Georgia Department of Veterans Service

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2010 Annual Report

Pete Wheeler, Commissioner

Georgia State Veterans Memorial Cemeteries



REQUIREMENTS FOR BURIAL

- 1. Anyone who is a veteran under the rules established by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and was separated under other than dishonorable conditions, is eligible for burial in a GVMC.
- 2. Any member of the Reserves/National Guard who was eligible for retirement pay at the time of death, or would have been entitled to retired pay but for the fact that they were not at least 60 years of age, is eligible.
- **3.** Anyone who, as a member of the U.S. Armed Forces or a reserve component of the U.S. Armed Forces, died in the line of duty while on active duty, or active duty for training is eligible.
- 4. An eligible veteran's spouse may be interred in the same plot as the veteran at a GVMC.
- 5. The veteran's dependent (unmarried, under age 21, or life-long dependency on the veteran) is eligible. Documentation of eligibility is required.



The Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemeteries, established for the interment of faithful and honorable military veterans, are shrines recognizing all Georgia veterans who have served in the United States Armed Forces.

The cemeteries will be greatly revered, not only by the next of kin and family members of those interred therein, but also by patriotic, veteran, military, and civic organizations and the general public as well.

The cemeteries will be administered, operated, and maintained under the highest standards – standards that will require a high degree of vigilance and devotion.

We in the Georgia Department of Veterans Service accept this challenge with honor.

> - Commissioner Pete Wheeler, Georgia Department of Veterans Service

OTHER RULES

- 1. The non-veteran spouse/dependent will normally be buried with the veteran.
- 2. If the veteran has been buried in a plot for cremated remains, the non-veteran spouse/dependent <u>MUST</u> also choose a burial designated for cremated remains.
- **3.** A standard upright, granite government provided marker will be used to mark the grave for casket burials and in-ground cremations. A small granite cover will be used for cremated remains in the columbarium.

WHAT IS THE COST?

There is no charge for the plot, vault, grave markers, or use of the committal chapel for interment service for an eligible veteran or spouse.

WHAT IS PROVIDED?

- 1. Plot: Next available (no pre-selection)
- **2.** Plot: Next available space for cremated remains that are to be buried
- **3.** Niche: Next available for those that are cremated and placed in the columbarium wall
- **4.** Vault: Concrete Lined (double depth for vet and spouse/dependent)
- 5. Marker: Standard U.S. Government upright granite markers
- 6. Care: Perpetual care provided by the State



Department of Veterans Service Floyd Veterans Alemorial Building Atlanta, Georgia

PETER WHEELER COMMISSIONER (404) 656-2300 FAX (404) 656-7006

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January 31, 2011

Governor Nathan Deal Members of the General Assembly Members of the Veterans Service Board Citizens of the State of Georgia

Greetings:

Section 38-4-11 of the Code of Georgia reads:

"The Commissioner of Veterans Service shall furnish to the Governor, the members of the General Assembly, the Veterans Service Board, veterans' organizations and the public generally an annual report with reference to claims presented on behalf of veterans of this state, concerning veterans aided under federal, state, or local legislation, and to otherwise report activities and accomplishments of the Department of Veterans Service."

In compliance with the above section, I have the honor to present herewith the Annual Report of the Department of Veterans Service for the year 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

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PETE WHEELER Commissioner

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Department Organization



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Veterans Service Board

The Constitution of the State of Georgia specifies that the State Board of Veterans Service be composed of seven members. By law each member must be a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States and must have served honorably during wartime.

The Governor nominates members who are subject to approval by the State Senate. Board members' terms are staggered and are for seven years. From its membership, the Board annually elects a chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary. Every four years the Board elects a Commissioner, through whom it controls the overall policy of the Department of Veterans Service.



2010 Board Members

Kenneth Birdsong Rod Casey Fred T. Fincher James Blaylock Shawn Hanley Ray Hendrix Pat Phillips Chairman Vice Chairman Secretary Member Member Member Member Gordon/Gray Valdosta LaGrange Decatur Atlanta Statesboro Blairsville

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"To Serve Those Who Have Served"

The mission of the Department of Veterans Service is to serve the 773,900 veterans residing in Georgia, their dependents and survivors in all matters pertaining to veterans benefits.

This responsibility falls into two basic tasks: informing veterans and their families about veterans benefits; and directly assisting and advising veterans and their families in securing the benefits to which they are entitled.

To support these missions, the department maintains a claims division, field offices, two veterans nursing homes, two veterans cemeteries, and an information division.

The Claims Division's mission is to process claims and appeals of Georgia veterans.

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The Field Offices, located throughout the state, provide direct assistance to veterans at the local level. The department representatives provide counsel and assist veterans in gathering the documents and information required to support their claims.

The veterans nursing homes provide skilled nursing care to Georgia's war veterans who need those services.

The veterans cemeteries provide final resting places for Georgia's veterans and their spouses and serve as shrines to their memory and their service to our nation.

The Information Division's mission is to keep Georgia veterans informed about these issues.

The uninformed may be prone to use the

phrase "duplication of effort" when referring to the functions of the Department of Veterans Service and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; nothing could be further from the truth. To a veteran seeking benefits from the

MISSIONS:

To assist Georgia's 773,900 veterans with benefits claims to obtain compensation, pension and services from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

To provide nursing home care to veteran patients at the Augusta and Milledgeville state veterans homes.

To provide memorial benefits to Georgia's veterans who served faithfully and honorably in the armed forces of our nation and to their families at the Glennville and Milledgeville state veterans cemeteries that are shrines to the memory of our state's heroes.

VISION:

We will provide the highest quality assistance to Georgia's veterans to aid them in obtaining all the benefits from the federal and state governments to which they are entitled.

We will provide the highest quality nursing home services to Georgia's veteran patients, as judged by VA surveys, state inspections and other accrediting agencies.

We will provide shrine standard services at Georgia's state veterans cemeteries to memorialize our state's fallen and deceased heroes who faithfully and honorably served in the armed forces.

VALUES:

We value the service Georgia's veterans have provided to our nation and our state in the armed forces of our nation and the freedoms we all enjoy because of that service.

We value the ongoing partnership our state has with the VA to provide assistance and service to Georgia's veterans and their families.

VA, the role played by the Department of Veterans Service might be compared to that of an attorney representing a client in court.

The necessity for personal assistance in filing and pursuing claims and in maintaining a continuing information program results from the legal principle that veterans benefits are not awarded automatically – all must be applied for.

The VA pays a veteran exactly what he or she applies for when they are entitled, and no more. The aim of the

Department of Veterans Service is to obtain for a veteran or dependents the benefits to which they are entitled, to tell them when they are entitled, and to assist them in gathering and preparing evidence needed to justify a claim and prove their entitlement.

The advancing age of Korean and Vietnam War veterans, and the frequent changes that occur in veterans benefits legislation, will necessitate the continuance of a variety of veterans programs in the years ahead.

As Congress continues to seek ways to reduce the deficit, veterans benefits will continue to be in a state of flux.

This means veterans will continue to need assistance in interpreting the changes and determining how they impact their personal situation.

Department Functions

•Effectuate and carry out the laws of the state pertaining to veterans.

Inform veterans, their dependents, and survivors as to their rights and benefits under federal and state legislation, or local ordinances.
Assist veterans, their dependents, and their

dishonesty, or

negligence on the part

of any employee dealing with veterans' affairs.

♦Do everything possible to promote and protect the rights of Georgia's veterans under federal and state law.

♦ Apply for and accept gifts, grants, and other contributions from the federal government or from any other governmental units.

♦ Construct and operate nursing homes and personal care homes for the benefit of eligible war veterans.

♦Construct and operate state veterans cemeteries for the benefit of eligible veterans and their dependents.

♦ Advise the Governor, the Board of Veterans Service, and the General Assembly as to needed veterans' legislation.

♦ Maintain files on all veterans who have filed claims for veterans' benefit through the department.

◆Conduct educational programs by personal appearances before veterans' organizations, service clubs, fraternal groups and other such organizations so as to acquaint the public generally with the work of the department. ◆Make representatives of the department available throughout the state to assist all veterans, their dependents, and survivors in preparing and filing claims for benefits and to acquaint them with all legal rights and privileges. ♦Cooperate with all national, state, and local governmental and private agencies, securing

> or offering services or any benefits to veterans and their dependents.

Assist and cooperate with all veterans' organizations in their work.

♦As State Approving Authority, enter into contracts with the federal government for the qualifications,

approval, certification, and supervision of educational institutions and training establishments applying for or participating in federal programs for educating and training veterans.

Assist other states in securing evidence for claims.

♦ Promote enlargement and improvement of VA hospital facilities in the state.

♦ Sponsor observance of Veterans Day in the state.

•Certify eligibility for veterans' drivers licenses and honorary drivers' license.

♦ Certify eligibility for disabled veterans' discount at Department of Natural Resources facilities.

♦Issue Certificates of Exemption from payment of business license tax to qualified veterans.

Assist qualified veterans in obtaining honorary hunting and fishing licenses.

Assist in obtaining special motor vehicle license plates for certain veterans: Medal of Honor and Purple Heart recipients, former prisoners-of-war, handicapped and disabled veterans, and retired military personnel.



Veterans Education and Training Division (State Approving Agency)

B y law, the Georgia Department of Veterans Service is designated as the State Approving Agency, responsible for approving and supervising all institutions and establishments in Georgia, which offer education and training under the provisions of the Veterans Educational Assistance Program.

The State Approving Agency has the function of ensuring that approved institutions and establishments meet and maintain acceptable standards so that eligible persons who attend may receive educational assistance from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

This includes all public and private schools and all establishments offering apprenticeship and other on-the-job training. The satisfactory performance of these duties requires extensive knowledge in education administration and understanding the laws and regulations that govern and control the Veterans Educational Assistance Program.

Georgia veterans enrolled in college degree and professional programs, technical career programs, vocational programs, to include flight training and on-the-job training programs exceeded 21,000 during 2010.

The Montgomery GI Bill education program, initiated in 1985, remains a great success. This program expanded the veterans education benefits program to include vocational, technical, flight, correspondence, and apprenticeship training for reservists and veterans.

"The Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act of 2008," the newest education benefit program expanded the benefits available to certain service members and veterans with active duty military service after September 11, 2001. This GI Bill program was implemented on August 1, 2009. More than 12,000 Georgia veterans used this GI Bill during 2010.

Congress passed the Post 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Improvements Act of 2010 and it was signed by the president. This bill makes significant improvements such as adding OJT/Apprenticeship and Non-College degree schools, Vocational schools and Flight schools to what is covered under the Post 9/11 GI Bill. The changes will be effective August 1, 2011.

This new GI Bill has been described as "the most comprehensive education benefits package since the original GI Bill was signed into law in 1944." For veterans qualified at the 100% tier, the program pays tuition and fees to the school and pays a housing allowance and book stipend to the student.

The Department of Defense has approved a "Transferability of Education Benefits" option for the Post - 9/11 GI Bill. This is a DOD retention program requiring active duty veterans to commit to a four year extension to their six year active duty commitment. DOD eligibility requirements must be met.

In 2010, the approval of educational institutions and training establishments for the education of Georgia veterans result in the processing of 7,000 individual actions in the approval, re-approval, withdrawal and compliance survey process. The State Approving Agency also conducted regular inspection visits to ensure that approval criteria and schools' standards of progress are being followed as prescribed by law.

During 2010, personnel assigned to the Veterans Educational and Training Division conducted about 560 visits for the purpose of approval, re-approval, inspection and compliance surveys. Currently, the department monitors more than 1,250 educational institutions and training establishments.

In 2010, SDVS continued to expand opportunities for Georgia veterans to receive their Education Benefits while enrolled in approved On-The-Job Training (OJT) and Apprenticeship programs. For more information on all GI Bill programs go to: www.gibill.va.gov.

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Information Division

The Information Division collects, evaluates, and disseminates information to veterans regarding benefits changes in laws, and proper procedures to be followed in the filing of claims.

When appropriate, the division mails news and information releases concerning veterans

communication program, the Division keeps the field offices informed about changes in the law and policy interpretations that impact veterans.

The Information Division maintains the department website, www.sdvs.georgia.gov, which contains news releases, information about Commissioner Wheeler, state veterans benefits,

affairs to newspapers, radio and television stations throughout Georgia.

The releases are used to inform veterans about the latest changes regarding veterans affairs and to provide information on the status of proposed or pending legislation which may affect them

Field personnel promote the department and the services it provides by their frequent contacts with the news media in their respective areas.

Public speaking forums are an important ingredient of the department's overall information program. All department personnel are encouraged to accept speaking engagements at meetings of veterans organizations and civic clubs. These personal appearances provide excellent opportunities for telling the veterans benefits story. Department personnel also participate in local radio talk shows and make presentations at local schools.

The Information Division compiles, edits, and publishes a series of pamphlets explaining in detail the various benefits available to veterans, their dependents, and survivors. These pamphlets are updated as changes occur in laws, regulations, or benefits.

Through an aggressive internal

facebook.com/gavetsvc twitter.com/gavetsvc



the Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home in Augusta, the Georgia War Veterans Home in Milledgeville, the Georgia Veterans **Memorial Cemeteries** in Milledgeville and Glennville, locations of the Field Offices, and approved OJT/ Apprenticeships facilities.

In 2010, in

an effort to expand the department's digital outreach, the Information Division launched a social media initiative.

Veterans, their families, and all others interested in veteran-related news are encouraged to follow @gavetsvc on Twitter, where the department is leveraging the social media service to share the latest news of the day as it happens.

Those interested in more in-depth news and a chance to interact with other veterans and veteran advocates are encouraged to "like" the Georgia Department of Veterans Service's page on Facebook, www.facebook.com/gavetsvc.

As the department's presence on Twitter and Facebook expands, www.sdvs.georgia. gov will remain the source of official Georgia Department of Veterans Service information, while it is envisioned that these social media outlets will be used for sharing more general news and events of interest to Georgia veterans.

