILY NIGHT**

*Hot dogs and a
Patriotic Movie*

Bring a hot dog topping, side, or dessert to share!



**OCTOBER 12
SUNDAY | 3PM- 6PM**

American Legion Post 8
733 Veterans Memorial Dr Las Vegas Nv 89101
RSVP Trishia 725-339-5436 or
Honor4ourvets@gmail.com



*American Legion
Family
Holiday Party*

**50/50
RAFFLE**

**FOOD
AND
FUN!**

**RAFFLE
BASKETS**

**BAR OPEN
FOR
PURCHASES**

**American Legion
Auxiliary Unit 14 Juniors**

**DEC 14 2025
3:00 - 6:00PM
POST 8
733 VETERANS MEMORIAL DR
LAS VEGAS NV 89101
FUNDRAISER FOR GIRLS STATE**

**RSVP Trishia Eubanks
725-339-5436 or
honor4ourvets@gmail.com**

Greeting from Fallon, Nevada. As summer winds down and the crisp air of fall arrives in Northern Nevada, Unit 16 has been busy with community events and meaningful service.

August began with a wonderful joint campout at Lake Lahontan, hosted alongside American Legion Post 16, VFW Post 1002, and the Marine Corps League High Desert Detachment. During the weekend, several members were honored with Quilts of Valor, and all enjoyed the beautiful weather and fellowship.

Unit 16 was also proudly represented by LaRae Sibley and Cheyenne Merritt at Community Day, where nearly 700 children received Back-to-School Goodie Bags. The event was such a success that plans are already underway for next year.

In September, our members supported the 9/11 Ceremony at the Fallon 9/11 Memorial. To help make the event special, Unit 16 baked and decorated more than 300 sugar cookies—complete with plenty of festive sprinkles!

While our service to the community remains strong, we now face a critical need at home. The Legion Hall, which has stood for more than 105 years, requires a new roof. Our Legion Family has worked hard to raise enough funds to cover the roof replacement itself. However, inspections revealed significant asbestos that must be removed before the new roof can be installed. The cost of this remediation will drain the resources of all four entities within our Legion Family.

We are actively applying for grants and seeking donations, but we cannot do this alone. Time is short—we must secure funds quickly to honor our quotes and complete the project before winter sets in.

We humbly ask for your support in helping us preserve our historic Hall, the home where our Legion Family gathers to serve veterans and our community. Every donation, large or small, brings us closer to our goal. Together, we can protect and preserve this cornerstone of service for generations to come.

Kelsey Hurlburt
Unit 16





July 2025 Donation Drive



Thank you to our members and community for your gracious donations

Coming back from the ALA National Convention in Tampa, I am a little exhausted from travel but super motivated for a new season at the Unit level. I came back with a new excitement after learning about all the ALA programs and learning from other ALA members how they do programs and events. It was great to see old friends from different states and to meet new ones. We all have one thing in common, promoting our Units to help veterans and our communities.

As we start off our 2025/2026 year at Unit 40, we are starting to plan fun events and fundraisers. We will be doing our annual fundraiser of Wreaths Across America starting this month, please see the flyer attached.

We will be accepting toy donations from October through December for the Marine's Toys for Tots.

Our first event that we would like to invite everyone to is our Quilts of Valor for our Post 40 members on Sunday, October 12th from 3 pm to 5 pm. This is always a heartwarming event when we get to see each veteran wrapped in a quilt made with love.

For Halloween this year, Unit 40 will be supporting Palm Mortuary's Trunk-or-Treat event on Saturday, October 26th from 5 pm to 7:30 pm. We will be decorating cars and bringing lots of candy to their event.

Our following events will be our Annual Holiday bazaar on Sunday, November 9th from 12 pm to 5pm. Please stop by and get your holiday shopping done. Last year we had 55 booths and as of now several are returning. We also will have a coffee truck and food truck in case you need a snack to keep shopping. The Retriever Rescue and Paws4Luv will be there as well if you are looking to get a special addition to your home. Last year, the rescues loved our event between the foster families they found and the adoptions, they jumped at the chance to come back. Several of our members have vendor tables, so please come out and support this event. If anyone is interested in having a booth the donation is \$30 and the deadline for a booth is Saturday, October 18th just email us at **alabmiunit40events@gmail.com**

As always, the Auxiliary will be cooking up breakfast every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. Come in for some tasty food and take a moment or two to say hello to our guests from Boulder City Veterans Home when they come in.

Victoria Hetey

Unit 40 President

Join Us in Our Mission

Remember ★ Honor ★ Teach



★ **December 14, 2024** ★

National Wreaths Across America Day



**Help American Legion Auxiliary Post 40
honor local heroes!**

Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a
veteran's grave this December at Southern
Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery.

