

View in Web Browser

September 17, 2025



Ready To Serve ★ Proud To Have Served

Commissioner's Corner



Tradition and Transformation

This September marked a season of change and tradition for our department.

On September 11, a historic step reshaped our future when Governor Philip D. Murphy signed legislation restructuring the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs into two agencies: the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Military Affairs.

State legislation directed that the transition be completed within 120 days. Governor Murphy also announced that Vincent Solomeno is his intended nominee for Commissioner for the Department of Veterans Affairs. This transition gives us the opportunity to chart a sustainable path forward - one that strengthens both departments while keeping our mission steady: serving Soldiers, Airmen, veterans, and families with transparency, professionalism, and commitment.

Just days later, we came together on the parade field in Sea Girt for the Governor's Military Review. For more than 130 years, New Jerseyans have stood on that field to honor service - a tradition that inspires pride and purpose.

Today's Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen carry that legacy forward with dedication and resilience. This year's review held special meaning. Governor Murphy, in his final term, has championed our 8,400 service members, our veterans, and their families. Under his leadership, New Jersey expanded benefits, delivered property and income tax relief, and drove veteran homelessness to functional zero. His commitment has strengthened our readiness and improved the lives of military families across the state.

The pace of operations remains high. The 42nd Regional Support Group is serving in the Middle East in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. The 328th Military Police Company is safeguarding peace in Kosovo on NATO's mission. Earlier this year, the 44th Infantry Brigade Combat Team returned from a historic deployment across the Middle East, earning respect from allies and active-duty counterparts alike.

Our Air National Guard continues to lead at home and abroad. Last October, the 177th Fighter Wing's 119th Fighter Squadron deployed F-16s to the U.S. Central Command area, defending U.S. interests before returning safely in January. The 108th Wing expanded its mission with the arrival of the KC-46 Pegasus, activating the 170th Air Refueling Squadron and boosting our aerial refueling strength. Airmen from both wings sharpened their skills in Italy during Operation Pegasus Dawn, while the 177th Civil Engineer Squadron trained with partners for World Cup security. Every day, the 177th Fighter Wing sustains its no-fail Aerospace Control Alert mission, guarding the skies over the eastern United States.

On September 14, New Jersey earned recognition as a "Do Your Part State," an initiative of Blue Star Families and the National Governors Association. This honor underscores our promise to military families. With more than \$30 million committed, New Jersey is expanding Veterans Service Offices in every county, combating veteran homelessness, increasing mental health care and job training, and strengthening protections against fraud. These investments deliver real improvements to lives across our state.

None of this is possible without you - the Citizen-Soldiers, Airmen, veterans, and families who serve and support. Your sacrifices power every mission. As we look ahead, I draw inspiration from your achievements and confidence from your strength.

Our tradition endures. Our department is transforming. And our mission to serve remains as strong as ever.

As always, thank you for staying connected to DMAVA.

We invite you to share ideas, events and feedback. Please email our team at outreach@dmava.nj.gov.

**Brigadier General Yvonne L. Mays
Adjutant General & Commissioner**



Featured Events



CVAC
Citizens/Veterans Advisory Committee
P.O. Box 133, Villas NJ 08251 609-425-8608 | www.cvaccapemay.com

SAVE THE DATE: SEPTEMBER 24TH, 2025

CVAC PRESENTS

VETERAN'S BENEFITS & HEALTH FAIR

-  **OVER 60 TABLES OF VETERAN'S RESOURCES**
-  **WALK-IN CLINIC TO APPLY FOR AND CHECK ON YOUR V.A. BENEFITS**
-  **FREE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH**
-  **KEYNOTE SPEAKER; RALPH GALATI – VIETNAM POW**

OPEN TO ALL VETERANS AND VETERAN'S FAMILIES

WILDWOOD CONVENTION CENTER
4501 BOARDWALK AVE
WILDWOOD, NJ

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

FREE SCREENINGS & INFORMATION SEMINARS

YOU SERVED US, NOW LET US SERVE YOU!



