

DAV National Service & Legislative Headquarters 807 Maine Ave. SW | Washington, D.C. 20024





Jim Marszalek, National Service Director
Native of Pittsburgh, PA – US Marine Veteran
Hired in 2001
National Service Officer, Cleveland OH
Assistant Supervisor, Seattle WA
Supervisor, San Diego CA
National Area Supervisor Area 1 Pittsburgh, PA
Assistant National Service Director
Deputy National Service Director



Chad Moos, Deputy National Service Director
Native of Fargo, ND - US Army Veteran
Hired in 1995
National Service Officer Fargo, ND
Supervisor, Reno NV
Supervisor, Phoenix AZ
Assistant Director of Volunteer Services
Assistant National Service Director







Scott Hope, Deputy National Service Director for Training

Native of Salt Lake City, UT - US Army Veteran Hired in 2007 National Service Officer, Pittsburgh, PA Assistant Supervisor, Pittsburgh, PA Supervisor, Pittsburgh, PA National Area Supervisor, Area 3 Assistant National Service Director



Scott Trimarchi, Assistant National Service Director
Native of Long Island, NY - US Air Force Veteran
Hired in 1994
National Service Officer New York, NY
Assistant Supervisor New York, NY, Newark, NJ, St.
Petersburg, FL
Supervisor, Newark, NJ, New York, NY, Milwaukee,
WI, Los Angeles, CA
National Area Supervisor Area 9 Los Angeles, CA and
Area 1 Boston, MA





Justin Hart, Assistant National Service Director Native of Escondido, CA - US Army Veteran Hired in 2007 National Service Officer, Providence, RI Supervisor, Newington, CT



Steve Wolf, Assistant National Service Director Native of Salt Lake City, UT – US Marine Veteran Hired in 2002 National Service Officer, Milwaukee WI Assistant Supervisor, San Diego, CA Supervisor, Chicago, IL



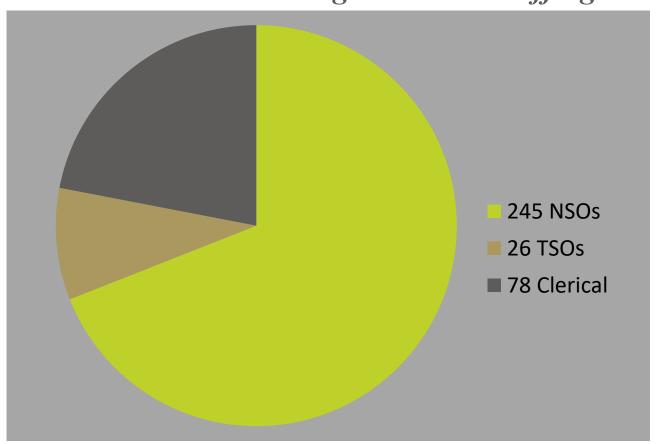




Matt Jahn, Associate National Service Director
Native of Kearney, NE - US Air Force Veteran
Hired in 2014
National Service Officer, Atlanta, GA
Assistant Supervisor, Ft. Snelling, MN
Supervisor, Ft. Snelling, MN
Assistant Supervisor, National Appeals Office
Supervisor, National Appeals Office



# National Service Program-Field Staffing





# National Service Officer Training

#### **National Service Officer Apprentices:**

16-Month On-the-Job Training for New Hires

Must be a service connected injured or ill veteran.

- Will become familiar with all VA and Military Benefit Programs
- Four College Courses Required
- Application of Learning to Actual Claims and Appeals Cases
- Involvement in DAV Fraternal Activities and Outreach



# National Service Officer Training

National Service Officer continued training:

#### DAV-iTRAK Training Program

- iTRAK = Interactive Training, Research, Advocacy, Knowledge
- Advanced Training on Adjudication Laws, the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities, the Board of Veterans' Appeals, and the Court of Appeals for Veterans' Claims.
- Recent review from American Counsel on Education (ACE) has awarded 1 additional hour of college credit for the SCT which brings it to 15. DAV is the only Veterans Service Organization to receive college credits for any type of training.



The DAV National Appeals Office is co-located with the Board of Veterans Appeal Office (BVA) in Washington DC.

NAO's are representatives for individual veterans and their families providing free, professional assistance in the presentation of appeals to the BVA.

Their position entails reviewing evidence and writing legal arguments, as well as assisting veterans in the presentation of testimony during hearings before BVA Veterans Law Judges.

Currently we have 5 National Appeals Officers.



# Transition Service Officer Program

Transition Service Officer (TSO) work on military installations carrying DAV's mission of service to service members making the all-important transition back into civilian life.