GWVNH-Augusta

he Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home (GWVNH) in Augusta is a 192-bed skilled nursing care facility

of 239 days. Services to patients included 4626 physical therapy treatments and 3681 individual occupational therapy procedures.

located adjacent to the campus of the Georgia Health Sciences University, formally known as the Medical College of Georgia. The facility is also adjacent to the Charlie Norwood Veterans Affairs Medical Center. It is operated under an interagency



Veteran patients were treated by a medical director and family medicine residents providing daily physician coverage. Other services were provided by a certified activities therapist and staff, two facility social workers and a staff of registered, licensed practical

agreement between the Georgia Department of Veterans Service and the Georgia Health Sciences University.

Primarily, the facility provides medical and nursing services to Georgia's aged and infirmed veterans. GWVNH also serves as a teaching facility to acquaint medical, pharmacy and allied health students with the medical conditions and diseases of the aged. This provides students with practical experience and helps them gain expertise in treating the disabled and the elderly.

In addition, the facility also houses a Georgia Department of Veterans Service field office that serves veterans of Richmond and Columbia counties.

Dedicated in 1969, the facility was the first of its kind in the nation to be built with financial grant assistance from the federal government. It is one of a select group of such institutions that is accredited by the Joint Commission.

In fiscal year 2010, the nursing home provided 61,301 days of care to Georgia's veterans with an average age of 80. During the year, there were 205 admissions and 219 discharges with an average length of stay nurses and certified nursing assistants.

To help provide care and treatment, the federal government through the Department of Veterans Affairs provided financial assistance totaling in excess of \$4.9 million during 2010.

Major renovations to the facility, started in 2009, were completed in 2010 with improved facilities for patients and staff. Patient bathrooms, congregate baths, the dining room, and the kitchen were all renovated. Additionally, the nursing stations were redesigned and renovated to promote and privacy of patient information. With donations made to the patient benefit fund from the Georgia Department of the American Legion's Commanders' Joint Project, patient alcoves on each nursing unit were renovated to provide private visiting areas and telephone access for veterans and their families.

Throughout the year, veteran service organizations, civic and fraternal organizations and religious groups demonstrated their concern for the well being of veteran patients through numerous donations, visits, and sponsorship of frequent activities for GWVNH residents.

GWVH-Milledgeville

The Georgia War Veterans Home, situated on approximately 17 acres in the central Georgia city of

Building (\$315,000) and the Wood Building (\$630,144).

The Office of Regulatory Services of

Milledgeville, is a 550-bed facility licensed and certified to provide skilled nursing care to aged and infirm Georgia war veterans. United Veteran Services of Georgia, Inc., a subsidiary of UHS-Pruitt Corporation of Norcross, Georgia, operates the home



the Georgia Department of Human Resources conducted an unannounced licensure survey of each skilled nursing unit of the home in February and found no deficiencies. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs conducted its annual survey of the home in May, and the

for the Department of Veterans Service under a contractual agreement.

The home operated three skilled nursing care facilities in 2010, which included the Richard B. Russell Building with 126 budgeted beds; the Joe T. Wood Building with 150 budgeted beds; and the Alzheimer's Wing of the Pete Wheeler Building with 20 budgeted beds. Due to fiscal constraints, the 105-bed Carl Vinson Building has temporarily suspended operations. The plan is to reopen it as soon as the economy improves and the home returns to normal operations.

The Georgia Department of Veterans Service field office serving Baldwin, Hancock, Putnam, Washington, and Wilkinson counties is housed on the first floor of the Vinson Building. Veteran related contacts for this field office totaled 16,210 for 2010. This office also serves the 300 veterans of the Georgia War Veterans Home by assisting with compensation and pension claims, counseling services and family related issues.

Construction projects for 2010 consisted of life safety and electrical upgrades to the Vinson

home was determined to be in compliance with VA standards. The VA certified the home for continued operation as a state veterans home.

The veteran patients at the home received 93,581 days of skilled nursing care. The nursing home admitted 40 patients and had 17 discharges in 2010. The average length of stay for current skilled veteran patients is 958 days.

Federal assistance in funding a portion of the cost of providing care to veterans in the home amounted to \$7,633,642.93. As in previous years, many veterans service organizations, civic and church groups, continued their sponsorship of numerous activities such as movies, games, dance parties, bingo, picnics, and other activities and programs for the general well-being of the veteran patients at the home. Groups and individuals that comprised the equivalent of 1,903 individual volunteers providing in excess of 4,510 hours of time valued at over \$67,650.00 presented over 638 activities during the year.

The value of in-kind donations made available to the home was \$52,643.54. Groups and individuals also provided direct monetary donations of \$30,028.04 in the year.

GVMC-Milledgeville

The Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Milledgeville is located approximately 5 miles south of

downtown Milledgeville along Georgia Highway 112. This cemetery, established on 142 acres the Georgia Department of Veterans Service received from the Georgia Forestry Commission, includes an administration/visitor center with a state of the art information booth, a committal chapel,

a carillon, and 12 columbarium shelters for cremations. Cemetery grounds also include a six-acre lake and a three-acre, multi-tier walled ceremonial area available for use by veterans organizations on remembrance days, such as Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

In September 2010 construction was started on Phase II of the cemetery. This phase encompasses about 10 acres and will add approximately 1,300 casketed burial plots and 600 cremation plots in the cemetery. Completion of this phase is projected for May 2011.

The cemetery will eventually be the final resting place for more than 100,000 eligible veterans, their spouses and eligible dependents.

There were 213 burials in 2010, making the total-to-date 1,533 veterans, spouses, and dependents buried at the GVMC. The burials are composed of 1,075 casketed burials, 259 cremations in the columbarium, 183 in-ground cremations, and 16 memorial markers.

In April 2010 the GVMC gave a presentation to the Macon Chapter of National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE). Approximately 30 people attended.

Flags were placed on all burial sites at the front entrance in recognition of Memorial Day. A Memorial Day ceremony held on May 31, 2010 and was co-hosted by the Georgia



Forestry Commission. Mr. Robert Farris of the Georgia Forestry Commission and Mr. Dan Holtz of the Georgia Department of Veterans

> Service dedicated a tree to the memory of Georgia Veterans. Crepe myrtle seedlings were given out to all the approximately 150 attendees.

The cemetery placed flags at the front entrance in recognition of Flag Day on June 14, 2010, for Independence Day on July 4, 2010, and additional

flags on each gravesite in recognition of Veterans Day on November 11, 2010.

In October the GVMC participated in the Governor's Award for Customer Service Program and received an award for Team Excellence for 2010.

On December 11, 2010, the cemetery hosted its fifth annual Wreaths Across America ceremony honoring our past and present military. Seven wreaths were presented honoring each branch of our Armed Forces, Merchant Marines and POW/MIA. The ceremony included members of the Patriot Guard Riders, an Honor Detail from Georgia Army National Guard, and representatives of each branch of service. Approximately 150 people attended the ceremony. The Worcester Wreath Company provided the seven wreaths for the ceremony. The GVMC received approximately 150 wreaths from donations to the cemetery. These wreaths were place on the gravesites by attendees following the ceremony.

Cemetery staff members remain active in the local community by meeting frequently with business groups, veterans organizations, and church groups. The cemetery staff also provided an information display at the Department's annual Supermarket of Veterans Benefits held in Valdosta, Georgia this year.

GVMC-Glennville

he Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery – Glennville is situated on the 42.6- acre site of the former Foreign Wars post. Cemetery Director Richard Dunlop was the guest speaker for the ceremony. He took the opportunity to thank the veterans and

Dyess Farm, just north of the Glennville, Georgia city limits. It is located along U.S. Highway 301, 25 miles west of the main post of Fort Stewart. The initial 26-acre phase of the cemetery contains 1,400 pre-placed inground double vaults, for eligible veterans, their spouses, and eligible dependents; 766



local community for their support of the cemetery. As a retired Army veteran, he also took the time to express to the crowd the importance of Memorial Day and remembering those that have served this great country. Also speaking during the program were Georgia District 19 Senator Tommie Williams

conventional single-depth sites; 1,384 cremation internment sites, which include a columbarium and in-ground sites; and 429 spaces for memorial markers. These memorial markers are placed in memory of those veterans whose remains are unavailable for burial.

A key feature of the cemetery is the colocation of the Glennville Veterans Service Office in the Administration Building and Visitor Center. This office provides assistance to veterans and their families with applications for veterans benefits and claims. The office provides service to veterans and their families in Bryan, Liberty, Long, Tattnall, and Wayne counties.

GVMC – Glennville was dedicated on November 28, 2007 and will eventually be the final resting place for more than 21,000 veterans and their spouses and eligible dependents. As of December 31, 2010, there were 290 veterans, spouses, and family members interred in the cemetery.

During the past year, Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery – Glennville hosted its annual Memorial Day ceremony to honor veterans who paid the ultimate sacrifice in service of our country. The ceremony was held in conjunction with the Glennville American Legion post and the Glennville Veterans of and Georgia District 165 Representative Al Williams. Over 125 attended the ceremony.

For Veterans Day, the Glennville Rotary Club and the Glennville Chamber of Commerce placed flags at the grave markers of the veterans interred in the cemetery.

Effective November 1, 2010, Mr. Dunlop retired with over 14 years of service. He was the cemetery's first director, beginning his service during its construction phase. He was succeeded by Mr. Ernie Cowart.

In December, the Bonaventure Children of the American Revolution Society sponsored a Wreaths Across America ceremony to place wreaths at all the interment sites in the cemetery. The Air Force JROTC of Effingham County High School took part in the ceremony and provided the color guard. A bugler from Bugles Across America provided a live version of Taps. More than 100 people attended the ceremony and then helped place wreaths at the graves.

Cemetery staff members remain active in the local community by meeting frequently with business groups, veterans organizations, and other various groups. The cemetery staff provided an information display and participated in the annual Supermarket of Veterans Benefits, held in Valdosta, Georgia.

SDVS Statistical Report

Contacts	567,836
New Case Files	
Hearings	401
Letters Written	
Compensation and Pension	
Education	2,037
Medical	19,123
Insurance	1,410
Loans	
Powers of Attorney	17,330
Changes of Address	1,816
Notices of Disagreement and Appeals Filed	5,302
Vocational Rehabilitation	945
VA Claims Folders Reviewed	
Driver Licenses	
Business Licenses	
Nursing Home Applications	430
License Plates	1,298
Natural Resources	2,437
Tax Exemptions	1,070
Preference Points	544
Welfare Assistance/Social Security	4,051
Miscellaneous Personal Affairs	
Other Forms and Evidence	

Statistical Report Definitions

Below is an explanation of the terms described in the report (opposite) of the number of cases and types of services rendered by the Georgia Department of Veterans Service during 2010.

CONTACTS: Requests for service or information (in person, by telephone or by letter).

NEW CASE FILES: Cases brought to the attention of the Veterans Service Department for assistance requiring representation.

LETTERS WRITTEN: Outgoing

correspondence originated in the Department on behalf of claimants in developing their claims.

COMPENSATION AND PENSION: Claims for monetary benefits submitted by veterans, their dependents or survivors.

EDUCATION: Applications for educational assistance for the veterans and/or wives, widows and children of veterans.

MEDICAL: Applications for treatment of a medical or dental condition; for admission to health care facilities; and vocational rehabilitation.

INSURANCE: An application for insurance, conversion, reinstatement, waiver of premiums, total disability income and death proceeds.

HOME LOAN APPLICATION:

Applications for direct home loans from the VA and guaranteed loans from private lenders.

POWERS OF ATTORNEY: The

appointment of a service organization as a claimant's representative.

NOTICES OF DISAGREEMENT AND APPEALS FILED: Written briefs and statements prepared in support of a claim where there is disagreement with the VA decision rendered.

VA CLAIMS FOLDERS REVIEWED:

Claims obtained from the VA adjudication division and reviewed and rating boards conducted by claims staff personnel.

DRIVERS LICENSES: Certificates issued to veterans, their spouses, or to widows or widowers of veterans for obtaining a veteran's or honorary driver's license.

BUSINESS LICENSES: Certificates issued to certain disabled veterans exempting them from the payment of business license taxes.

OTHER FORMS AND EVIDENCE:

Documents completed and transmitted in support of applications filed for claims.

MISCELLANEOUS: Assisting in arrangements for military funerals, burial in national cemeteries, obtaining flags and grave markers, ambulance service, guardianship for incompetent veterans and orphans; replacement of lost or destroyed discharges and military records; review and change of discharges and military records; employment, reemployment, civil service preference, social security, welfare and related benefits; claims from the field reviewed and released to the VA; actions pertaining to DV auto tags, hunting and fishing licenses, tax exemptions, state park discount cards and change of addresses; vocational rehabilitation; and nursing home applications.

SDVS Financial Report

For the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2010

<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
19,816,805 15,869,973 2,375,893	19,243,015 15,771,217 2,375,893
38,062,671	37,390,125
<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
6,656,292	6,568,042
457,830	389,579
234,683	234,576
162,469	160,483
7,522	6,975
17,021,857	16,823,976
2,375,893	2,375,893
11,008,798	10,839,202
117,327	70,099
20,000	2,033
	19,816,805 15,869,973 2,375,893 38,062,671 <u>BUDGET</u> 6,656,292 457,830 234,683 162,469 7,522 17,021,857 2,375,893 11,008,798 117,327

38,062,671

37,470,858

VA Monetary Benefits & Definitions

Listed below is a report of the monetary benefits received by the veterans and the dependent survivors of deceased veterans in Georgia during fiscal year 2010 (October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010). The figures were provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

> Compensation and Pension \$1,722,943,000

Medical & Construction \$1,228,167,000

Insurance and Indemnities \$49,478,000

Education and Vocational Rehabilitation \$372,060,000

General Operating Expenses \$126,946,000

> *Total* \$3,499,594,000



Compensation and Pension: Represents returns in dollars for veterans compensation for service-connected disability, compensation for service-connected deaths for veterans dependents, veterans dependency and indemnity compensation for service-connected deaths, pensions for nonservice connected disability for veterans, pensions to veterans surviving spouses and children, and burial expenses allowance for veterans.

Insurance: Estimate of VA payment of death claims, mature endowments, dividends, cash surrender payments, total disability income provision payments, and total permanent disability benefits payments. The data is provided by the VA Regional Office and Insurance Center in Philadelphia. The estimate is based on statistical allocations using the veteran population to disperse amounts to geographical locations.