SFC Robert H Yancey Sr

STAND DOWN of SOUTH JERSEY

Serving Homeless and At Risk Veterans Since 1996

★ **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2025** ★

8:30am - 12:30pm

LOCATION: Cherry Hill Armory, Grove St & Park Blvd., Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The following Services and Assistance will be available;

VA Benefit Counseling * Meal * PTSD Counseling * Mental Health * Welfare * Social Security *
Food Stamps * Legal Services * Addiction Services * Housing * Medical * Employment *
Unemployment * Haircuts * Clothing * Provisions and more !

Homeless/At Risk Veteran Registration

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

If you are a homeless or at risk veteran wishing to attend for services, please register on our website (or follow QR code). If you can not register online, call 609-238-1452 to register

We do offer 2 Bus Shuttles for the homeless/at risk veterans that may need it.

One shuttle from Trenton City Hall and one shuttle from Camden VA Clinic. Complete details on website.

Veteran ID/Proof of Service will be required prior to entry.
Veterans only - no family/children

Volunteers & Service Providers :

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

To Register as a Volunteer, fill out our online registration form on our website.

To Apply to have a Service Provider Table, fill out our online application form on our website. Limited space, first come, first serve.

WWW.STANDDOWNSOUTHJERSEY.ORG

Events

DMAVA Calendar

DMAVA is sponsoring or will participate in the events below. A DMAVA Veterans Service Officer will be present at many of these events. Please check details to confirm.

- September 18 | Virtual
[Suicide Prevention & Awareness Month Webinar](#)
- September 18-19 | Lawrenceville
[Grant Management Workshop](#)

- September 20 | Tinton Falls
[“Brewed to Serve” Helping Homeless Veterans](#)
- September 20 | Paramus
[Bergen County Sheriff's Office Veteran's Appreciation BBQ](#)
- September 20 | Bordentown
[Military Transition / Retirement Seminar](#)
- September 24 | Wildwood
[Veteran's Benefits & Health Fair](#)
- September 25 | Hillsborough
[Older Adults Resource Fair](#)
- September 26 | Cherry Hill
[Stand Down of South Jersey](#)
- September 28 | Budd Lake
[Vets Summer Fest](#)
- September 29 | Wayne
[Veteran Suicide Awareness Seminar](#)
- October 4 | Hackettstown
[Warren County Community Resource Fair](#)
- October 5 | Bordentown
[Reserve & National Guard Transition Benefit Workshop](#)
- October 5 | Union
[Union Car, Bike & Truck Show](#)

Community Calendar

We add new events to our calendar on a daily basis so please bookmark and check back often.

[View Full Calendar](#)

Spotlight



New Jersey's Mission of Honor

The 39th New Jersey Mission of Honor ceremony was held at the [Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery](#) at Wrightstown, NJ on September 9, 2025.

The cremains of World War I Army Veteran Mary L. Thompson and World War I Marine Corps Veteran Cassius S. Brown; World War II Army Veteran's Thomas J. Bomberger, Harold Cairney, Arthur Kreuch, Arthur W. Luth, and William J. Shotwell; World War II Navy Veteran's Jay A. Duke, Thomas Geruntho, and John W. Vones were honored during the ceremony.

The mission of [New Jersey's Mission of Honor](#) is to identify, retrieve, and inter the Veterans' cremains. Since 2007, 718 Veterans have been located and 376 cremains have been reunited with their families.

[View Images](#)



September 18, 2025 at 10am

September is Suicide Prevention Month

Join the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs for a special webinar in partnership with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. This year's session focuses on suicide prevention and the VA's evolving Whole Health model - a proactive, person-centered approach to supporting mental wellness.

The webinar will feature opening remarks by Deputy Commissioner of Veteran Affairs Vincent Solomeno, Chair of the Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans, and Their Families, and training led by Heather Church-Soto, VA Suicide Prevention Coordinator.

This is a vital opportunity to learn, engage, and support suicide prevention efforts across New Jersey.