TSOs conduct or participate in pre-discharge transition assistance briefings; conduct interviews; review service treatment/medical records; completion of required applications; prosecution of VA claims for benefits.

DAVs TSOs are co-located at military separation centers servicing nearly 100 military installations within the continental US.





National Area Supervisors provide overall supervision and coordination of employees engaged in National Service Office activities in conjunction with DAV's Strategic Plan and facilitate DAV's mission of service.

Provide management oversight of National Service Offices as an extension of the National Service Director/Staff.

Ten (10) Positions

The NAS position encompasses an increased level of leadership, responsibility and involvement within our organization.

Periodic office visitations focusing on employee training, quality of work, productivity, and morale to evaluate management efficiency and supervisory effectiveness.



# National Area Supervisors





# Chapter and Department Service Officers

Chapter and Department Service Officers provide one of the most important links in the organization. Recognizing the vital importance of Department and Chapter service programs to the fulfillment of DAV's overall mission of service to veterans, the National Organization will act, in essence, as an insurer for these service programs.

- No cost to Departments or Chapters. Oversight and training provided by the National Service Department.
- Coverage for each claim up to \$500,000 combined limit for all services.
- Coverage requires NSO Certification Training & processing all claims and evidence through NSO offices.
- Any DAV member is eligible for certification when recommended by the appropriate chapter/department commander and/or adjutant.



# Chapter and Department Service Officers

- The position of "Service Officer, Department or Chapter" no longer appears on the Department or Chapter Officers report.
- No guests can attend the training, only those receiving certification can attend.
- There is a Service Officer nomination form that must be used by the Department and Chapters to nominate an individual to be a Service Officer. Please know, a Department or Chapter can nominate as many as they like to attend.
- No service work can be done until that individual has completed certification training by a National Service Office.
- Service Officer certifications are valid for 18 months. Certification training must be completed annually but we have included some additional time as we understand training may not be scheduled for the exact same week each and every year. It is imperative that all Service Officers receive training annually.



# Chapter and Department Service Officers

What are the "levels" of training?

Certification includes attending either Level I or Level II Training. If a Service Officer's certification expires, Level I must be retaken.

Level I Training: All service officers must complete Level I at least once. Level I Training is the Introduction to Service Officer Responsibilities and Basic VA Programs and VA Laws. This training must be completed at least once prior to taking Level II Training.

Level II Training: Level II certification training is by "invitation only." Level II Training is a more in-depth training focused on VA Programs and Regulations, Adjudication, and the Appeals Process. Department leadership and NSO office management teams will determine which service officers are invited to the Level II Training. Those operating at the chapter level with at least 2 years of experience and the aptitude for Level II will be considered. All DSOs will be invited to Level II Training.



# County Veteran Service Officer Accreditation

We have a partnership with the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers (NACVSO).

Our partnership provides DAV with a trained, competent and accredited cadre of <u>734</u> County Veterans Service Officers (CVSOs) to compliment DAV's accredited National Service Officer and Transition Service Officers.

#### Criteria:

- The CVSO must submit an application for accreditation directly to the National Service Director of NACVSO.
- Must receive continued annual training through an NACVSO approved course to assure qualification.



# Information Seminar Program



Information Seminars are conducted by DAV National Service Officers (NSOs). The seminar is designed to inform veterans and family members of their potential benefits to help ensure veterans and their families have access the full range of benefits available to them.

These services are free of charge, and veterans do not need to be a DAV member to take advantage of this service.

Please contact your local DAV NSO office to schedule your information seminar!



Our *Disaster Relief Program* supports veterans, service members, surviving spouses and their families during times of great need in the aftermath of a disaster, large or small.

#### **How Do We Accomplish This?**

Through the commitment and team work of Departments, local

Chapters and NSOs.







#### What Disasters Do We Provide Aid In?

- *Isolated* A disaster impacts a home! Example: Electrical fire.
- **Specific** A disaster impacts a town, city or state! Example: Hurricane, Flooding, etc.

#### **How Do We Help?** By providing...

- *Grants* for food, clothing and lodging.
- *Supply Kits* containing backpacks, blankets and hygiene kits.

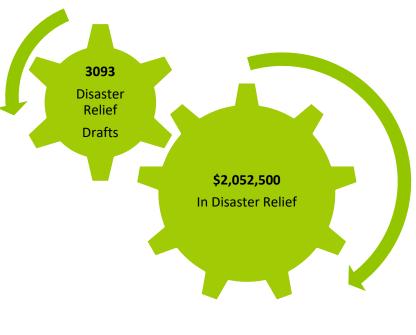




In 2022, DAV provided 3093 drafts for nearly 2.1 million throughout 15 states.