Readjustment and Vocational Rehabilitation:

Represents returns in dollars for automobiles and adaptive equipment for certain disabled veterans and members of the Armed Forces, specially adapted housing for disabled veterans, dependents education assistance (Chapter 35), vocational rehabilitation for disabled veterans (Chapter 31), post-Vietnam Era veterans educational assistance (Chapter 32), and the Montgomery G.I. Bill for Selected Reserves (Chapter 106).

General Operating Costs: Amount spent by the VA to operate the regional office, hospitals, nursing and domiciliary facilities and clinics in Georgia.



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ATLANTA REGIONAL OFFICE 1700 CLAIRMONT ROAD DECATUR, GA 30033

February 10, 2011

Mr. Pete Wheeler, Commissioner Georgia State Department of Veterans Services Floyd Veterans Memorial Building Suite E-970 Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some of the accomplishments and events that took place at the Atlanta VA Regional Office (RO) during fiscal year (FY) 2010 ending September 30, 2010. The fiscal year was a very exciting and extremely busy year. The Rapid Evaluation of Veterans Claims (REV) program was a local initiative implemented to expedite the processing of Veterans' claims.

VETERANS SERVICE CENTER

During FY2010, the Veterans Service Center (VSC) completed 37,570 rating claims with an average of 195.2 days to complete a claim. This level of productivity exceeded the established target (28,278) by 32 percent. In FY2011, the VSC will continue our focus on increasing the number of rating claims completed in order to address the number of projected claim receipts. The VSC is also focusing on reducing the rating inventory pending more than 125 days as well as claims pending over one year, homeless veterans claims, and improving the accuracy of our decisions.

Last year, the Atlanta VSC received over 42,000 claims, which represents a 26.1 percent increase in claims received compared to the same period in FY2009. Staffing levels have remained at 341 full time employees for the past year.

The Atlanta VSC conducted 10 Yellow Ribbon events in FY2010. These events provided assistance to 5,065 Army and Marine Corps Veterans along with their families. Additionally, 253 briefings were conducted providing over 6,000 service members information on VA benefits. With forward thinking and proper planning, the Atlanta VSC will seek new methods and opportunities to inform veterans of our services and benefits to which they are entitled. In October 2010 the RO assisted the Decatur VAMC with the Homeless Veterans Standown.

Standown provided medical care and benefit information assistance to more than 400 Veterans during the event.

In FY2010, the Atlanta VSC expanded its Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES) program to Fort Benning, Moody, and Robins Air Force Bases. The IDES program was previously only available at Fort Stewart. The IDES program is designed to expedite payment of VA benefits after the service members are separated from service. It incorporates a single disability rating decision and a single disability rating by the VA.

In FY2010, the Atlanta RO implemented the Rapid Evaluation of Veterans' Claims (REV) initiative. REV promotes veteran ownership of the claims process by providing veterans a choice to have their claims for increases decided based solely on the evidence they submit and/or electronic records from VA Medical Centers (VAMC). The Atlanta VSC completed 153 REV claims with an average days to complete of 9.6 days. A total of 102 claims or 66.7% of claims in this program resulted in grants to Georgia veterans.

EDUCATION

The Atlanta Regional Processing Office (RPO) is responsible for 16.6% of the nationwide education benefits workload.

The RPO processed 527,258 claims in FY2010. Average Days to Complete for original claims processing went from 34.2 days in FY2009 to 53.1 in FY2010 for an increase of 18.9 days. The Average Days to Complete for supplemental claims processing increased from 14 days in FY2009 to 17.8 days in FY2010. The increase in processing timeliness was due to the implementation of the Post 9/11 GI Bill and the significant backlog of claims the RPO began with in FY2010. The RPO began accepting applications on May 1, 2009, and disbursing payments on August 1, 2009. Despite this increased workload, the RPO maintained a 95.6% payment accuracy rate during FY2010. The RPO workload increased 43.2% in FY 2010 with the Post 9/11 GI Bill. A second shift, of 48 employees, was hired to assist with Post 9/11 GI Bill payment processing from February 2010 through September 2010. The Atlanta RPO processed 294,498 claims since the inception of the Post 9/11 GI Bill program.

The Post 9/11 GI BILL (CH 33) continued to impact processing during FY2010. The highly manual processing and payment system for CH 33 was replaced during FY 2010. Improved technology released in December 2010 now allows for automated payment processing, which will have a positive impact on our processing.

In the area of Customer Service, the RPO assisted 37,159 students via Internet inquiries and interviewed 7,985 students visiting the RPO. Telephone inquiries regarding education benefits are processed in the Educational Call Center

located in Muskogee, Oklahoma. The Outreach Section of the Education Division presented information at sixty-five (65) Outreach events during 2010 that provided information to school certifying officials and veterans

LOAN GUARANTY

Our Loan Guaranty division experienced a year full of changes and challenges. The Atlanta Regional Loan Center (RLC) continued to lead the nation in number of properties appraised (42,618) and the number of VA loans closed (49,583).

During the year, the decision to consolidate the Winston-Salem Certificate of Eligibility function into the Atlanta RLC was finalized. The full transfer of this eligibility function will be completed during fiscal year 2011. Also, during the past year, we issued 93,998 certificates of eligibility, which represents 24% of all certificates issued nationally for the year.

Our Loan Production staff provided training and outreach for approximately 1950 program participants (lenders, veterans, and real estate professionals) during 44 events during the year. Again this year, we participated in the Supermarket for Veterans sponsored annually by the Georgia State Department of Veterans Services.

Our Loan Administration staff provided assistance to 4,873 veterans and their families to avoid foreclosure through one of our successful alternatives. As our job one mission, we administered 183 special adapted housing grants totaling \$8.5 million dollars to our most deserving disabled veterans. In addition to these extremely important accomplishments, forty of our Loan Administration employees dedicated three months (January to March 2010) to assist the Atlanta Education division in the processing and payment of 13,484 backlogged Chapter 33 education claims under the new GI Bill. We look forward to a new and challenging fiscal year, with confidence that all assigned missions will be accomplished and our veteran customers will be well served by the Loan Guaranty Team.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND EMPLOYMENT

The Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment Division (VR&E) continues to be active in establishing early intervention strategies with Service members preparing for discharge from active duty. These activities including ongoing efforts with the Coming Home To Work (CHTW) program at Fort Gordon (Augusta), GA, Fort Benning (Columbus), GA, and Fort Stewart (Savannah), GA, as well as participation in forums with the Community Based Health Care Organization across the State of Georgia.

The Coming Home to Work program targets active duty Service members who are within six months of being discharged; with emphasis on those who are in a

medical hold status. VR&E staff are able to begin the steps of the Chapter 31 initial assessment, entitlement determination, adjustment counseling, vocational exploration, and other preparations for their eventual Servicemembers, who might otherwise wait to be discharged, apply for, and complete the VA's disability rating process.

The Atlanta VR&E office maintains an active workload, which is the fourth largest in the nation, with an average open case count of approximately 4,000. In FY 2010, this VR&E office received 4,333 applications for Chapter 31, VR&E services. The first quarter of FY 2011 produced 966 applications for these services and, the Division continues to assist veterans in returning to suitable, competitive employment.

The provision of Independent Living services continued to grow during FY2010. The program targets veterans whose disabilities are or became, so severe to prevent them from participating in competitive employment. Program goals are targeted for independent functioning in the home and community, to the maximum extent possible.

CONCLUSION

As the RO moves into the New Year, we continue to strive to provide high levels of service to the Veterans of Georgia. I look forward to continuing our spirit of cooperation and service to all our constituents and stakeholders. I appreciate the partnership that we have developed in our joint effort to improve the services provided to our Veterans. Your assistance is invaluable to our efforts.

As always, we look forward to working with you and your staff serving our Veterans in 2011.

Our best wishes to you for the New Year.

Sincerely,

A. Bocchicchio Director





Governor Perdue's Veterans Day Proclamation Signing



Supermarket of Veterans Benefits in Valdosta



Supermarket of Veterans Benefits in Valdosta



VA Clinic Dedications



"Play it Again Pete" Golf Tournament

Georgia's Veterans Service Organizations

n rendering service to the veterans of Georgia, the Department of Veterans Service works closely with the state's veterans organizations and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. This Department sincerely appreciates the leaders of the veterans organizations in Georgia, who so generously give their time, energy, and expertise in conducting the Department Commanders Conference. The group meets periodically and when called upon, and advises and assists this Department in its group activities.

The Department also appreciates the auxiliary presidents of Georgia veterans organizations for their cooperation and assistance in programs and activities.

As in years past, Commissioner Wheeler or key staff members participated in their annual state conventions presenting information to delegates about ongoing SDVS activities and issues that impact Georgia veterans.



2010 Jewish War Veterans National Convention, Savannah

Georgia's VSO Leadership



American Ex-Prisoners of War Ray Reierson of Savannah State Commander www.axpow.org



The American Legion Charlie Tucker of Marietta State Commander Lola Harper of Jackson Auxiliary President www.galegion.org



AMVETS Chester Wright of Valdosta State Commander Eve Wright of Dublin Auxiliary President www.amvets.org/georgia.html



Blinded Veterans Association Joesph McNeil of Columbus State President www.grgbva.org



Disabled American Veterans Michael Dover of Ellerslie State Commander Ann Wilner of North Augusta, SC Auxiliary President www.georgia-dav.org



GA Federal/Military Retiree Coalition Bill Douglas of Warner Robins State President www.georgiamoaa.org/GFMRC



Georgia Vietnam Veterans Alliance Marvin Myers of Doraville President www.gvva.org



Jewish War Veterans of America Joseph Kraut of Fairmount State Commander Shirley Rich of Atlanta Auxiliary President www.jwv.org



Marine Corps League E.B. Stollenwerck of Macon Commandant, Dept. of Georgia www.mcldeptofga.org



Military Officers Association of America Dan Holtz of Douglasville State President www.georgiamoaa.org

SUBLER PURCHA

Military Order of the Purple Heart James Yancey of Fort Valley State Commander Diane G. Jenkins of Augusta Auxiliary President www.purpleheart.org



Reserve Officers Association Judy Dougherty of Tyrone

State President www.roa.org



Veterans of Foreign Wars

Leonard Ott of Jonesboro State Commander Penny Bowers of Blackshear Auxiliary President www.gavfw.org





THE AMERICAN LEGION

DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA



Commissioner Pete Wheeler Georgia Department of Veterans Affairs Floyd Veterans Memorial Building, Suite E-970 Atlanta, GA 30344

Dear Commissioner Wheeler,

On behalf of the American Legion, Department of Georgia, I would like to thank you for your continued support of the programs and facilities for our Veterans in the great state of Georgia. It has been a honor to work with you and your staff through these trying times of budget crunches and cut-backs, and still maintain the professionalism and dedication to the veterans of our great state.

You are truly "the Veteran's Veteran." We in Georgia are very fortunate to have such a dedicated individual as yourself representing our veterans. The respect that you have brought to Georgia is recognized nationwide.

I was honored to assist with the Supermarket of Benefits held in Valdosta and to see the turnout of veterans seeking help and assistance from the Department of Veterans Affairs. This exemplifies the dedication you have instilled in all the staff of the Department.

Time and time again I see the outcome of those dedicated personnel that approach each task as a task of helping and not look at it as a job. Our veterans know they are receiving the very best we have to offer.

We, the American Legion Department of Georgia stand ready to assist in any manner that will continue to grow the programs and services we can offer to the veterans that have served so well. The Department is here to stand with you and for you in the ongoing challenges we face with each tomorrow.

Best wishes to you and your staff for continued sucess.

For God and Country,

Charle Tuch

Charles T. Tucker Department Commander

3035 Mt. Zion Road, Stockbridge, Georgia 30281 • Tel: 678-289-8883



The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Georgia 3035 Mt. Zion Road Stockbridge, GA 30281 TEL (678) 289-8446 FAX (678) 289-9496 E-mail: amlegaux@bellsouth.net

January 17, 2011

Commissioner Pete Wheeler Georgia Department of Veterans Services Floyd Veterans Memorial Building Suite E-970 Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

The American Legion Auxiliary is the world's largest non-profit patriotic women's service organization in the world, and it is my honor to represent 11,909 members in Georgia as their State President. On behalf of our members, I thank you and your staff for your outstanding service and support to our veterans and their families throughout Georgia.

We feel we are very fortunate to have you serving as Commissioner of Veterans Services in our great State. May God bless you and your staff for your concern and devotion to our veterans. It is because of your leadership that they enjoy all of the wonderful programs and benefits you continue to provide for them now and have provided for them over the years.

For God and Country,

ola A. Harper

Lola A. Harper, President American Legion Auxiliary Department of Georgia



Leonard D. Ott

State Commander

2010-2011

Heterans of Foreign Mars of the United States

Department of Georgia

Phone: (478) 474-3737 Fax: (478) 474-6853 Email: gahq@gavfw.org 739 Huntingdon Dr. Jonesboro, Georgia 30236 Phone: (770) 471-2589 Cell: (678) 977-1256

December 2010

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

On behalf of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary, let me express the gratitude and pride in this organizations association with you and the Georgia Department of Veterans Service staff through out the state. We appreciate the accomplishments and dedication of each and every member of your staff. Their dedication is a direct reflection on the leadership and example that you provide for them on a day-to-day basis.

Your fight for the veterans of our state has produced additional Veterans Administration (VA) Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC) throughout the state. This effort has brought the medical care to the veteran where it is needed, thereby eliminating travel by the veteran to receive the medical attention, which they deserve. We encourage and support your fight to gain additional CBOCs throughout Georgia.

We are proud of our association with the Georgia Department of Veterans Service and working with the State Veteran service Officers, GDVS Claims staff, GDVS Field Offices, GDVS Cemetery staff, and the War Veterans Homes in Milledgeville and Augusta. We know that employees are a true veterans advocate because of their dedication, handwork and attitude as they perform in their job.