The webinar will be held on September 18, 2025 from 10am to 11am. [Learn more and register.](#)

Get additional resources by visiting the DMAVA website at SaveNJVets.gov.

NJ National Guard



Governor's Military Review

The Citizen-Soldiers and Citizen-Airmen of the New Jersey National Guard assembled on the historic parade field at the National Guard Training Center in Sea Girt, NJ in a more than 130-year-old tradition on September 14, 2025.

Brig. Gen. Yvonne L. May, the 34th Adjutant General of New Jersey and Commissioner of New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs accompanied Governor Phil Murphy to review the troops, present military and civilian awards, and connect with state veterans service organizations, [NJ Youth ChalleNGe Academy](#) Cadets, [Blue Star Families](#) and [NJ ESGR](#).

[View Images](#)



State Partnership Program

In the evolution of Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems, the New Jersey National Guard's partnership with the Albanian Armed Forces is advancing their respective forces' integration of capabilities.

"At the 254th Regional Training Institute, we have progressed our work with the Albanian Armed Forces to maritime training and advanced flight operations," said Sergeant 1st Class Dana Eustace, SUAS Master Trainer and Instructor with the 2-254th Modular Training Battalion. "This past month in Albania, we focused on

SUAS tactics, techniques and procedures, as well as standard operating procedures.”

The week-long engagement took place in Zall-Herr, Albania. The NJNG and AAF have partnered formally for nearly 25 years within the [State Partnership Program](#).



108th Wing

Airmen of the [108th Wing](#) were sharpening their skills during plane de-icing training - ensuring aircraft are safe, mission-ready, and cleared for takeoff no matter the weather

Join Our Team

100% Free College Tuition
Bonuses | GI Bill
Student Loan Repayment



DMAVA Veterans Services



Veterans Commander's Call

Brig. Gen. Yvonne L. Mays, The Adjutant General of New Jersey and Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, along with Vincent Solomeno III, Deputy Commissioner of Veterans Affairs, New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, and Administrator of Veterans Affairs for the State of New Jersey, met with leaders from New Jersey's

veteran service organizations at the National Guard Training Center in Sea Girt, NJ on September 14, 2025.

[View Images](#)



State Medal Ceremony

The New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs held a State Medal Ceremony at the County College of Morris in Randolph, NJ on September 4, 2025.

[View Images](#)

Unite  Veterans

Get Connected to Resources & Services

The New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs has partnered with Unite Us to connect individuals and families

to a wide variety of services and resources.

Unite Us is a coordinated care referral network of health and social service providers. Unite Us can connect our New Jersey military and veteran community to resources to obtain benefits, food assistance, housing, education, transportation, behavioral health services, peer support and more.

[Learn More / Request Assistance](#)



Veteran Homelessness

The mission of Bringing Veterans Home (BVH) is to effectively end veteran homelessness in New Jersey by enhancing existing systems, creating rapid access to housing, and ensuring homelessness becomes rare, brief and non-recurring.

BVH creates a clear path to stable housing for veterans experiencing homelessness through a coordinated network of services and support.

[Learn More / Refer a Veteran](#)

**THE DMAVA READJUSTMENT
COUNSELING PROGRAM PROVIDES
VETERANS WITH:**

**INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING
GROUP COUNSELING
FAMILY COUNSELING**

**SCAN THE CODE AND CALL YOUR
LOCAL VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER,**

OR CALL:

(888) 865-8387,

OR EMAIL:

VBB@DMAVA.NJ.GOV



SUPPORT IS PEER TO PEER



**Call Us 24/7
7 days a week**
(866) 838-7654



NJ Veterans' Benefits Hotline

888-865-8387

vbb@dmava.nj.gov

Veterans Outreach Schedule

Veterans Service Offices

DMAVA Departments

NEW JERSEY
YOUTH CHALLENGE ACADEMY
DREAM. BELIEVE. ACHIEVE.