Since the program's inception in 1968, over \$19.5 million has been disbursed to veterans and their families.







The **DAV Night Out Program** supports wounded, ill, and injured patients at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in escaping to a more relaxing environment to ease the heaviness of treatment while helping them to be accustomed to their new norm.

#### How is this accomplished?

Through planning and coordination of events, donations and purchases with local restaurants, businesses, and the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.







### How Have We Helped?

- ✓ Friday night dinners for patients and their families off hospital grounds.
- ✓ All transportation, meals, and donations without cost to patients and their families.
- ✓ Established a Military Affairs Office at Walter Reed for benefits claims assistance and scheduling events to help with the healing, morale, and welfare of veterans and their families.
- ✓ Provided care packages to dozens of patients. Each included a back pack, water bottle, poncho liner, a tee shirt, playing cards, and wireless ear buds.









# Veterans Benefit Administration Updates

- Currently there are 829,126 claims pending of which 222,905 are considered backlogged. A backlogged claim is any claim pending for 125 days or more.
- The Average Days Pending for a claim is 104 days.
- Appeals, there are Legacy Appeals and Appeals under the Appeals Modernization Act more commonly referred to AMA Appeals.
- In total, there are over 197,300 appeals pending.
- VBA currently has 30, 279 legacy appeals under their control. These are Notice of Disagreements and Statement of the Cases.
- VBA has 42,933 pending request for Higher Level Review which are part of the Appeals Modernization Act (AMA).



# Veterans Benefit Administration Updates

- The Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA) has over 215,337 appeals under their control.
- 44,373 are Legacy Appeals
- 170,964 are AMA Appeals.
- The BVA has over 73,000 pending hearing request, that includes in person hearings, video conference hearings, and virtual hearings.



#### PACT ACT Updates

Since the PACT Act was signed into law late last year, 608,344 PACT Act related claims have been filed!

This is an a little over 30 percent increase of workload to VA.

Completed over 300,000 of the over 608,000 claims granting over 245,000 of them.

PACT Act law was signed on August 10, 2022. Thus, you have one year to file a PACT Act related claim if you want the effective date to go back to the date of law change of August 10, 2022.

Any claim for PACT Act related conditions would be effective the date of the claim if filed after August 10, 2023.



#### VA.gov <a href="https://www.va.gov/">https://www.va.gov/</a>

- Check your claim or appeal status
- Download VA letters and Rating Decisions
- Review your payment history
- File a new claim
- Schedule or manage health appointments
- Refill or track a prescription
- Review or update your dependents
- Get reimbursed for travel pay
- Get your VA medical records



- In total, we currently have 3,740 Service Officers. This total figure includes National Service Officers (NSOs), Transition Service Officers (TSOs), Department Service Officers (DSOs), Chapter Service Officers (CSOs), and County Veteran Service Officers (CVSOs).
- In 2022, DAV interviewed 285,942 claimants.
- In 2022, DAV submitted 174,147 new claims for 512,189 specific injuries and or illnesses. Of the 174,147 new claims, 168,657 were submitted electronically.
- Since Chartered by Congress in 1932 DAV has presented 12,193,086 claims for benefits.



# In 2022, with the assistance of DAV, service members, veterans and their families received over \$26.4 billion dollars in benefits.

Compensation	\$24,	089	,235	,801
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DIC \$767,163,425

Veteran Pension \$247,130,642

Survivor Pension \$28,163,871

Education Benefits \$1,219,614,652

Special Entitlements \$56,173,208 (Clothing allowance)

Total Benefits \$26,406,302,044



# National Area Supervisor Contact Information

Area 1	Mason Sullivan	Mason.Sullivan@va.gov, MSullivan@dav.org	508-340-0286
Area 2	Andrew Edwards	Andrew.Edwards@va.gov, AEdwards@dav.org	618-606-3285
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Area 4	Michele Colpaert	Michele.Colpaert@va.gov, MColpaert@dav.org	206-478-3530
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Area 6	Carmen McGinnis	Carmen.McGinnis@va.gov, CMcGinnis@dav.org	303-941-8364
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Area 8	Carmen McGinnis	Carmen.McGinnis@va.gov, CMcGinnis@dav.org	303-941-8364
Area 9	Kwan Tillman	Kwan.Tillman@va.gov, KTillman@dav.org	586-530-5171
Area 10	Richard Vaccari	Richard. Vaccari@va.gov, RVaccari@dav.org	781-812-9490



# Service Staff Contact Information

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# **DAV EMPOWERS VETERANS**