

CHAPTER 4

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM C. DOYLE
VETERANS' MEMORIAL CEMETERY

Authority

P.L. 1985, c.149; N.J.S.A. 38A:3-2.2, 38A:3-6(o) and (u).

Source and Effective Date

R.1992 d.57, effective February 3, 1992.
See: 23 N.J.R. 1491(a), 23 N.J.R. 3254(a), 24 N.J.R. 410(a).

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SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

5A:4-1.1 Scope

(a) This chapter is applicable to all residents of the State who served in any capacity on active duty with the Armed Forces of the United States of America and who have been separated or discharged from such active duty under conditions other than undesirable or dishonorable.

(b) In addition to eligible New Jersey veterans, this chapter applies to all private funeral directors who provide assistance in the interment of a veteran or a veteran's immediate family in the Veterans' Memorial Cemetery.

5A:4-1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to identify and establish the eligibility rules for interment in the Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veterans' Memorial Cemetery located in Arnetown, New Jersey.

SUBCHAPTER 2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

5A:4-2.1 Veterans' interment eligibility

(a) Eligibility for interment in the Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veterans' Memorial Cemetery is based on 38 U.S.C. 901 through 908; 38 C.F.R. 3.1600 through 3.1612; P.L. 1985, c.149 and N.J.S.A. 38A:3-2.2, 3-6(o) and (u).

(b) The following eligibility criteria are outlined in order to delineate and clarify the provisions of (a) above:

1. The veteran to be interred must be a legal resident of the State of New Jersey prior to death or have lived at least 50 percent of his or her life within the State.
2. Proof of eligibility for interment is a valid discharge from the Armed Forces of the United States of America indicating that the character of service was other than dishonorable or undesirable.
3. Proof of New Jersey residency is considered to be one of the following:
 - i. A New Jersey Driver's License;
 - ii. A New Jersey Voter's Registration Card;
 - iii. A paid New Jersey real estate tax bill;
 - iv. A deed to New Jersey property;
 - v. Utility bills with the veteran's name and New Jersey address appearing thereon; or
 - vi. Other similar documentation indicating New Jersey residency.

4. In the absence of an acceptable discharge document or proof of residency, a tentative date for interment may be established; however, the scheduled interment may be subject to delay in order to permit a determination of eligibility.

5. In cases where the character of a discharge requires adjudication by the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs Regional Office, the chief executive office of the Cemetery (CEO) will not permit interment pending final decision. The CEO will advise the funeral director that interment cannot proceed until the character of discharge is determined.

6. If a funeral cortege arrives at the Veterans' Memorial Cemetery and eligibility has not been established, a committal service may be permitted. However, interment will not take place and the remains will be removed by the funeral director from the cemetery until eligibility has been verified.

5A:4-2.2 Veteran family interment eligibility

In order for a spouse or dependent child to be eligible for interment, the veteran sponsor must be interred or agree to be interred in the Veterans' Memorial Cemetery.

5A:4-2.3 New Jersey National Guard interment eligibility

A member of the New Jersey National Guard, who while on State Active Duty by the Order of the Governor of the State of New Jersey and who dies or is killed in the line of duty, is eligible for interment in the Veterans' Memorial Cemetery. The family of such a National Guard member is eligible for interment in accordance with the provisions of these rules as they apply to the family of a deceased veteran.

5A:4-2.4 Right of appeal

A veteran, a veteran's legal representative, or next of kin may appeal a decision regarding eligibility for interment within 30 days of notification of the decision. The appeal will be in writing and be filed with the CEO who will forward the request for reconsideration with all documentation to the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs for final determination. The Department will respond to the appeal with a final decision within 48 hours.

5A:4-2.5 Pre-registration

(a) A veteran resident of New Jersey may apply in advance for interment in the Veterans' Memorial Cemetery.

(b) Applications are made at any New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs Veterans' Services Office. At the time of filing, the application will be processed and determination of eligibility made. When eligibility is verified the veteran will be notified of the fact.

(c) Pre-registration constitutes verification of eligibility and not the reservation of a specific space or plot in the Veterans' Memorial Cemetery.

SUBCHAPTER 3. GENERAL OPERATING RULES FOR BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM C. DOYLE VETERANS' MEMORIAL CEMETERY

5A:4-3.1 Policy

The Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veterans' Memorial Cemetery is New Jersey's public owned and operated veterans' cemetery. As such, it is a memorial to the sacrifices and contributions made by New Jersey's veteran population to the freedoms shared by all of New Jersey's residents.