YOUTH CHALLENGE ACADEMY

TUITION FREE

Now accepting applications for Class 61 - January 2026!

APPLY NOW!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

-  njyca.gov/admissions
-  rpm@dmava.nj.gov
-  (800) 997-5587 / (732) 974-6516

The advertisement features a dark blue background with white and gold text. On the right, a circular inset shows a group of students in high-visibility yellow jackets standing on a lawn in front of a classical building with columns. An American flag and a smaller flag are visible on a pole in the background of the photo.

Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging

DEIB Newsletter

State Partners



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) veterans have honorably served in the U.S. Armed Forces throughout the nation's history; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ veterans have faced numerous discriminatory policies, including the ban on open service and policies like "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" that forced them to hide their identities; and

WHEREAS, historical policies such as Executive Order 10450 and subsequent military regulations discriminated against LGBTQ+ individuals, labeling them as security risks or unfit for service due to their sexual orientation or gender identity; and

WHEREAS, these policies led to the discharge and exclusion of LGBTQ+ servicemembers, denying them the recognition and benefits they deserved, and causing lasting harm; and

WHEREAS, on September 20, 2011, the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy was officially repealed, allowing gay, lesbian, and bisexual individuals to serve openly in the U.S. military; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs have begun to address the injustices faced by LGBTQ+ servicemembers and veterans, including discharge upgrades and policy changes; and

WHEREAS, ongoing challenges remain for LGBTQ+ servicemembers and veterans in achieving equitable treatment and access to benefits, including healthcare services such as gender-affirming care; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ Veterans Day celebrates the contributions and sacrifices of LGBTQ+ veterans and acknowledges the continued need for progress in ensuring their rights and recognition and serves as a reminder of the importance of inclusivity and equality in all aspects of military and civilian life, and as a call to action for further outreach and support for LGBTQ+ veterans;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

SEPTEMBER 20, 2025

AS

LGBTQ+ Veterans Day

to honor and celebrate the bravery and service of LGBTQ+ veterans, and to acknowledge the historical and ongoing challenges they face.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this second day of September in the year two thousand twenty-five, the two hundred fiftieth year of the Independence of the United States.


Lt. GOVERNOR


GOVERNOR



Governor Murphy Signs Legislation Establishing the Department of Veterans Affairs

Governor's Office | September 11, 2025

TRENTON – Governor Murphy today signed legislation that would establish a new cabinet-level Department of Veterans Affairs in New Jersey, reorganizing the existing Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMAVA).

“Veterans have selflessly fought for our hard-earned freedoms as Americans,” said Governor Murphy. “By establishing a department solely dedicated to the needs of Veterans, we will continue to ensure they have a seat at the table and direct access to the support and resources they deserve. Our Veterans and their families deserve nothing less.”

Currently, the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs manages both military operations and veterans’ services. Under this bill, the newly established Department of Veterans Affairs will exclusively focus on veteran-related matters, such as delivering housing, health care, mental health services, and benefits for veterans and their families. Military functions will continue at the current department, which will be renamed the Department of Military Affairs.

[Full News Release](#)

Governor Murphy Announces New Strategic Initiative to Strengthen New Jersey's Defense Ecosystem

Governor's Office | September 3, 2025

TRENTON – Governor Phil Murphy today announced the launch of the Office of Strategic Defense Investment, which will champion New Jersey's defense industry by attracting new missions, safeguarding the competitiveness and sustainability of the state's existing defense infrastructure, and fostering industry growth.

Housed within the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA), the Office of Strategic Defense Investment will work to elevate New Jersey's defense sector by providing it with focused support, advocacy, and strategic planning for long-term growth on par with the state's other key industries.