We know the future holds many challenges for you and your staff because of the current world situation with warriors returning with injuries that would not have been treatable in the past. This traumatic condition has thrust your Department into "uncharted waters". Rest assured that the men and women of the VFW and Ladies Auxiliary will stand tall with you in your quest to provide for all the veterans in the State of Georgia.

Sincerely,

Leonard D. Ott

State Commander

"Our Mission – To Grow – Together" Over The Top Pepartment of Georgia Ladies Auxiliary To The Peterans of Foreign Mars of the United States Founded 1914



Instituted June 21, 1948

Honorable Pete Wheeler, Commissioner Georgia Department of Veterans Service Floyd Veterans Memorial Building, Suite E-970 Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Commissioner Wheeler,

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary, Department of Georgia, are proud to serve the Veterans in this great state. On behalf of the nearly 5900 members of the Ladies Auxiliary, I would like to express my gratitude to you and your staff for the exceptional service you provide to our Veterans and their families throughout Georgia.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary value the partnership that has existed between our organization and your department. We appreciate your superb effort to consistently ensure that all Veterans, their widows and orphans receive all federal, state and local government benefits to which they are entitled.

We look forward to continuing our association with you and the Department of Veterans Service. Please do not hesitate to call upon the Ladies Auxiliary if we can be of service to you or assist you in any way.

With warm regards,

Dawers enne

Penny D. Bowers³ Department President' 2010-2011



Michael P. Dover Department Commander

Kevin C. Hill Department Adjutant

Emanuwel Dixon Department Senior Vice Commander

Glenn Martin Department 1st Junior Vice Commander

Beverley Vereen Department 2nd Junior Vice Commander

Bobby Huggins Department 3rd Junior Vice Commander

> Harriet Staten Department Treasurer

Manuel (Manny) Lozano Department Judge Advocate

> Charles Weeks Inspector General

Franklin Brown Department Chaplain

4462 Houston Ave Macon, GA 31206

Phone: 478-781-7336 Fax: 478-788-2934 Email: davmavet2@yahoo.com Website: http://www.davmembers portal.org/ga/default.asp Honorable Peter Wheeler Commissioner Georgia Department of Veterans Services Floyd Veterans Memorial Building Suite E970 Atlanta, GA 30334

Commissioner Wheeler,

In June of 2010, the State of Georgia finished its 90th DAV Convention held in Perry Georgia. The elections conducted brought together a great team to continue the time honored tradition of building better lives for our disabled veterans and their families for the future. Under this new leadership a motto was developed to ensure continuity among the state's members and chapters. That motto is: "One Mind, One Team." It is with this motto that Georgia DAV Members can rally around so that all levels within our department will maintain the high standards of professionalism that veterans and their families have come to know and understand. It will be through this unity of effort that communities will be saturated with information and the good works associated with the DAV and your department.

I would like to share with you now the results of this past year. Our National Service Officers are some of the best in this nation and their activities for the fiscal year 2009-2010 include reviewing over 3238 files. 1978 Power Attorneys were received and they conducted 4233 interviews. 2825 rating board appearances were made and 3527 new claims were filed along with 16,156 other office activities. Our NSOs have obtained \$26,576,934.00 in retro and annual awards for new service connection and \$27,220,147.00 for compensation increase. Increases in pension equaled \$2,138,134.00 and the total amount of benefits to include maintaining compensation, education benefits and death benefits is \$102,316,095.00.

Another important position within our department is our van transportation network managed by three Hospital Service Coordinators (HSC). These HSCs are talented and resourceful when assisting veterans with transportation needs. The Department of Georgia's transportation network covers 65 counties and 11 counties in South Carolina. We have 26 vans; three just purchased and put to good use at each of Georgia's three VA hospitals in Decatur, Augusta and Dublin. Over 150 van drivers donated over 19,161 hours and drove 145,037 miles to assist 11,003 veterans.

The Department of Georgia supports six VA hospitals, Decatur, Augusta, Dublin, Georgia; Charleston, South Carolina; Lake City, Florida and Tuskegee Alabama.

Our upcoming events include the Department Spring Conference 18-20 March, 2011 and our Department Convention, 2-4 June, 2011.

Very respectfully,

Michael P. Dover Disabled American Veterans Department of Georgia, Inc. Commander



Department of Georgia Disabled American Weterans Auxiliary

December 30, 2010

Honorable Pete Wheeler Commissioner, Department of Veterans Services Floyd Veterans Memorial Building, Ste. E-907 Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

On behalf of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary in the State of Georgia, I would like to take this opportunity to "Thank You" for all that you do for the Veterans of our proud state of Georgia. It is with utmost gratitude that we as an organization support all that you do so that we can make this a successful state for our Disabled Veterans and their families.

Over the last couple of years you have made great strides in keeping our Georgia War Hospitals open and running so that our Veterans have a place to live. Our organization holds cookouts each year for the Veterans in the Georgia War's located in Milledgeville, GA and in Augusta, GA. The Veterans love it when we come out there and their spirits are always high when we are there.

Our Auxiliary units do as much as they can to help veterans and their families especially during these tough times. The State of Georgia does all it can to help as many of our Veterans and their family's as much as we can.

We hope that you continue to keep up the good work that will help our fellow veterans for years to come. People like you are what make a difference in the lives of our Veterans and their family's if it wasn't for people like you and your staff our Veterans wouldn't have a voice in the State. Thank you for all you do.

The Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary of Georgia, would like to thank you again and hope that you will continue to do and keep doing everything that you can to help our Veterans for many more years to come.

Very Respectfully Yours in Service

Ann Wilner

Ann Wilner, State Commander Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary



AMVETS

DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA

Chester Wright Commander, Georgia Phone: 229-251-7558

ga.amvets.exdir@bellsouth.net Valdosta, GA. 31603 FAX: 229-241-1766

P.O. Box 1822

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

On behalf of the AMVETS Department of Georgia, we sincerely appreciate everything that you and your staff do for the veterans in Georgia and throughout the United States. I personally thank you for being a member of AMVETS. In addition, I would also like to thank Mr. Brian Zeringue for the valuable information he send to the Department.

We really enjoy your present at the opening ceremony at our annually State Convention. This year, our convention would be June 5, 2011 in Augusta Georgia.

Commissioner Wheeler, you and your staff have the full support of AMVETS in your efforts to serve our veterans. Please do not hesitate to call if we can assist you or your staff in anyway.

Sincerely,

Chester Wright

Chester Wright State Commander


AMVETS LADIES AUXILIARY Department of Georgia December 15, 2010

Mr. Pete Wheeler, Commissioner Georgia Department of Veterans Affairs Floyd Veterans Memorial Building Suite E-970 Atlanta, Georgia, 30334

Dear Honorable Pete Wheeler,

The AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Department of Georgia welcomes the opportunity to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to you and your staff for the many services you provide to our veterans and their families throughout Georgia.

Mr. Wheeler, because of your dedication and service to our veterans, the lives of veterans and their families have been greatly enhanced. I would like to personally thank you for all that you do and encourage you to continue your efforts of serving our veterans. I applaud all of your efforts and accomplishments as they are greatly appreciated.

Mr. Wheeler, we are always delighted when you take time out of your busy schedule to attend our State Convention. We look forward to your words of wisdom and encouragement.

Again, with sincere appreciation, thanks for all you and your staff do for veterans and their family. If Auxiliary can assist you or your staff in anyway, please do not hesitate to call on us.

Sincerely,

Evic 9. Wright

Evie J. Wright, State President



The Military Order of the Purple Heart CHARTERED BY CONGRESS

> Combat Wounded 1782 1932

Honorable Pete Wheeler Commissioner, Department of Veterans Services Floyd Veterans Memorial Building, Suite E-970 Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

As Commander of the Department of Georgia Military Order of the Purple Heart, I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude to you and your staff for your hard work, dedication, and overall commitment to the Veterans of this fine state of Georgia.

We will continue to strive and uphold the great traditions of our country, as we know you will in turn continue to give us the best support possible. Your outstanding work will not go unrecognized, because we will constantly be making everyone aware of your great work, and never ending support.

Mr. Wheeler you and your staff untiring effort will leave a legacy, not only in the state Georgia, but throughout the country. You have left a great impact, and have changed the quality of life for many.

The Department of Georgia's Purple Heart recipients take our hats off to the Georgia Department of Veterans Service and its hard working staff. Keep up the good work, because our veterans depend on you. Words can't express or describe everything that you do., Thanks to you again for your outstanding support.

Yours in Patriotism, ames Jance

James Yancey Department Commander MOPH - Georgia



Ladies' Auxiliary Military Order of the Purple Heart Department of Georgia

December 30, 2010

The Honorable Pete Wheeler Department of Veterans Service Floyd Veterans Memorial Building, Suite E-970 Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

2010 – Another great year of service by the Department of Veterans Service for our veterans throughout the State of Georgia. This being my final term as Auxiliary President, I will miss the interaction with the Department of Veterans Services on behalf of Georgia's veterans and their families. However, I will "pass the torch" to my successor.

This year, for the first time, I had the opportunity to attend the State of Georgia's Veterans Day Proclamation Signing Ceremony on October 28, 2010, hosted by Governor Sonny Perdue. It was a heartfelt ceremony and an honor to be among Georgia's *Heroes*. Also, congratulations for another successful "Supermarket of Veterans Benefits" held in Valdosta, Georgia which is just one example of the excellent service you provide for our veterans.

I would like to personally invite you to attend our Department of Georgia Military Order of the Purple Heart Annual Convention, June 3-5, 2011, at the Atlanta Marriott in Duluth, Georgia. I am sure your office will receive a more formal invitation from Host Chapter 465 of Atlanta with more details about the convention. I look forward to seeing you.

Thank you again for the many tireless hours you and your staff spend to serve the veterans of Georgia. The Ladies' Auxiliary, Military Order of the Purple Heart will continue our many hours of volunteer work in assisting our veterans and their families.

GOD BLESS ALL, AND GOD BLESS AMERICA!

In Patriotism and Service,

Diane Gront-Jenkins

Diane Grant-Jenkins Auxiliary President Department of Georgia

Jewish War Veterans of The United States Department of the Southeast

December 22, 2010

The Honorable Pete Wheeler Commissioner, Georgia Department of Veterans Service Floyd Veterans Memorial Building E-970 Atlanta, Ga. 30034-4800

Dear Commissioner,

It has been my honor to serve as Department Commander for our small but dedicated group, knowing we had your support whenever it was needed in all matters concerning all veterans. We are the oldest active veterans group in the nation having been organized on March 15,1896. We are in our 115th year.

In this area, much of our success is due to you, and we heartily thank you and your staff, and pledge our support to you.

My sincere thanks to my Commissioner and personal friend,

for Reant

Joe Kraut Department Commander



Marine Corps League Department of Georgia 7048 Three Oaks Drive East, Macon, GA 31216-7441 Phone: (478) 781-7712 Email: stollenwercke@bellsouth.net

Commissioner Pete Wheeler Georgia Department of Veterans Service Floyd Veterans Memorial Building, Suite E-490 Atlanta, Georgia 30334-4800

Dear Commissioner Wheeler,

The Department of Georgia, Marine Corps League expresses appreciation and gratitude to you and your staff for the services rendered to Marines and other military organizations throughout Georgia. This year, as in past years, you and your staff bring great credit to Georgia in serving military men and women regardless of their status as veteran, retired, active duty, or reserve.

Again this year it has been a pleasure for the Department of Georgia, Marine Corps League to meet with you and your staff in Atlanta and to participate in the considerations, planning, and the distribution of information on issues affecting Marines and other military groups in Georgia. While this year has presented difficult challenges in budget and manpower cuts, your Department has shown a steadfast resolve to meet these challenges and care for those in need. Your Department's outreach participation in events such as the Supermarket of Veterans Benefits, the Governor's Official Proclamation on Veterans Day, and The Georgia Veterans Day Parade continues to recognize the service of Veterans to our country and provide "one stop" assistance to benefits for Marines and other military service members.

The Marine Corps League perpetuates the tradition and spirit of All Marines and Navy FMF Corpsmen, who proudly wear or who have worn the eagle, globe, and anchor of the Corps. It takes equal pride in its Federal Charter, approved by an Act of the 75th Congress of the United States of America. The League is the only Federally Chartered Marine Corps related organization in the country.

We remain faithful to stand with you in service.

Sincerely, Bo Stollenwerck Bo Stollenwerck, Commandant





Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. Georgia State Council P.O. Box 1419 Buford, Georgia 30518

Peter Wheeler, Commissioner Department of Veterans Services Floyd Veterans Memorial Building Suite E-907 Atlanta, Georgia 30344

Dear Commissioner Wheeler,

It is with great pleasure that I am sending this letter, commending you and your staff in assisting all veterans in the State of Georgia. You have been very helpful in providing the most up to date information available to our veterans. The dedication you have shown is greatly appreciated and our gratitude is difficult to express.

Many years ago when the Vietnam Soldier was returning home from the war he was not treated with honor nor was he respected for his service to his country. That is why our founding principal is "NEVER AGAIN WILL ONE GENERATION OF VETERANS ABANDON ANOTHER". The Vietnam Veteran is not bitter but we do not forget. The Vietnam Veterans of America takes pride in helping our fellow veterans get the best information available that will assist in their health care and other benefits that they have rightly earned.

I do not know how other commissioners may operated out side the State of Georgia but if they show half the concern and devotion you have toward our Georgia Veterans then they are indeed blessed.

Sir we are thankful for you.

In Service To America

Lionel Marmolejo, President Georgia State Council Vietnam Veterans of America



Marvin Myers President

" In Service To Veterans, Their Families and Community"

January 24, 2011

Honorable Pete Wheeler

Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Service

State of Georgia

Floyd Memorial Building

Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Pete,

As the New Year approached I was having my morning coffee and I was reflecting on my 20 plus years of involvement in veterans activities. At every turn of the wheel you were in the forefront making life better for our veterans in Georgia. Your effort led to upgrades in Vet Rep Offices such as computers, the location of the VA regional office next to the Medical Center, a breezeway connecting the two facilities, two state cemeteries when we had none, the creation of a Federal Cemetery in Canton when the Marietta Cemetery was full, the streamlining of the War Veterans Homes, and your unbridled energy in appearing at events for veterans in every corner of the state.