Scan the QR code to make a donation online or
visit www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/NV0088P



#LiveWithPurpose



Join Us In Celebrating

Quilts of Valor

Presented by the American Legion BMI Unit 40

Quilt of Valor
Designs by



Carolyn
Buhlmann

**Oct.
12th**

3-5pm

Quilt Recipients
Jeff Becker
Al Beaning
Kenneth B. Duffy Sr.
Kenneth D. Duffy Jr.
Brian Kosinski
Andrew Lashua
Mike McCrimmon
Barbara Nelson
Jon Sloan

Location:
425 E. Van Wagenen St, Henderson NV 89015

Please RSVP
alabmiunit40events@gmail.com
Open to family and all Legion members

SUN. NOV 9TH

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY HOLIDAY BAZAAR



Lots of Vendor Booths

Local Vendor Booths,
Food Trucks
From 12:00 pm -5:00 pm.



For event or vendor information
please email
alabmiunit40events@gmail.com
Accepting vendors till October 18th



BMI Post 40
425 E. Van Wagenen, Henderson NV 89015

AMERICAN LEGION

What The American Legion Does



Provides cash assistance to needy military and Veteran families with children at home.



Provides volunteer hours and services at VA medical facilities at an estimated annual value of \$20 million.



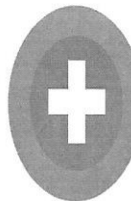
Awards college scholarships to children of post-9/11 Veterans who died on active duty, or have a combined VA disability rating of 50 percent or greater.



Fulfills needs and provides firsthand support for Veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury through a variety of therapeutic programs that are not dependent on prescription drugs.



Distributes urgent cash assistance to Veterans whose homes have been badly damaged or destroyed by natural disasters.



Purchases comfort items and recreational opportunities, from loose-fitting sweat suits for burn victims to amusement park tickets for families of hospitalized military personnel recovering from wounds and illnesses.



Distributes more than \$500,000 a year in grants to organizations that provide support for children in need.



Supports members, Veterans, service members and others with tools to take action when they believe a Veteran is at risk in order to reduce the number of Veteran suicides through the Be The One initiative.



Provides relief, support, shelter, training and compassion for homeless Veterans.



Delivers, free of charge, all U.S. flags for the graves of American military personnel laid to rest at overseas cemeteries.

Thank You for Supporting America's Veterans

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 10, 2025

VA Southern Nevada Healthcare System receives top scores in latest CMS hospital ratings

NORTH LAS VEGAS, Nev. — VA Southern Nevada Healthcare System announced today it has earned a five-star rating as part of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services 2025 hospital quality ratings

CMS's hospital ratings are based on five categories: mortality, safety of care, readmission, patient experience and timely and effective care. A higher star rating, out of 5, indicates better performance on these quality measures

Within the last year, VA Southern Nevada Healthcare System has instituted a comprehensive quality improvement strategy to better serve Veterans. It includes several improvements focused on patient experience, clinical outcomes, and operational efficiency. Additionally, the facility also continues to expand timely access to care for Southern Nevada's growing Veteran population.

"These ratings highlight the excellent care VA Southern Nevada Healthcare System provides," said Executive Director Michael Kiefer. "Our job is to continue raising the bar for customer service and convenience throughout the department, so VA Southern Nevada Healthcare System works better for the Veterans, families, caregivers and survivors we are charged with serving."

As part of CMS's 2025 ratings, 77% of VA hospitals that received an Overall Hospital Quality Star Rating received 4 or 5 stars, and no VA hospitals received a one-star rating. More than 90% of VA hospitals with ratings maintained or improved their 2024-star rating.

View the [star ratings](#) and [methodology for the ratings](#).

Overall VA improvements during the second Trump Administration

- The backlog of Veterans waiting for VA benefits is down more than 37% since Jan. 20, 2025.
- VA has opened [16 new health care clinics, expanding access for Veterans around the country](#).
- VA is spending [an additional \\$800 million](#) on infrastructure improvements to ensure department facilities provide safe and effective patient care.
- Since Jan. 20, VA has offered nearly 1 million health care appointments outside of normal operating hours. These early-morning, evening, and weekend appointments are giving Veterans more timely and convenient options for care.
- VA is [processing record numbers of disability claims](#), reaching an all-time fiscal-year high of 2.52 million ratings claims for FY25 as of Aug. 8.
- VA has made it [easier](#) and [faster](#) for VA-enrolled Veterans to access care from non-VA providers at the department's expense.
- VA has implemented [major reforms](#) to make it easier for survivors to get benefits.
- VA is [accelerating the deployment](#) of its integrated electronic health record system.
- VA partnered with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to identify and recover [\\$106 million in duplicate billing](#).
- VA has brought tens of thousands of VA employees [back to the office](#), where we can work better as a team to serve Veterans.
- In fiscal year 2025 through June, VA has housed 37,534 homeless Veterans.

For more information, contact VA Southern Nevada Healthcare System Public Affairs at vhalaspaomailbox@va.gov or 702-210-0227.