[Full News Release](#)

NJ State Agencies

- [Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicides among Service Members, Veterans & Their Families](#)
- [The New Jersey's Governor "We Value Our Veterans" Awards](#)
- [Bringing Veterans Home](#)
- [Vote For Valor](#)
- [Career Services for Veterans](#)
- [Tax Resources for Military/Veterans](#)
- [Educator Certification for Military Spouses and Veterans](#)
- [Civil Service Preference for Veterans](#)
- [NJ National Guard Hunting / Fishing Licenses](#)

- NJ Special Hawker and Peddlers License
- Veterans Designation for Drivers License
- Military CDL Skills Waiver Program
- Disabled Veteran / Purple Heart Recipient Placards
- Disabled Veteran Hunting and Fishing Licenses
- Veteran and Disabled Veteran-Owned Business
- Division of Consumer Affairs Military Outreach & Support
- Professional & Occupational Licenses for Veterans and Spouses
- Military and Overseas Voting
- Veterans & Spouses Entering the Educator Workforce
- Journey Through Jersey

Federal Partners



Congressman Van Drew Secures Authorization of \$61 Million for 177th Air National Guard Fighter Wing in South Jersey

Posted in Press Releases | September 11, 2025

Washington, DC - Today, Congressman Van Drew announced that the FY 2026 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), which just passed through the House, authorizes \$61 million for a new maintenance hangar at the 177th Air National Guard Fighter Wing in Egg Harbor Township, South Jersey.

"The 177th Fighter Wing is one of the most important assets we have in South Jersey and across the nation, and this authorization is a big win," said Congressman Van Drew. "The 177th is the first line of defense for our skies between New York and Washington, D.C., and a forward base for missions across the Atlantic. Our men and women there play a critical role in keeping America safe. This new hangar would allow the 177th to host the next generation of fighter jets, including the F-35 or F-15EX, and make sure we remain strong and ready. I was proud to work directly with the Adjutant General of the New Jersey Air National Guard to make this authorization happen as a priority for the United States Air Force."

[Official Press Release](#)





theSITREP Podcast
By: Department of Veterans Affairs
Podcast



VIETNAM GULF WAR POST - 9/11

**WERE YOU EXPOSED TO BURN PITS,
NUCLEAR WEAPONS, CHEMICALS,
AGENT ORANGE, OR OTHER TOXINS
WHILE SERVING IN THE MILITARY?**



**Apply for VA
health care today
at [VA.gov/PACT](https://www.va.gov/PACT).**

VA |  U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs



Have questions?
Call 1-800-MyVA411 and press 0
to speak with someone right away.



The Women Veterans Call Center is Your Guide to VA

Live women representatives, many of whom are Veterans, are standing by to help.

**Call or text 1-855-VA-WOMEN
(1-855-829-6636)
or chat with us online**

Weekdays 8:00 am – 10:00 pm ET
Saturday 8:00 am – 6:30 pm ET



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

VA

U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Featured Links

- [National Parks Pass](#)
- [VALife Insurance](#)
- [VA Urgent Care Services](#)
- [VA Caregiver Support Program](#)
- [Accessing Records from the National Archives or NPRC](#)
- [PACT Act Performance Dashboard](#)
- [How to Check Your PACT Act Claim Status](#)
- [Download VA Benefit Letters](#)
- [Podcasts on Veterans' Issues](#)
- [VA Health and Benefits Mobile App](#)

- [Women Veterans Call Center](#)
- [Veterans Legacy Memorial](#)
- [Million Veteran Program](#)
- [#VetResources](#)
- [VA Resource Navigator](#)

Community Spotlight



New Jersey's Kanowitz Elected JWV National Vice Commander

U.S. Air Force Veteran Selina Kanowitz of Voorhees was elected National Vice Commander of the Jewish War Veterans (JWV) during the organization's 130th national convention convened in Henderson, Nevada.

"As the National Vice Commander, my focus will be to assist our National Commander, Scott Stevens, by helping him get the organization on a stable financial footing, assisting with the creation of a strategic plan, and providing clear transparency to the members

of JWV. Additionally, I aim to establish a mentoring and enrichment practicum that will help develop future leaders of JWV, from the local to the national level, and increase our membership. I will continue to support National Commander Stevens in advocating for veterans and service members and in combating antisemitism and all kinds of hatred, bigotry, and discrimination.”