Every November your Veterans Day Proclamation celebration and comments by our governors is a star studded event. It draws dozens if not hundreds of veterans, leaders, the military, legislators and the State Supreme Court and demonstrates your devotion to our veterans.

Over the years I have sent hundreds of veterans to see your service officers all over the state. In every case they have been taken care of and I have yet to hear a complaint. When I visit the Floyd Building I am reminded of the sacrifices of our Armed Forces. The Entrance and the halls remind me I am on scared ground. All of our veterans are honored.

Pete you and your staff have made Georgia the best state in the nation for veterans. On behalf of my brother and sister veterans I thank you so much.

DUE FRIEND -Marvin Myers

President

5879 New Peachtree Road, Doraville, GA 30340

Phone 770.458.7934 Fax 770.452.9933



PRESIDENT Col Daniel D. Holtz, USAF-Ret 9157 Saddlebrook Way Douglasville, Georgia 30135 678-403-2693 Iaurohn@bellsouth.net

1⁹⁷ VICE PRESIDENT Lt Col Alton Johnson, Jr., USAF-Ret 229-244-2043

2ND VICE PRESIDENT MAJ Cal Posner, USA-Ret 770-933-0881 calocsner@aci.com

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VICE PRESIDENT-PUBLIC AFFAIRS LCDR AI Harper, USN-Ret 706-342-8891 ahrpr@msn.com `

VICE PRESIDENT-LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COL Art Carey, USA-Ret 770-473-1390 carey/200511/@comcast.net

VICE PRESIDENT-MEMSHIP/ CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT COL Frank Valentine, USA-Ret 706-868-9186 valentinef@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENT-OFFICER TRANSITION ASSISTANCE LTC Denise Hargon, USA-Ret 770-475-0900 mdhargon@hotmail.com

JUDGE ADVOCATE Fmr CPT Dave Cross, USA 706-496-8994 dccross@acl.com

HISTORIAN MAJ Joe Crews, USA-Ret 912-826-1399

THE GEORGIA MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.

AFFILIATED WITH THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN, INC. INCORPORATED MARCH 14, 1955 POST OFFICE BOX 21186 ST. SIMONS ISLAND, GEORGIA 31522 http://www.georgiamoaa.org

December 31, 2010

Honorable Pete Wheeler Commissioner, Georgia Department of Veterans Service Floyd Veterans Memorial Building, Suite E – 970 Atlanta, Georgia 30334 – 4800

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

It has been a pleasure for the members and officers of The Georgia Military Officers Association of America to work with the truly dedicated officials and personnel of the Georgia Department of Veterans Service. On behalf of the nearly 1,400 chapter members, 17 chapters and state association affiliates of the Military Officers Association of America members in Georgia please accept our deep appreciation and gratitude for all you and your department's staff do for the currently serving active duty, Guardsmen, Reservists and veterans of Georgia.

Many of the returning soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen from the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq are returning with wounds that previously would have resulted in death. However, due to the significantly advanced field medical technology available today, they are able to come home to their families and lead productive lives. However, these wounds may impact their abilities to be fully constructive members of their communities. What previously resulted in death to our heroes now means the resources of the state and federal governments will be impacted for many years to come. The role of the Georgia Department of Veterans Service will become even more essential to ensure these heroes obtain the essential benefits and services they require. The department's ongoing activities have met this requirement and, given the positive leadership of the department, its essential efforts and roles will meet the challenges of the future.

The daily hard work of the Department of Veterans Service to reach the veterans of Georgia to assist them to obtain the essential benefits they will need to live productive lives in our nation is integral to Georgia's veterans being thriving members of our society. The role of the Department to facilitate veterans' abilities to obtain the benefits to which they are entitled is crucial. The Department does a better job of acting as the agent of veterans than any of the other entities advocating for our state's and nation's heroes. The Georgia Department of Veterans Service fills the gaps existing between the veterans and the VA, which is the major contributing factor to our state's standing of bringing – in more VA benefits to our veterans than states having similar sized veteran populations. VA benefits amounting to \$3.08 Billion for 773,000 veterans is an incredible return on investment in the budget provided to accomplish the State's constitutionally assigned mission.

We support the department's mission. We will continue to work with you and your staff to achieve the best for our state's heroes.

Sincerely,

Daniel D. Holtz, Colonel, USAF (Ret) President

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Georgia Federal Military Retiree Coalition, Inc. P. O. Box 360302 Decatur, Georgia 30036 <u>www.gfmrc.org</u> "Acting Together, We Can Make Things Happen"

The Honorable Pete Wheeler Commissioner, Department of Veterans Services Floyd Veterans Memorial Building, Suite E-970 Atlanta, Georgia 30334-4800

Dear Commissioner Wheeler,

Thank you for the support and services that you and your department have provided for the military veterans of the state of Georgia. You have served many years in support of us and have made great contributions to our benefit. We owe you a debt of great magnitude.

I especially thank you and your staff for the support you have given to the Georgia Federal Military Retiree Coalition (GFMRC). Your willingness to provide us with services and accommodations has been outstanding. Please pass on our gratitude to your staff for their help and support. They have always been ready to step forward in every way to help us.

We look forward to your leadership and service to the military veterans of the state of Georgia. I know it will be outstanding, as always. If there is any way that we can be of service to you and your department, please do not hesitate to call on us.

Sincerely,

William W. Dougla President

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Georgia Veterans Day Parade Association of Atlanta, Inc.

31 January 2011

Commissioner Peter Wheeler Department of Veterans Services Floyd Veterans Memorial Building Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Commissioner Wheeler,

It was an honor to attend the Proclamation this year during my first year as the President of the Georgia Veterans Day Parade Association of Atlanta. Having heard about this great event in the past, I was truly inspired by the patriotism displayed by everyone in the Capitol that morning.

This year our parade theme was "Semper Fi – Honoring the United States Marine Corps" and we were very pleased to have actor and Marine Veteran R. Lee Ermey as our Grand Marshal. We utilized a new parade route this year and were honored with a record turnout of local citizens supporting our service men and women. Gunny also gave a passionate speech that night at the Freedom Ball to a very enthusiastic crowd. The 2010 events were very successful and we look forward to even better support for this year's parade and ball.

I want to personally thank you for attending and participating in this year's parade. I was honored that you accepted our invitation and was happy that you enjoyed the day. With all of your hard work supporting Georgia's Veterans, I feel is was especially important for you to be honored and recognized at our parade.

Knowing that you can count on those around you for support is an important characteristic during military service. We are so thankful that we have you looking out for the thousands of Veterans once they leave active duty.

Thank you, Pete, for everything you do. Please let me know if I or our organization can ever be of any assistance to your efforts.

Sincerely,

Kevin L Miller President Georgia Veterans Day Parade Association of Atlanta, Inc.

"Freedom Through Service" © 1875 Withmere Way, Dunwoody, GA 30338 • WEB: gavetsdayparade.org • FAX 404.890.8521

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Jack Moses h: 678.560.8570

The University of Georgia

Michael F. Adams President

March 23, 2010

The Honorable Peter Wheeler Georgia Department of Veterans Service Floyd Veterans Memorial Building E970 Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

I enjoyed reading the recent article on you in *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. Your alma mater continues to take great pride in your accomplishments, and please accept my personal gratitude for all that you do on behalf of the State of Georgia.

All my best.

Sincerely,

" Ada why

Michael F. Adams President

MFA/sjd

Office of the President • Athens, Georgia 30602 • Telephone 706-542-1214 • Fax 706-542-0995 An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution

SAM NUNN

The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs Georgia Institute of Technology 781 Marietta Street, NW Atlanta, Georgia 30318 404/385-6544

April 7, 2010

Dear Pete,

Our mutual friend Tom Harvey recently told me that he has been in touch with you. This reminded me that I have not told you in recent years how much I appreciate your dedicated and effective service to our veterans. Pete, you are a wonderful example to all who aspire to public service and a role model for patriotism and integrity. I remember hearing Uncle Carl brag about your outstanding service on many occasions.

This letter is for the single purpose of saying "thank you" for your service to the men and woman who serve our state and our nation. All Americans who have followed your career are very proud of you and your remarkable career.

Sincerely, Sam Nunn

Commissioner Pete Wheeler Georgia Department of Veterans Service Floyd Veterans Memorial Building Suite E-970 Atlanta, Georgia 30334-4800



中華民國國軍退除役官兵輔導委員會

VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMISSION REPUBLIC OF CHINA 222, CHUNG HSIAO E. ROAD, SEC. 5 TAIPEI, TAIWAN 110, ROC TEL:886-2-2725-5700 FAX:886-2725-3578

BG. Pete Wheeler Commissioner Veterans Affairs Commission State of Georgia Suite E-970 Floyd Veterans Memorial Building Atlanta, Georgia 30334-4800 U.S.A. September 10, 2010



Dear Commissioner Wheeler,

Greetings from Veterans Affairs Commission (VAC) in Taiwan. This is to express our profound appreciation for your assistance and hospitality when we paid a visit to your esteemed Commission.

The 62 years of your services have not only spoken a great lot of veterans benefits provided in the great State of Georgia, but also revealed to the Georgians the sweat and toil you have personally contributed to Georgia. For that we as veterans of the Republic of China in Taiwan also salute you with all our hearts.

We wish you all the best,

Sincerely yours,

Joeng. Jing-ling

General Tseng, Jing-ling (Ret.) Minister



July 5, 2010

GEN. RAYMOND G. DAVIS CHAPTER

Mr. Pete Wheeler Commissioner Department of Veterans Services Floyd Veterans Memorial Building Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Commissioner Wheeler:

As President of the Raymond G. Davis Chapter, Korean War Veterans Association, Inc., I wish to thank you and your staff for your excellent work in putting together the wreath laying ceremony at the Korean War Memorial on Monday, June 28, 2010.

I especially wish to thank Mr. Tom Cook who did so much to help in making this event a success.

The members of the General Raymond G. Davis Chapter are always ready to work with you in serving our Armed Forces.

As ever, it was a great pleasure working with you and your staff.

My very best to you.

Most sincerely,

Robert M. meculilis

Robert M. McCubbins President Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. General Raymond G. Davis Chapter



Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America

Chartered By an Act of Congress

1811 R Street, N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20009 • (202) 265-6280 • Fax (202) 234-5662 • Email: jwv@jwv.org

August 20, 2010

Commissioner Pete Wheeler Floyd Veterans Memorial Building East Tower, Room 970 Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

Thank you so much for participating in our recently concluded 115th annual national convention in Savannah, GA.

Your service is an inspiration to our members, and it was an honor to have you address our group.

Sincerely,

Heychen " shir " R Jeop

Steve Zeitz National Commander



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS Carl Vinson VA Medical Center 1826 Veterans Blvd. Dublin, GA 31021



December 3, 2010

In Reply Refer To: 557/00

The Honorable Pete Wheeler Commissioner, Georgia Department of Veterans Services Floyd Veterans Memorial Bldg., Suite E-970 Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

On behalf of the Veterans and staff of the Carl Vinson VA Medical Center, please accept my sincere appreciation for your participation in the Brunswick VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) Ribbon Cutting Ceremony held on November 9, 2010. We are honored to serve America's Heroes – our Veterans – every day and thank you for taking part in our celebration as we expand the services we provide.

The opening of the Brunswick CBOC enables us to better serve Veterans in Glynn County and surrounding areas, providing access closer to where Veterans live and work. Thank you again for supporting our mission and for participating in our celebration.

Sincerely,

John S. Goldma

John S. Goldma Director





DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FT MCPHERSON 1386 TROOP ROW SW FORT MCPHERSON GEORGIA 30330-1069

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF:

Office of the Garrison Commander

SEP 2 7 2010

Mr. Pete Wheeler Commissioner, Georgia Department of Veterans Service Floyd Veterans Memorial Building Atlanta, Georgia 30334-4800

Dear Mr. Wheeler:

Please pass along the enclosed letters of appreciation to your representatives for their support at Fort McPherson's 35th Annual Retiree Appreciation Day on June 19, 2010.

The information they provided was informative and comprehensive, and contributed significantly to making this year's Retiree Appreciation Day one of the most successful to date.

Your participation is deeply appreciated by both this command and the Fort McPherson retired community.