5A:4-3.2 General operations

(a) Flat, bronze grave markers, as prescribed and provided by the Department of Memorial Affairs, United States Department of Veterans' Affairs, are the only markers permitted at the Veterans' Memorial Cemetery.

(b) No graveside services are permitted. The funeral director and the immediate family of the deceased may witness the actual burial upon request, in which case accommodations will be made for a curbside view of the interment.

(c) Depending upon the availability of resources, the Veterans' Memorial Cemetery will normally be open for visitation seven days a week during the hours of 8:30 A.M. to dusk. The Administrative Office will be open Monday through Friday, during the hours of 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., except for State holidays.

(d) The use of Cemetery grounds for public gatherings of a partisan nature is not permitted.

(e) Boisterous demeaning activity or conduct on any Cemetery grounds is not permitted.

(f) Littering is not permitted.

(g) Only fresh cut flowers, artificial flowers and plants which can be inserted into cones will be allowed. Only two floral cones will be permitted at the top edge of the grave marker. Cones approved are those provided without charge by the Cemetery. Those obtained by the family or obtained privately will conform to those supplied by the Cemetery.

(h) No plantings of any type are permitted on Cemetery grounds or on grave sites. No potted plants, wreaths, flags, emblems, or other forms of decorative articles are permitted on grave sites.

(i) Flowers of any kind which become unsightly, faded or wilted will be removed by Cemetery personnel.

(j) Evergreen blankets and wreaths will be permitted on graves beginning December 15 and will be removed by cemetery personnel no earlier than January 15.

(k) Wreaths are permitted during holidays and will be removed by cemetery personnel one week after the holiday. Holidays include: Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day and Veterans' Day.

(l) Flags will be placed on each grave by cemetery personnel only during "Memorial Day" observance.

(m) The cutting, breaking or injury to the trees, shrubs, grass or other plantings is not permitted.

(n) Recreational activity such as picnicking, ball playing, bicycling, skate boarding, and jogging will not be permitted anywhere on Cemetery grounds. Consumption of any alcoholic beverages is strictly forbidden on Cemetery grounds.

(o) Pets are not permitted on or near any grave site area.

(p) Permission for any type of commercial photography must be received from the CEO prior to the planned event.

**SUBCHAPTER 4. GENERAL OPERATING RULES
FOR FUNERAL DIRECTORS WHEN
DEALING WITH THE BRIGADIER
GENERAL WILLIAM C. DOYLE VETERANS'
MEMORIAL CEMETERY**

5A:4-4.1 General requirements

(a) In an effort to avoid unnecessary stress to the bereaved family and to ensure that the scheduling of interments proceed without delay, funeral directors shall:

1. Confirm appointments for interments with the Interment Scheduling Office of the Cemetery before making any commitments to the family regarding date and time of burial; and

2. Present the following documentation to the CEO at the time of arrival of the cortege at the Cemetery:

- i. The Burial Permit (required for all interments);
- ii. The Military Discharge (DD Form 214) (If the Veteran has pre-registered with the Cemetery this form will not be required);
- iii. The Certified Death Certificate; and
- iv. The proof of New Jersey residency.

(b) The bronze memorial marker each Veteran is entitled to will not be ordered until all of (a) above is complied with.

5A:4-4.2 Funeral directors' responsibilities

(a) For interments in the Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, funeral directors are responsible for the following:

1. All funeral arrangements in compliance with applicable State laws and regulations;
2. Supervision of the cortege;
3. Directions to the Cemetery;
4. Appropriate Honor Guards to render proper Honors and present The Flag of the United States if called for;
5. Clergy if requested for the committal service;
6. Notifying the Cemetery of any qualified children in accordance with U.S.C. Title 38; and
7. Notifying the Cemetery when an oversized or private vault is required.

5A:4-4.3 Chapel

A chapel is available for committal services; additionally, the chapel has a patio for outside services.

5A:4-4.4 Special section

Provisions have been made within a special section of the Veterans' Memorial Cemetery to accommodate veterans of the Jewish faith who individually elect such consideration.

5A:4-4.5 Floral arrangements

(a) Due to the restrictive size of the Veterans' Memorial Cemetery Chapel, only six floral pieces will be brought to the chapel for committal services.

(b) Only six floral pieces will be placed at the grave site. Excess floral pieces may be utilized as the family wishes or disposed of by Cemetery personnel as compost.

(c) The next of kin or representative will sign a flower release form prior to the time of the committal service.