Kanowitz, a member of JWV since 1991, has held a wide range of leadership positions within JWV and previously served as the Commander of the New Jersey Department from 2022-2023 and from 2024-2025.

Founded in 1896, JWV is the premier voice for Jewish uniformed service members and veterans in the United States.

In The News



Toms River VA Clinic Named For Local WWII Hero Bud Lomell

Jersey Shore Online | Photo by Stacy Proebstle | September 6, 2025

TOMS RIVER – Just ahead of his widow’s 104th birthday, President Donald Trump signed legislation naming the new Veterans Affairs clinic in Toms River after one of Ocean County’s most revered war heroes, Leonard G. “Bud” Lomell.

The bill, authored by Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ), honors Lomell, a U.S. Army Ranger credited with helping secure the success of the D-Day invasion during World War II.

“One of the most decorated Army Rangers of World War II, Bud Lomell served our nation and its veterans with enduring courage and selflessness, and is exceedingly deserving of this posthumous honor,” Smith said. “I am thrilled that Charlotte, who turns 104 on Monday, gets to see Bud’s many achievements memorialized in this special way.”

Lomell was hailed by historian Stephen Ambrose as second only to Gen. Dwight Eisenhower in ensuring the success of D-Day. On June 6, 1944, he scaled the cliffs of Pointe du Hoc with fellow Rangers, discovered and disabled German artillery aimed at Allied forces, and went on to earn the Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star, Bronze Star, and Purple Heart with two Oak Leaf Clusters.

After the war, Lomell became Ocean County’s first Veterans Service Bureau director, later founding a prominent law firm and serving in numerous community roles. He and his wife Charlotte raised three daughters in Toms River.

Employee Spotlight



Cara Giresi

Congratulations to the winner of the DMAVA Employee Award for the 2nd Quarter, Cara Giresi (pictured right), employed at [Veterans Haven South](#). Presenting the award is Tori Hill, Superintendent of VHS.

Cara leads the Veterans Program Department which is responsible for working with the Veterans on programs that will ensure their success with living independently back in the community.

Veteran Spotlight



World War II Veteran Bob Gibson

On September 4, 2025, a group of Purple Heart recipients and fellow VFW members visited World War II Veteran Bob Gibson at his nursing home to celebrate his 102nd birthday. The visit included a special Full Honor Guard performance to pay tribute to Gibson's service and longevity.

The gathering offered a poignant display of intergenerational gratitude and respect, with Vietnam Veterans honoring one of the "Greatest Generation". For the Purple Heart recipients, this event was an opportunity to pay homage to those who served before them and paved the way. The ceremony also demonstrated the enduring bonds of military service that transcend conflicts and time.

Image and caption courtesy [Spruce Run Memorial VFW Post 5119](#).

Servicemember Spotlight



SSG Shaun Hollenkamp

Congratulations to Staff Sergeant Shaun Hollenkamp for graduating from the United States Army Drill Sergeant Academy.

Known for his dedication, professionalism, and many accomplishments, we look forward to seeing him mentor and inspire the next generation of Citizen-Soldiers in the [New Jersey Army National Guard](#).