Sincerely,

way Deborah B. Grays

Colonel, US Army Commanding

Enclosures





GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICE CENTRAL OFFICE Floyd Veterans Memorial Building, Suite E-966, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr., Atlanta, GA 30334-4800 sdvs.georgia.gov facebook.com/gavetsvc twitter.com/gavetsvc

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HEALTH & MEMORIALS DIVISION

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CARTERSVILLE 320 West Cheroke	(North Region) e Avenue, Room 105, Cartersv	Counties served: Bartow, Paulding rille, 30120		
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GAINESVILLE (311 Green Street N	North Region) JW, Room 405, Gainesville, 3	Counties served: Dawson, Fe 0501-6060	orsyth, Gwinnett, Hall,	, Lumpkin		
Harry Evans Cynthia Hayes	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr) VFSO 1	hevans@vs.state.ga.us chayes@vs.state.ga.us	770-531-6060 770-531-6060	770-531-6061 770-531-6061		
GLENNVILLE (South Region) 8819 US Hwy 301, Glennville, 30427		Counties served: Bryan, Liberty, Long, Tattnall, Wayne				
Tonya Malpass (open)	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr) VFSO 1	tmalpass@vs.state.ga.us	912-65 <mark>4-515</mark> 9 x227	912-654-2963		
GREENSBORO (113 N. Main St., S	North Region) uite 117, Greensboro, 30642	County served: Greene OPEN ONLY Tuesday and F	Friday – 8 to 4:30			
Sandra Mauldin	VFSO 1 P/T	smauldin@vs.state.ga.us	706-453-7455	706-453-9816		
GRIFFIN (North 883 Memorial Driv		Counties served: Butts, Fayette, Henry, Pike, Spalding, Talbot				
Artis Robinson Willie Miles	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr) VFSO 1	arobinson@vs.state.ga.us wmiles@vs.state.ga.us	770-412-4074 770-412-4023	770-467-6099 770-467-6099		
HARTWELL (No 185 West Franklin	rth Region) Street, Courthouse Annex, Ro	County served: Hart bom 5, Hartwell, 30643-1594				
Mike Partlow	VFSO 2 (Office Mgr)	mpartlow@vs.state.ga.us	706-376-4461	706-856-2737		
LAFAYETTE (No Judiciary Annex, 1	orth Region) 08-E Villanow Street, LaFaye	Counties served: Chattooga, atte, 30728-2519	Dade, Walker			
Terry Roberson	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	troberson@vs.state.ga.us	706-638-5544	706-639-2046		

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LAGRANGE (North Region) Counties served: Harris, Heard, Meriwether, Troup 2170 West Point Road, Suite 35, LaGrange, 30240

Mike Hudson Steve Horton	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr) VFSO 1	mhudson@vs.state.ga.us shorton@vs.state.ga.us	706-845-4095 706-845-4095	706-845-4485 706-845-4485		
LYONS (South Region) 126 West Grady Avenue, Lyons, 30436		Counties served: Montgomer	Counties served: Montgomery, Toombs			
Ann Hayes	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	ahayes@vs.state.ga.us	912-526-8860	912-526-4285		
MACON (North) 653 Second Street	Region) , Room 203, Macon, 31201-23		Counties served: Bibb, Crawford, Jasper, Jones, Lamar, Monroe, Twiggs			
Roger Freeman Tracy Riley	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr) VFSO 1	rfreeman@vs.state.ga.us triley@vs.state.ga.us	478-751-3186 478-751-3187	478-751-6594 478-751-6594		
MCRAE (South Region) 63 West Oak Street, McRae, 31055		Counties served: Appling, Coffee, Jeff Davis, Telfair, Wheeler OPEN ONLY Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday – 8 to 4:30				
Loran Bryant	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	lbryant@vs.state.ga.us	229-8 <mark>68-63</mark> 91	229-868-4972		
	E (North Region) Veterans Home, Vinson Build	Counties served: Baldwin, Hancock, Putnam, Washington, Wilkinson ing, Milledgeville, 31059-0741				
Melanie Kay-Lam Linda Lavender	b Senior VFSO (Mgr) VFSO 1	gwvhvso1@windstream.net gwvhvso2@windstream.net		478-445-3139 478-445-3139		
MOULTRIE (Sou 101 East Central A	th Region) Avenue, Room 127, Moultrie, 3	Counties served: Colquitt, M	litchell			
April Welter	VFSO 2 (Office Mgr)	awelter@vs.state.ga.us	229-891-7135	229-891-7098		
NEWNAN (Nortl 22 East Broad Stre	h Region) eet, Room 119, Newnan, 3026	Counties served: Coweta, Ta 4	ylor			
Ken Mills Billy Robbins	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr) VFSO 1	kmills@vs.state.ga.us brobbins@vs.state.ga.us	770-254-7260 770-836-6844	770-254-7339 770-254-7339		
ROME (North Region) 201 Calhoun Avenue, Rome, 30161		Counties served: Floyd, Gore	don, Haralson			
Stan McCord Barry Hunter	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr) VFSO 1	smccord@vs.state.ga.us bhunter@vs.state.ga.us	706-295-6026 706-295-6280	706-802-5520 706-802-5520		

SAVANNAH (South Region) County served: Chatham Savannah VA Outpatient Clinic, 325 W. Montgomery Cross Roads, Savannah, 31406-3309

Jewel Middleton Tisa Davis Jacqueline Johnso	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr) VFSO 1 n VFSO 1	jewel.middleton-james@va.gov philippa.davis@va.gov jacqueline.johnson@va.gov	912-920-0214 x2194 912-920-0214 x2193 912-920-0214 x2191	912-921-2016		
	Asst. Commissioner, FO&C) treet, Statesboro, 30458	Counties served: Bulloch, Candler, Ef	Counties served: Bulloch, Candler, Effingham, Evans, Jenkins, Screven			
Liz Hunnicutt (open)	VFSO 2 (Office Mgr) VFSO 1	lhunnicutt@vs.state.ga.us	912-871-1104	912-871-1270		
	MUNITY BASED OUTPAT	IENT CLINIC (South Region) OPEN ONLY Thursday – 9 to 3:30				
Tina Herring	VFSO 2 (Office Mgr)	therring@vs.state.ga.us	912-510-3440	912-510-3426		
	Asst. Commissioner, FO&C) Office Building, 101 North Ma	County served: Emanuel in Street, Room 3, Swainsboro, 30401				
Tessa Gilmore	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	tgilmore@vs.state.ga.us	478-289-2617	478-289-2704		
THOMASTON (1 250 E. Lee St., Go	North Region) ovt Admin Annex, Thomaston	County served: Upson OPEN ONLY Third Wednesday each month – 8 to 4:30				
Ken Mills	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	kgmills2@juno.com	706-646-6035			
THOMASVILLE 101 South Broad S	(South Region) Street, Thomasville, 31792	Counties served: Grady, Thomas				
Larry Price	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	jprice@vs.state.ga.us	229-225-4050	229-227-2418		
TIFTON (South F 222 Chesnutt Aver	Region) nue, Tifton, 31793-0534	Counties served: Ben Hill, Irwin, Tift,	Turner			
James Bolduc (open)	VFSO 2 (Office Mgr) VFSO 1	jbolduc@vs.state.ga.us	229-386-3856	229-391-6956		
TOCCOA (North Courthouse Annex		Counties served: Franklin, Stephens OPEN ONLY Tuesday and Thursday -	- 8 to 4:30			
William Tucker	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	wtucker@vs.state.ga.us	706-282-4525	706-282-4800		
	VALDOSTA (South Region) Counties served: Berrien, Brooks, Cook, Echols, Lanier, Lowndes 2841 North Patterson Street, Valdosta, 31602-1938					
Ed Kent Janet S. Pajerowsł	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr) ki VFSO 1	james.kent3@va.gov janet.pajerowski2@va.gov	229-333-2178 229-333-2178	229-259-5583 229-259-5583		



WARNER ROBINS (South Region)Counties served: Houston, PeachCity Hall, Room 20, 700 Watson Boulevard, Warner Robins, 31093-3414

Vincent Pritchett	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	vpritchett@vs.state.ga.us	478-929-1126	478-929-1124
WASHINGTON (North Region) 104 East Liberty Street, Washington, 30673-1422		Counties served: Glascock, Jefferson, 2 Waren, Wilkes	Lincoln, McDuffie,	Morgan, Taliaferro,
Perry Morgan Jan Callaway	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr) VFSO 2	gmorgan@vs.state.ga.us jcallaway@vs.state.ga.us	706-678-2821	706-678-3144
WAYCROSS (South Region) 415 Lott Street, Waycross		Counties served: Atkinson, Bacon, Brantley, Charlton, Clinch, Pierce, Ware		
Pamela Naylor Open	VFSO 2 (Office Mgr) VFSO 1	pnaylor@vs.state.ga.us	912-285-6340	912-285-6341
WAYNESBORO (North Region) County served: Burke Burke County Office Park, Room 107, 715 West 6th Street, Waynesboro, 30830-0093				

Carol Crawford VFSO 2 (Office Mgr) ccrawford@vs.state.ga.us 706-554-3874 706-554-4496

VA Contacts

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

va.gov facebook.com/veteransaffairs twitter.com/deptvetaffairs

VA Regional Office – Atlanta	1700 Clairmont Road, Decatur, 30033	800-827-1000
VA Medical Center – Atlanta	1670 Clairmont Road, Decatur, 30033	404-321-6111
		977 204 (290
Beneficiaries in Receipt of Pension Be		877-294-6380
Children of Women Vietnam Veterans		877-345-8179
Civilian Health and Medical Program	of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA)	800-733-8387
Debt Management Center (Collection	of Non-Medical Debts)	800-827-0648
Direct Deposit		877-838-2778
Education		888-442-4551
Foreign Medical Program (FMP)		888-820-1756
Headstones and Markers (Status Chec	k Only)	800-697-6947
Health Care		877-222-8387
Health Billing		866-393-9132
Home Loans		888-768-2132
Income Verification and Means Testin	g	800-929-8387
Life Insurance: Service Members and	Veterans Group Life Insurance Program	800-419-1473
Life Insurance: All Other VA Life Insu	arance Programs	800-669-8477
Meds by Mail		866-229-7389
Special Issues: Gulf War/Agent Orang	ge/Project Shad/Mustard Agents/Lewisite/Ionizing Radiation	800-749-8387
Spina Bifida Health Care Program		888-820-1756
Telecommunication Device for Deaf (TDD)	800-829-4833
Veterans Crisis Hotline		800-273-TALK

NOTE: Listings for VA medical facilities in Georgia are listed inside the back cover of this publication.

QUICK REFERNCE GUIDE BY COUNTY

Appling	229-868-6391	Emanuel	478-289-2617	Newton	770-388-5075
Atkinson	912-285-6340	Evans	912-871-1104	Oconee	706-369-5630
Bacon	912-285-6340	Fannin	706-745-6341	Oglethorpe	706-369-5630
Baker	229-248-2599	Fayette	770-412-4074	Paulding	770-387-3746
Baldwin	478-445-4751	Floyd	706-295-6026	Peach	478-929-1126
Banks	706-754-4316	Forsyth	770-531-6060	Pickens	770-720-3538
Barrow	706-369-5630	Franklin	706-282-4525	Pierce	912-285-6340
Bartow	770-387-3746	Fulton	404-656-5940	Pike	770-412-4074
Ben Hill	229-386-3856	Gilmer	770-720-3538	Polk	770-749-2209
Berrien	229-333-2179	Glascock	706-678-2821	Pulaski	478-374-6977
Bibb	478-751-3186	Glynn	912-262-2345	Putnam	478-445-4751
Bleckley	478-374-6977	Gordon	706-295-6026	Quitman	229-248-2599
Brantley	912-285-6340	Grady	229-225-4050	Rabun	706-745-6341
Brooks	229-333-2179	Greene	706-453-7455	Randolph	229-248-2599
Bryan	912-654-5159	Gwinnett	706-754-4316	Richmond	706-721-4301
Bulloch	912-871-1104	Hall	770-531-6060	Rockdale	770-388-5075
Burke	706-554-3874	Hancock	478-445-4751	Schley	229-931-2546
Butts	770-412-4074	Haralson	706-295-6026	Screven	912-871-1104
Calhoun	229-248-2599	Harris	706-845-4095	Seminole	229-248-2599
Camden	912-262-2345	Hart	706-376-4461	Spalding	770-412-4074
Candler	912-871-1104	Heard	706-845-4095	Stephens	706-282-4525
Carroll	770-836-6760	Henry	770-412-4074	Stewart	706-649-1264
Catoosa	706-272-2355	Houston	478-929-1126	Sumter	229-931-2546
Charlton	912-285-6340	Irwin	229-386-3856	Talbot	770-412-4074
	-920-0214x12194	Jackson	706-369-5630	Taliaferro	706-678-2821
Chattahoochee	706-649-1264		478-751-3186	Tattnall	912-654-5159
	706-638-5544	Jasper Jeff Davis	229-868-6391		
Chattooga Cherokee		Jefferson		Taylor Telfair	770-254-7260
	770-720-3538	Jenkins	706-678-2821	Terrell	229-868-6391
Clarke	706-369-5630	Johnson	912-871-1104		229-430-1797
Clay	229-248-2599		478-272-4266	Thomas	229-225-4050
Clayton	404-656-5940	Jones	478-751-3186	Tift	229-386-3856
Clinch	912-285-6340	Lamar	478-751-3186	Toombs	912-526-8860
Cobb	770-720-3538	Lanier	229-333-2179	Towns	706-745-6341
Coffee	229-868-6391	Laurens	478-272-4266	Treutlen	478-272-4266
Colquitt	229-891-7135	Lee	229-430-1797	Troup	706-845-4095
Columbia	706-721-4301	Liberty	912-654-5159	Turner	229-386-3856
Columbus	912-262-2345	Lincoln	706-678-2821	Twiggs	478-751-3186
Cook	229-333-2179	Long	912-654-5159	Union	706-745-6341
Coweta	770-254-7260	Lowndes	229-333-2179	Upson	706-646-6035
Crawford	478-751-3186	Lumpkin	770-531-6060	Walker	706-638-5544
Crisp	229-276-2366	Macon	229-931-2546	Walton	770-388-5075
Dade	706-638-5544	Madison	706-369-5630	Ware	912-285-6340
Dawson	770-531-6060	Marion	229-931-2546	Warren	706-678-2821
Decatur	229-248-2599	McDuffie	706-678-2821	Washington	478-445-4751
DeKalb	404-728-7611	McIntosh	912-262-2345	Wayne	912-654-5159
Dodge	478-374-6977	Meriwether	706-845-4095	Webster	229-931-2546
Dooly	229-276-2366	Miller	229-248-2599	Wheeler	229-868-6391
Dougherty	229-430-1797	Mitchell	229-891-7135	White	706-754-4316
Douglas	770-836-6760	Monroe	478-751-3186	Whitfield	706-272-2355
Early	229-248-2599	Montgomery	912-526-8860	Wilcox	229-276-2366
Echols	229-333-2179	Morgan	706-678-2821	Wilkes	706-678-2821
Effingham	912-871-1104	Murray	706-272-2355	Wilkinson	478-445-4751
Elbert	706-213-2040	Muscogee	706-649-1264	Worth	229-430-1797
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				GE Expendit	GEORGIA Expenditures in \$000s								
County/ Congressional District	Veteran Population*	Total Expenditure	Compensation & Pension	Construction	Education & Vocational Rehabilitation/ Employment	Loan Guaranty#	₹_	General Operating Expenses		Insurance & Indemnities	ž	Medical Care	Unique Patients**
APPLING	1,295	\$ 5,835	\$ 2,865	s	\$ 259	\$	•	\$	ſ,	107	σ	2,603	335
ATKINSON	426	\$ 3,140	\$ 1,707	' \$	\$ 153	ŝ	,	¢	ب	3	ø	1,277	168
BACON	786	\$ 4,007	\$ 2,040	' \$	\$ 152	\$	•	ß	ŝ	÷	ь	1,804	227
BAKER	346	\$	\$ 800	' s	\$ 75	\$	•	\$	ŝ	1	Ś	178	57
BALDWIN	4,311	\$ 15,830	\$ 7,680	' \$	\$ 863	s	•	ŝ	ŝ	176	¢	7,111	850
BANKS	1,021	\$ 4,358	\$ 2,781	' s	\$ 111	s		69	ŝ	34	ь	1,432	253
BARROW	4,821	\$ 14,323	\$ 7,340	' \$	\$ 1,344	\$	•	\$	ŝ	111	ŝ	5,528	875
BARTOW	7,856	\$ 22,083	\$ 13,152	۔ د	\$ 1,990	s	•	\$	ŝ	313	ь	6,628	1,160
BEN HILL	1,272	\$ 8,010	\$ 4,109	' \$	\$ 284	s	•	\$	ŝ	55	ь	3,562	420
BERRIEN	1,659	\$ 11,139	\$ 6,219	' \$	\$ 603	s	,	\$	ŝ	73	ь	4,245	494
8188	12,298	\$ 58,568	\$ 25,906	۔ \$	\$ 5,265	s	•	\$	رم ب	1,035	ь	26,362	3,647
BLECKLEY	1,076	\$ 4,977	\$ 2,064	' \$	\$ 236	s	•	\$	ŝ	34	ь	2,642	268
BRANTLEY	1,692	\$ 7,038	\$ 4,220	۔ \$	\$ 284	s	•	\$	ŝ	81	ь	2,452	302
BROOKS	1,384	\$ 9,002	S 4,444	' \$	\$ 515	ŝ	,	\$	ч ч	56	ю	3,987	485
BRYAN	2,711	\$ 15,718	\$ 8,842	' \$	\$ 3,990	ŝ	•	\$	ŝ	238	ь	2,648	600
BULLOCH	5,299	\$ 17,373	\$ 8,025	' \$	\$ 2,970	s	•	¢9	ŝ	387	Ø	5,991	915
BURKE	1,973	\$ 20,054	\$ 12,216	' \$	\$ 1,359	s	•	\$	ر م ب	74	ю	6,405	612
BUTTS	2,070	\$ 7,503	\$ 4,624	' \$	\$ 416	s	•	\$	ŝ	33	ю	2,430	356
CALHOUN	353	\$ 1,440	\$ 693	' \$	\$ 53	s	•	\$	ŝ	4	ь	691	144
CAMDEN	5,904	\$ 31,002	\$ 17,778	۔ ج	\$ 5,383	s	•	\$	ŝ	607	ŝ	7,233	1,313
CANDLER	964	\$ 3,642	\$ 1,548	' \$	\$ 201	s		\$	ŝ	21	¢	1,871	200
CARROLL	7,979	\$ 26,152	\$ 14,712	' \$	\$ 3,435	ŝ	•	\$	ŝ	309	⇔	7,696	1,249
CATOOSA	5,541	\$ 15,534	\$ 9,187	' \$	\$ 849	\$		s	ŝ	164	¢	5,334	1,045
CHARLTON	1,043	\$ 4,783	\$ 2,627	۰ ۶	\$ 209	\$	•	\$	ŝ	58	ø	1,890	257
CHATHAM	25,658	\$ 148,808	\$ 51,936	' \$	\$ 66,509	\$	•	s	°,	2,163	ø	28,200	5,231
CHATTAHOOCHEE	901	\$ 4,671	\$ 2,523	' \$	\$ 1,358	\$	•	\$	ŝ	83	Ø	707	135
CHATTOOGA	2,380	\$ 6,819	\$ 4,279	' \$	\$ 232	69	•	s	ŝ	55	¢	2,254	371
CHEROKEE	15,991	\$ 39,168	\$ 23,098	' \$	\$ 4,131	ŝ	•	s	°,	790	¢	11,148	1,863
CLARKE	6,037	\$ 19,926	\$ 10,202	' \$	\$ 3,072	\$	•	s	ŝ	499	¢	6,153	1,024
CLAY	260	\$ 845	\$ 468	' \$	\$ 27	\$	•	s	ŝ	35	в	315	48
CLAYTON	24,682	° S	\$ 54,677	' \$	\$ 12,388	\$	•	s	ŝ	840	Ś	36,155	4,820
CLINCH	553	\$ 2,287	\$ 1,285	' s	\$ 137	ф	•	s	ŝ	3	ŝ	861	148

