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# Veterans Benefits Bureau

## 888-865-8387


### vbb@dmava.nj.gov



NJ Veterans Benefits Guide



### Mission



## Join Our Mailing Lists!


Subscribe

**Ready To Serve ★ Proud To Have Served**

The mission of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs is to provide highly trained, professional, and ready forces - prepared for rapid response to various civil and military operations - while providing exemplary services to New Jersey Service Members, Veterans, and their families.

### Events

# UPCOMING EVENTS



Click Here

#### Event Quick Links

- [DMAVA Veterans Outreach & Medal Ceremonies](#)
- [VA Veterans Outreach & Events](#)
- [VA New Jersey Healthcare System Events](#)
- [VA Philadelphia Healthcare System Events](#)
- [VA Wilmington Healthcare System Events](#)

### Quick Links

# 988

SUICIDE & CRISIS  
LIFELINE

- [NJ Veterans Benefits Guide](#)
- [NJ Veterans Transportation Guide](#)
- [NJ Military Veterans Families Resource Guide](#)
- [NJ Veterans Journal](#)

[Request Military Records](#)

[Vacancy Announcements](#)

[Veterans Service Offices](#)

### Get Connected



#### Unite NJ Veterans - Get Connected to Resources

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 can connect our New Jersey military/veteran community to resources to obtain benefits, food assistance, housing, education, transportation, behavioral health services, peer support and more.

[Learn More and Request Assistance](#)

### Veteran Homelessness



#### Working Together to End Veteran Homelessness in New Jersey

The mission of Bringing Veterans Home (BVH) is to effectively end veteran homelessness 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](#)

[Veteran Video](#)



# New Jersey National Guard

Always Ready, Always There



## New Jersey National Guard Pioneered the End of Segregation

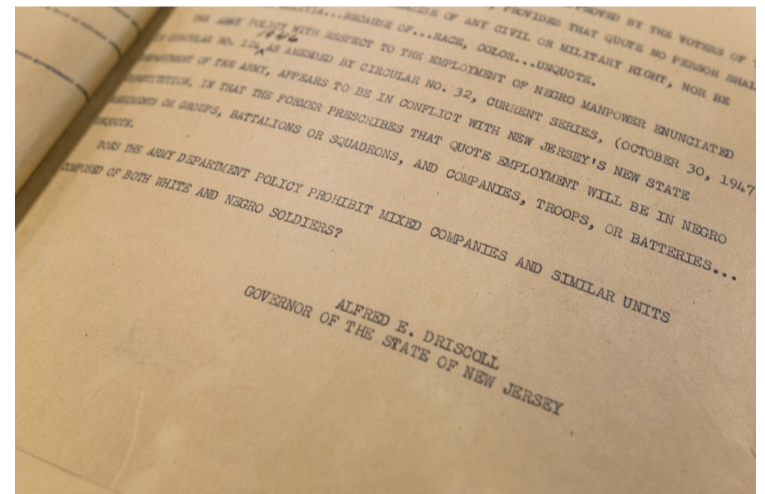
Although history credits President Harry Truman with desegregating America's military, the truth is that racial integration had already arrived in New Jersey, thanks to a governor and National Guard leaders who had stubbornly insisted on equality in their forces.

In the space of four months, from November 1947 to February 1948, the New Jersey National Guard changed history.

The story begins at a time when the New Jersey National Guard was growing.

World War II had been over for more than a year and the New Jersey National Guard was recruiting new members to fill the recently created 50th Armored Division. The National Guard Bureau, which fell under the War Department, had authorized New Jersey to organize the 372nd Anti-Aircraft Artillery group. Because integration did not yet exist in the military, the 372nd would reflect the United States Army's policy toward Blacks – the unit was to be composed entirely of Black Soldiers.

And this is where the story would have ended except for one event. [Read the rest of the story.](#)



# Dates in History



## July 1917

The NJ National Guard assembled at Sea Girt for World War I duty, and then traveled to Camp McClellan, Alabama. Most NJ National Guard units were assigned to the 29th Division, which was organized at McClellan. The old NJ state identified units were reorganized and given new federal numerical designations, including the 113th and 114th Infantry Regiments, which still exist in the state's National Guard.



## January 1957

The New Jersey National Guard ceased to be an all-male organization when the first women soldiers in its history, two nurses, Captain Frances R. Comstock and 1st Lieutenant Lucille Valentino of Paterson, were sworn in as members of the 114th Mobile Surgical Hospital.



## June 2009

The New Jersey Army National Guard closed its largest combat deployment since World War II - the 2,900 soldiers of the 50th Infantry Brigade Combat Team served 10 months in Iraq - with a parade and celebration in downtown Trenton, NJ.



# The Adjutant General

## Brigadier General Yvonne L. Mays

Brig. Gen. Yvonne L. Mays is the Adjutant General of New Jersey and Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

Brig. Gen. Mays commands the more than 8,400 Soldiers and Airmen of the New Jersey National Guard. She leads, directs, and manages the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs in the execution of federal and state missions. In addition, she manages all state veterans' programs, commissions, and facilities in New Jersey.

Prior to being selected by Governor Philip Murphy on June 27, 2024, Brig. Gen. Mays served as the Deputy Adjutant General (DAG) for New Jersey.

[Read Full Biography](#)

[Event Attendance Request Form](#)



### Facebook



New Jersey Depart...

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**New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs**

on Wednesday

The Bringing Veterans Home kick-off and training event was held at the Regional Training Institute at the National Guard Training Center in Sea Girt, New Jersey, March 12, 2025. The New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs are joining with Veteran service organizations, service providers, and new partners to put an end to Veteran homelessness by July 1, 2026. More than \$30 million in state funds is powering serv... [See more](#)

### Facebook



The New Jersey Nat...

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**The New Jersey National Guard**

last Tuesday

It's that time of year again! Help keep our #JBMDL neighbors safe, this and every fire season.




**Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst**  
90,263 followers · March 5

Prescribed Burns at JBMDL | March 7 – April 1

Heads up, JBMDL community! From

### Facebook


### Facebook


 **National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey**  
 Follow Page 3K followers

 **National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey**  
 about an hour ago

#OTD in New Jersey military history, in 1780, St. Patrick's Day was declared a "holiday in camp" for the American army at Morristown in general orders issued the previous day by General George Washington. They read in part: "...the General directs that all fatigue and working parties cease for to-morrow the SEVENTEENTH instant, a day held in particular regard by the people of Ireland."



 **New Jersey Military Family Assistance Centers**  
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 **New Jersey Military Family Assistance Centers**  
 on Friday

April is Month of the Military Child! Check out what our New Jersey National Guard Child and Youth Programs has planned. #purpleupday2025



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DMAVA

Jersey Guard

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