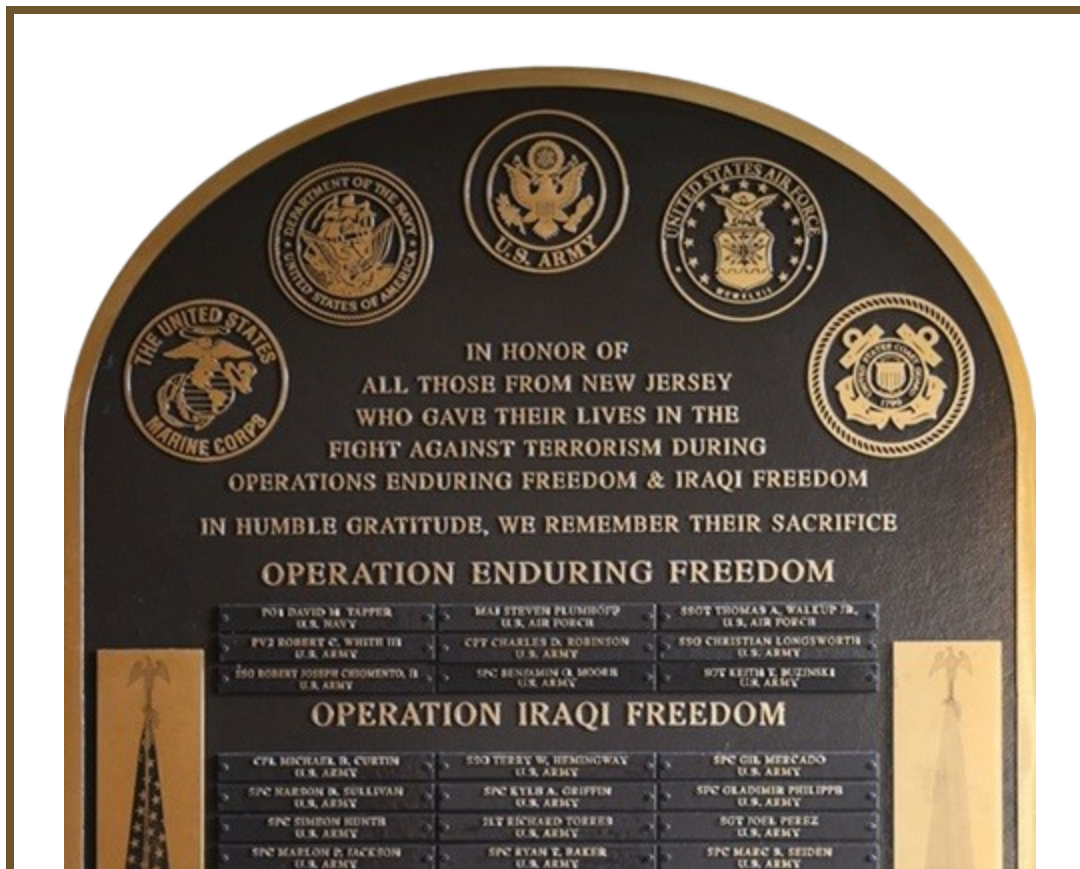
CW2 Jason Trerotola

New Jersey Gov. Philip D. Murphy presents the Soldiers Medal to U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jason B. Trerotola, New Jersey Army National Guard, during the 2025 New Jersey National Guard Military Review at the National Guard Training Center in Sea Girt, NJ on September 14, 2025.

CW2 Trerotola received the medal for his heroism and saving the life of a fellow citizen.

Congratulations Chief, well deserved!

Never Forget



New Jersey Fallen Heroes Memorial

In Honor of all those from New Jersey who gave their lives in the fight against terrorism during Operation Enduring Freedom & Iraqi Freedom. In humble gratitude, we remember their sacrifice.

Memorial Inscription

"But on the battlefield their feet stood fast, and in an instant at the height of their fortune, they passed away from the scene, not of their fear, but of their glory."

~ Pericles

NJ Fallen Heroes Memorial

History



Established by the U.S. Congress in 1979, the third Friday in September is designated the day to remember those who were Prisoners of War and those Missing in Action.

September 17, 1998

The nation's first Vietnam War Museum opened as the Vietnam Era Educational Center, adjacent to the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial

September 27, 1803

September 27, 1778

Colonel George Baylor and his Third Continental Dragoons, 116 officers and men, were stationed

at Paramus with orders to march north when Baylor moved his men to watch a Hackensack River crossing and quartered them at Overkill (today's River Vale) in local homes. In a 650-man night bayonet attack forever after known locally as the "Baylor Massacre," the British overran the dragoons, who had unaccountably neglected to post sentries in all directions. Casualty accounts vary, but the Americans apparently lost 15 men killed and 54 wounded and captured. Several survivors subsequently died of wounds.