					ĺ	GEC	GEORGIA	-								
					Û	Expenditures in \$0005	Les In	sono¢		\mathbf{I}		$\left \right $		ļ		
County/ Congressional District	Veteran Population*	Total Expenditure		Compensation & Pension	Construction	uction	Educ Voci Rehab	Education & Vocational Rehabilitation/	Loan Guaranty#	ŧ	General Operating Expenses	55	Insurance & Indemnities	_	Medical Care	Unique Patlents**
COBB	58,829	\$ 138,093	-	70,666	s	ŀ	s	20,473	ь С	ŗ,	9	ľ	3,578	ŝ	43,367	6,580
COFFEE	2,545	Ś	s	5,818	s	•	s	587	\$	ۍ ۱		<u>دە</u>	58	_	6,875	822
COLQUITT	3,307	ŝ		10,243	s	•	ь	630	s	ŝ		\$	78	ю	7,143	897
COLUMBIA	13,520	\$	s	54,037	s	•	ь	11,491	\$	ŝ		\$	1,077	ю	27,243	3,510
COOK	1,346	\$ 8,262	s	4,408	s	•	ŝ	587	¢	ŝ		ŝ	67	Ø	3,199	458
COWETA	10,613	\$ 30,259	s	18,156	s	•	ф	2,830	ŝ	ŝ		\$	633	Ø	8,640	1,669
CRAWFORD	1,198	\$ 6,674	s	3,845	s	•	ь	473	\$	ŝ		\$	77	ø	2,279	277
CRISP	1,530	\$ 6,826	s	3,574	s	•	s	433	\$	ŝ		<u>چ</u>	46	Ø	2,773	408
DADE	1,748	\$ 3,609	s	2,095	s	•	ŝ	199	\$	ŝ		\$ 	67	Ø	1,249	269
DAWSON	1,900	\$ 4,768	s	2,954	s	•	s	317	\$	ŝ		\$	56	ø	1,441	264
DECATUR	2,059	\$ 6,899	s	2,572	s	•	ь	443	\$	ŝ		\$	172	Ø	3,713	613
DEKALB	45,374	\$ 376,313	s	95,696	s 1	13,023	ŝ	21,888	ŝ	ŝ	103,392	\$	3,132	Ø	139,183	11,119
DODGE	1,712	\$ 9,443	s	3,885	s	•	ф	436	\$	ч Ч		ŝ	166	Ø	4,957	468
DOOLY	851	\$ 3,068	s	1,716	s	•	ь	50	ь	ۍ ب		°.	49	Ø	1,253	189
DOUGHERTY	8,375	\$ 42,290	\$	24,119	ŝ	•	ь	3,021	ф	ŝ	-	ŝ	674	Ø	14,476	2,341
DOUGLAS	11,521	\$ 39,896	\$	22,729	в	•	ŝ	5,158	Ş	ŝ	-	ŝ	276	θ	11,733	1,769
EARLY	733	\$ 3,148	\$	1,653	в	•	ŝ	217	\$	ŝ		\$	81	Ø	1,197	251
ECHOLS	281	\$ 1,845	\$	1,114	ŝ	•	ŝ	103	\$	ŝ		ŝ	36	Ś	592	72
EFFINGHAM	5,663	\$ 15,881	ŝ	8,883	¢	•	s	2,291	\$	ŝ	-	ŝ	151	в	4,556	801
ELBERT	1,764	\$ 6,985	\$	3,383	69	•	s	303	\$	ŝ	-	\$	66	ŝ	3,200	451
EMANUEL	1,438	\$ 10,097	\$	3,838	\$	•	s	743	\$	ŝ	-	ۍ ۱	43	ŝ	5,473	523
EVANS	851	\$ 3,957	\$	1,713	ŝ	•	ŝ	161	ŝ	ŝ		ŝ	70	ŝ	2,013	208
FANNIN	2,075	\$ 7,944	\$	4,360	ŝ	•	ŝ	109	\$	ر ه		\$ 9	320	69	3,155	520
FAYETTE	14,270	\$ 34,901	ŝ	24,063	¢	•	\$	3,707	\$	ŝ		ŝ	861	Ś	6,270	1,293
FLOYD	7,611	\$ 23,113	\$	15,225	¢	•	ŝ	1,330	\$	ۍ ۲		ŝ	377	ŝ	6,181	1,220
FORSYTH	11,142	\$ 21,238	\$	11,928	ь	'	ŝ	1,714	\$	ŝ	-	\$	761	69	6,834	1,072
FRANKLIN	2,010	\$ 6,388	\$	3,382	ŝ	•	ŝ	244	\$	ŝ	-	ŝ	104	ø	2,657	403
FULTON	52,865	\$ 216,500	\$	98,226	ь	80	s	27,410	\$	ŝ	1,870	\$	4,301	Ø	84,686	10,689
GILMER	3,465	\$ 9,576	\$	5,933	в	•	ŝ	281	\$	ŝ		\$	300	Ś	3,063	510
GLASCOCK	157	\$ 850	\$	318	в	•	Ş	40	ዓ	ŝ		\$	10	Ø	482	58
GLYNN	7,839	\$ 25,819	\$	15,603	ф	•	ŝ	1,728	\$	ŝ	-	\$	616	Ø	7,872	1,443
GORDON	4,049	\$ 10,274	\$	6,345	\$	•	ŝ	521	\$	5		ب	111	ŝ	3,298	615

						GE	GEORGIA	1A 1- \$0000									
					$\left \right $	Expenditures in \$0005				ſ							Ι
County/ Congressional	Veteran Population*	Expe	Total Expenditure	Compensation & Pension		Construction	Щ > <mark>6</mark>	Education & Vocational Rehabilitation/	Loan Guarantv#	ntv#	General Operating	General perating	s p	Insurance & Indemnities	Me	Medical Care	Unique Patients⊷
District					_		5	Employment			Expenses	nses					
GRADY	1,879	s	6,684	\$ 2,786	8 9	•	s	354	s	•	\$		¢	60	¢	3,484	619
GREENE	1,519	в	4,873	\$ 2,402	2 2	•	s	206	s	·	\$	•	ø	39	Ś	2,226	274
GWINNETT	47,722	ŝ	36,196	\$ 69,875	s S	•	s	17,826	s	•	ŝ	'	Ś	2,449	ø	46,047	6,910
HABERSHAM	3,523	ŝ	10,660	\$ 6,707	7 \$	•	ø	334	s	'	ŝ	'	φ	205	ø	3,414	697
HALL	11,497	ŝ	34,047	\$ 19,636	\$ 9	•	ŝ	2,150	s	·	ŝ	•	÷	761	ø	11,500	1,960
HANCOCK	693	ŝ	4,469	\$ 1,990	\$ 0	•	ŝ	188	s	'	s	'	φ	59	ф	2,231	203
HARALSON	2,140	ŝ	7,667	\$ 4,661	- s	•	Ś	445	s	•	ŝ		Ś	126	ø	2,435	369
HARRIS	3,912	ŝ	19,527	\$ 12,972	2 \$	•	s	1,562	s	'	ŝ	'	ŝ	773	ø	4,220	639
HART	2,300	ь	7,797	\$ 4,291	- S	•	Ś	294	ŝ	'	ŝ	•	ŝ	198	ø	3,015	507
HEARD	724	ŝ	3,934	\$ 2,036	8 9	•	Ś	115	s	•	Ь	•	Ś	19	ю	1,765	200
HENRY	17,444	69	78,321	\$ 44,910	° \$	•	Ś	11,967	\$	'	ŝ		ŝ	1,097	Ф	20,347	3,391
HOUSTON	17,284	ŝ	97,406	\$ 58,627	7 \$	•	Ś	13,706	Ś	•	ŝ	'	ŝ	1,735	ь	23,338	3,907
IRWIN	682	s	3,739	\$ 2,359	\$ 6	•	Ś	223	ŝ	•	ь	•	Ś	31	ø	1,126	188
JACKSON	3,990	s	15,382	\$ 9,136	8 9	•	ф	1,029	\$	•	ŝ	'	Ś	543	Ś	4,674	858
JASPER	1,116	s	4,659	\$ 2,702	2 2	•	θ	207	ŝ	•	s	'	ŝ	41	Ś	1,709	276
JEFF DAVIS	823	ŝ	5,025	\$ 2,220	\$ 0	•	ŝ	135	ф	•	s	•	ŝ	214	ŝ	2,456	301
JEFFERSON	1,212	s	8,019	\$ 3,263	ອ ເວ		ŝ	699	ь	•	s	•	\$	141	ŝ	3,946	403
JENKINS	861	s	3,148	\$ 1,089	\$ 6		Ś	6	ь	•	ŝ	•	ŝ	15	ŝ	1,953	179
NOSNHOL	636	s	5,662	\$ 1,680	\$ 0	•	Ø	75	в	•	s	•	\$	24	Ś	3,882	189
JONES	1,861	Ś	8,723	\$ 3,960	\$ 0		ф	546	ф	•	ŝ	•	ŝ	130	Ś	4,087	611
LAMAR	2,036	ŝ	6,617	\$ 3,772	\$ 5	•	ф	309	ŝ	•	ŝ	•	ю	57	Ś	2,478	338
LANIER	906	ф	4,714	\$ 2,192	5 5	•	ю	334	ŝ	•	s	•	w	18	Ś	2,170	247
LAURENS	3,904	в	67,688	\$ 13,630	\$ 0	2,582	ø	1,005	ь	•	s	18,021	ю	220	Ś	32,230	2,006
LEE	3,610	ŝ	9,820	\$ 6,240	\$ 0		÷	938	ŝ	•	s	•	s	50	s	2,592	589
LIBERTY	7,233	ф	54,515	\$ 32,827	2 \$	'	÷	11,677	ь	•	s	•	ŝ	465	Ś	9,546	2,161
LINCOLN	861	ŝ	4,171	\$ 2,341	ŝ		ø	105	ŝ	•	s	•	ю	15	ŝ	1,711	245
LONG	1,325	ь	10,508	\$ 7,029	8 6		ŝ	1,987	ŝ	•	s	•	S	174	s	1,318	256
LOWNDES	13,300	Ś	52,255	\$ 27,202	8 0		ŝ	6,694	ь	·	s	•	в	665	Ś	17,694	2,910
LUMPKIN	2,121	ŝ	7,851	\$ 5,030	\$ 0		ŝ	878	Ь	•	s	•	ю	39	Ś	1,904	386
MCDUFFIE	2,087	ф	11,250	\$ 5,096	8 9		Ś	589	ŝ	•	s	'	ŝ	87	Ś	5,478	548
MCINTOSH	1,361	Ь	5,006	\$ 3,158	8	•	в	298	ŝ	•	s	•	ф	38	¢	1,512	260
MACON	1,122	ь	3,403	\$ 1,507	2 8	•	69	119	в	·	s	•	θ	88	ь	1,689	238