Samuel Francis Du Pont was born at Bergen Point. As a navy captain in 1861, Du Pont organized the blockade of the Confederacy and led several successful amphibious operations. After his failed attack on Charleston in 1863, he was relieved of combat duty and spent the rest of the war on administrative service. Du Pont died on June 23, 1865, in Philadelphia.

September 27, 1944

Nelson L. Dimick from Boonton, NJ assigned to the US Army Air Corps. Shot down and captured during the Kassel Mission Raid on this date. Held in Stalag Luft 1, Barth, Germany.

October 1, 1917

The first soldiers reported to Camp Merritt, the huge transit camp in Bergen County that would eventually process more than a million and a half men who would move on to Hoboken to board ships to France.

DMAVA Throwback



New Jersey National Guard Responds to Hurricane Irma in Florida

New Jersey National Guard | September 6, 2017

Trenton, NJ - Governor Chris Christie today approved the deployment of New Jersey Army National Guard soldiers to provide emergency response support for people expected to be impacted by Hurricane Irma in Florida.

Citizen Soldiers from the 253rd Transportation Company, a historic unit in Cape May, New Jersey outfitted with high-wheeled vehicles, will depart from their home armory in two stages and are expected to arrive at Camp Blanding in Florida and as early as Friday.“

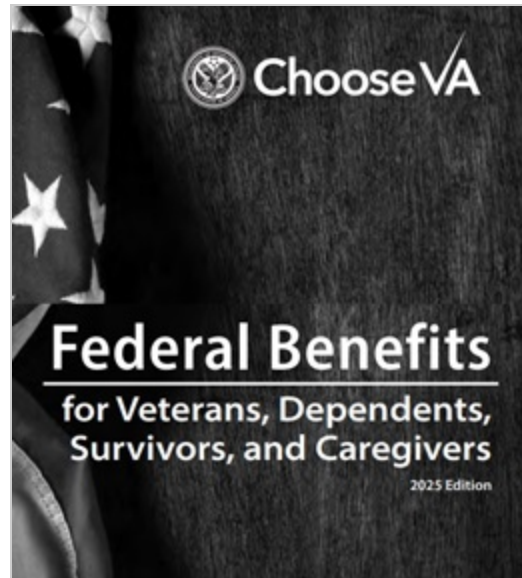
We are likely sending in excess of 100 soldiers to participate in this emergency response and rescue mission for Hurricane Irma victims in Florida, and beyond the numbers, these are highly experienced and trained men and women who served on the front lines during Hurricane Irene and Superstorm Sandy,” Governor Christie said. “Our thoughts, prayers and necessary available resources are with all of those in Florida who are bracing for impact.”

The 253rd was among the first National Guard units in the nation called to active duty for the 1991 Persian Gulf War and later Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003. This unit has participated in all major domestic operations in New Jersey, including Irene and Sandy.

[Read Full Story](#) | [View Images](#)

Resources





DMAVA Careers



We Are Hiring!

At the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs we take our work in support of Veterans, Servicemembers and their families very seriously. Whether supporting our Veterans with nursing care, transitional housing, or assisting them in navigating access to their Veteran benefits, the Department provides valuable

services and can offer rewarding career opportunities to members of the public.

We also have opportunities in facilities management and program management. In addition, we have job openings for members of our military to serve in AGR and Federal Technician roles.

Subscribe to [DMAVA Jobs Bulletin](#) to stay updated on job openings.

Vacancies

Stay Connected



We hope you enjoy receiving our newsletter and find it both educational and engaging. If you have questions about our

department, our programs or your benefits, please visit our website at nj.gov/military to get contact information.

Contact DMAVA

Please email us at outreach@dmava.nj.gov with feedback and comments regarding the newsletter. If you would like to contribute with an item of interest to our subscribers, please email us your proposal.

Visit the [DMAVA archives](#) to view previous editions of our newsletter.

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