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				GEORGIA Evnenditures in £000s	GEORGIA	A Enne								
						II \$UUUS		\mathbf{F}		┟		L		T
County/ Congressional District	Veteran Population*	Total Expenditure	Compensation & Pension	Construction	망 > 분 문	Education & Vocational Rehabilitation/ Employment	Loan Guaranty#	*	General Operating Expenses	드드	Insurance & Indemnities	Me	Medical Care	Unique Patients**
MADISON	2,660	\$ 9,364	\$ 5,772	• •	φ	368	s	°,	ľ	Ś	114	φ	3,110	499
MARION	975	\$ 3,721	\$ 1,894	' \$	÷	139	s	ŝ		¢	13	s	1,674	199
MERIWETHER	1,659	\$ 6,961	\$ 4,678	' \$	Ś	235	s	ŝ		ŝ	97	ŝ	1,951	324
MILLER	484	\$ 1,097	\$ 440	۔ ج	Ś	79	s	ŝ	'	ŝ	10	ŝ	568	121
MITCHELL	1,736	\$ 7,265	\$ 4,452	' \$	ю	421	\$	ŝ		ŝ	40	ю	2,352	398
MONROE	1,896	\$ 8,305	\$ 4,129	' \$	ю	516	ŝ	ዓ 1	'	ф	213	ю	3,447	496
MONTGOMERY	661	\$ 3,434	\$ 1,424	۔ ج	ŝ	163	Ş	ŝ		Ś	13	÷	1,835	180
MORGAN	1,054	\$ 5,041	\$ 3,079	' \$	ŝ	186	s	ŝ	'	Ś	66	в	1,710	278
MURRAY	2,789	\$ 7,883	\$ 4,501	' \$	ŝ	824	ŝ	ŝ	'	\$	8	ŝ	2,550	528
MUSCOGEE	22,694	\$ 181,435	\$ 120,814	' \$	ø	16,732	s	ŝ	•	S	1,959	ф	41,930	5,980
NEWTON	6,007	\$ 30,130	\$ 15,856	' \$	ф	2,483	ŝ	ŝ	'	S	532	ф	11,259	1,475
OCONEE	2,856	\$ 7,823	\$ 4,429	' \$	69	691	\$	ŝ		Ś	245	÷	2,459	314
OGLETHORPE	1,094	\$ 4,545	\$ 2,309	' \$	ø	187	ŝ	ŝ	'	S	56	÷	1,993	312
PAULDING	10,744	69	\$ 20,083	' \$	ф	4,898	ŝ	ب	'	S	880	ф	8,956	1,359
PEACH	2,488	\$ 13,306	\$ 6,687	' \$	ŝ	1,106	ŝ	ŝ	•	Ś	58	ø	5,455	642
PICKENS	2,948	\$ 6,761	\$ 4,642	' \$	s	339	\$	ŝ	'	Ś	171	ю	1,609	321
PIERCE	1,301	\$ 8,135	\$ 4,280	' \$	s	148	ŝ	ŝ	'	ഗ	153	ю	3,554	501
PIKE	1,394	\$ 5,121	\$ 2,729	ج	s	733	\$	ŝ	•	Ś	127	ю	1,531	268
POLK	3,148	\$ 9,635	\$ 6,086	' s	Ś	433	\$	ŝ	•	Ś	229	ø	2,887	485
PULASKI	937	\$ 3,767	\$ 2,185	' \$	s	131	\$	ŝ	•	Ś	e	ю	1,447	178
PUTNAM	2,448	\$ 7,201	\$ 3,566	' \$	Ś	219	\$	ŝ	•	S	60	ø	3,355	440
QUITMAN	221	\$ 1,456	\$ 597	' \$	Ś	4	s	ŝ	•	Ś	2	ø	854	96
RABUN	1,528	\$ 6,209	\$ 3,392	' \$	Ś	155	s	ŝ	•	в	63	ю	2,599	395
RANDOLPH	457	\$ 1,761	\$ 733	۔ ج	s	53	s	ŝ	•	ŝ	25	ю	950	123
RICHMOND	21,557	\$ 221,189	\$ 100,871	\$ 332	Ś	15,304	s	ŝ	3,655	Ś	1,824	в	99,204	8,861
ROCKDALE	9,056	\$ 29,591	\$ 16,459	, s	s	3,747	s	ŝ	•	ь	329	ø	9,056	1,409
SCHLEY	374	\$ 1,272	\$ 673	' \$	s	117	s	ŝ	•	s	3	ю	479	60
SCREVEN	1,386	\$ 5,279	\$ 2,126	' \$	Ś	314	s	ŝ	'	Ś	14	ø	2,825	284
SEMINOLE	958	\$ 3,079	\$ 1,357	' s	G	66	\$	ŝ	'	ь	155	ю	1,468	235
SPALDING	4,499	\$ 21,079	\$ 11,522	' s	s	1,230	¢	ŝ	'	Ś	237	ю	8,090	1,031
STEPHENS	2,176	\$ 8,024	\$ 4,527	' s	S	341	¢	ŝ	'	ŝ	212	ŝ	2,944	447
STEWART	299	\$ 2,062	\$ 1,066	s.	ŝ	56	Ф	ŝ		Ś	50	ю	889	87

				GIExpendi	GEORGIA Expenditures in \$000s								Γ
County/ Congressional District	Veteran Population*	Total Expenditure	Compensation & Pension	Cons	Education & Vocational Rehabilitation/ Employment		Loan Guaranty#	General Operating Expenses		Insurance & Indemnities	Medical Care	Ire Unique Patients**	que nts**
SUMTER	2,304	\$ 8,954	\$ 5,185	\$	\$ 714	\$	'	\$	ŝ	80	\$ 2,976	9	501
TALBOT	554	Ś		' \$	\$ 183	с	•	\$	ዓ 1	250	\$ 867	7	111
TALIAFERRO	133	\$ 711	\$ 256	' \$	\$ 17	7 \$	•	\$	به ۱	45	\$ 393	0	39
TATTNALL	2,282	\$ 9,260	\$ 4,781	' \$	\$ 622	2 \$	•	\$	ŝ	344	\$ 3,512	5	455
TAYLOR	641	s	\$ 1,078	' \$	\$ 82	2 2	•	\$	ŝ	36	\$ 1,341	F	154
TELFAIR	1,008	s	\$ 2,213	' \$	\$ 76	\$ 9	,	\$	ŝ	48	\$ 3,688	8	317
TERRELL	858	\$ 1,845	\$ 875	' \$	\$ 63	\$ 8	•	с Ф	<u>ده</u> ۱	61	\$ 846	9	183
THOMAS	3,980	ŝ	\$ 9,053	' \$	\$ 745	\$ \$	•	\$	\$ 	226	\$ 6,917	·-	1,172
TIFT	2,809	\$ 13,237	\$ 7,472	\$	\$ 731	1 \$	•	\$	<u>ب</u>	148	\$ 4,885		783
TOOMBS	2,023	\$ 13,462	\$ 4,811	' \$	\$ 60	2 2	•	\$	ŝ	105	\$ 7,944	4	673
TOWNS	1,488	\$ 5,278	\$ 3,035	\$	\$ 116	s 9	•	\$	به ۱	59	\$ 2,068	8	354
TREUTLEN	578	\$ 3,386	\$ 1,176	' \$	\$ 61	1 S	•	\$	ŝ	269	\$ 1,879	6	160
TROUP	4,982	ŝ	\$ 12,248	' \$	\$ 1,168	8 8	•	\$	ŝ	120	\$ 8,531	-	1,087
TURNER	630	s	\$ 1,802	\$	\$ 21	4 \$	•	\$	\$	13	\$ 1,057	2	190
TWIGGS	608	\$ 5,873	\$ 2,807	' ج	\$ 260	\$ 0	•	\$	ŝ	75	\$ 2,731	-	231
NOIND	3,316	\$ 12,074	\$ 7,549	۔ ج	\$ 222	2 2	,	\$	رم י	186	\$ 4,116	9	663
UPSON	2,441	\$ 10,078	\$ 5,265	' ج	\$ 337	7 \$	•	\$	\$°	347	\$ 4,129	6	568
WALKER	5,004	Ś	\$ 10,723	' ج	\$ 2,417	2 \$	•	\$	69 1	157	\$ 6,453		1,187
WALTON	6,144	\$ 21,563	\$ 11,576	\$ \$	\$ 1,529	\$ 0	•	\$	\$	460	\$ 7,998		1,063
WARE	3,817	\$ 19,702	\$ 10,041	' ه	\$ 690	\$ 0	•	\$	رم ا	196	\$ 8,775		1,077
WARREN	309	\$ 2,810	\$ 1,303	' \$	\$ 196	\$ 9	•	\$	ر ي ا	64	\$ 1,248	8	116
WASHINGTON	1,525	\$ 9,067	\$ 3,555	' \$	\$ 333	s 8	•	\$	\$ 1	27	\$ 5,152	2	509
WAYNE	2,780	\$ 11,972	\$ 6,090	' \$	\$ 499	\$ 6	•	s	\$	119	\$ 5,264	4	708
WEBSTER	169	\$ 941	\$ 683	' ب	\$ 31	- \$	•	s	\$ '	98	\$ 129	6	24
WHEELER	550	\$ 2,147	\$ 1,167	' \$	\$ 65	ۍ ډ	•	ŝ	<u>دە</u> '	2	\$ 913	3	66
WHITE	2,972	s	\$ 4,595	' به	\$ 201	- \$	•	\$	ŝ	58	\$ 3,873	3	523
WHITFIELD	5,752	\$ 16,530	\$ 9,665	۰ به	\$ 924	4	•	\$	\$	317	\$ 5,625	-	,079
WILCOX	926	\$ 3,435	\$ 1,566	۰ ج	\$ 82	2 2	•	\$	ዓ '	21	\$ 1,766	9	170
WILKES	927	\$ 4,299	\$ 2,170	\$	\$ 118	\$ 8	•	\$	\$ 9	32	\$ 1,978	8	252
WILKINSON	704	ŝ	\$ 1,795	• •	\$ 149	\$ 6	•	\$	\$ '	22	\$ 2,429	6	247
WORTH	2,293	\$ 7,493	\$ 3,995	\$ \$	\$ 334	4 \$		\$	ده ۱	42	\$ 3,123	3	525
													_

						GEORGIA Expenditures in \$000s	GEORGIA ditures in	A 50005								Γ
County/ Congressional District	Veteran Population*	Total Expenditure		Compensation & Pension	Con	Construction	Edu Keha Emp	Education & Vocational Rehabilitation/ Employment	Loan Guaranty#		General Operating Expenses	a r	Insurance & Indemnities	Medical Care		Unique Patients**
CONG. DIST (01)	71,372	\$ 336,162	ŝ	183,948	ŝ	ľ	\$	42,504	\$	ŝ	ľ	ь	5,095	\$ 104,616	616	16,656
CONG. DIST (02)	57,925	\$ 290,417		163,032	ŝ	•	ŝ	20,764	\$	ŝ		Ś	3,539	\$ 103,	103,082	15,168
CONG. DIST (03)	73,902	\$ 321,513	ŝ	201,968	ŝ	2,582	ŝ	32,797	\$	ŝ		ŝ	5,410	\$ 78,	78,756	12,814
CONG. DIST (04)	46,360	\$ 312,601	ŝ	93,952	ŝ	341	ь	20,515	\$	ŝ	900'66	ŝ	2,195	\$ 96	96,593	10,433
CONG. DIST (05)	39,564	\$ 226,661	ŝ	75,454	ь	11,324	ŝ	22,402	\$	ŝ	4,392	Ś	3,055	\$ 110	10,035	8,803
CONG. DIST (06)	53,156	\$ 111,383	ŝ	60,495	ŝ	5	\$	14,828	\$	ŝ	8	ŝ	3,998	\$ 32,	32,042	5,535
CONG. DIST (07)	56,224	\$ 169,833	\$	90,061	ŝ	2	ŝ	19,729	\$	ه	5	ŝ	3,161	\$ 56	56,880	8,636
CONG. DIST (08)	60,389	\$ 353,674	ŝ	167,186	ŝ	•	ŝ	26,970	\$	ŝ	18,039	Ś	4,463	\$ 137,	37,017	16,649
CONG. DIST (09)	62,345	\$ 179,111	÷	103,355	÷	92	\$	11,318	\$	ŝ	'	Ś	3,293	\$ 61	61,053	10,499
CONG. DIST (10)	63,247	\$ 331,785	\$	170,972	ŝ	•	ь	27,857	s	ŝ	3,655	Ś	4,692	\$ 124,	24,610	15,103
CONG. DIST (11)	61,080	\$ 180,549	ده	104,805	ŝ	•	ŝ	19,648	s	ŝ	-	Ś	3,945	\$ 52	52,149	8,381
CONG. DIST (12)	61,413	\$ 407,751		174,469	ь	239	ь	79,733	s	ŝ		ŝ	4,054	\$ 149	149,256	16,995
CONG. DIST (13)	66,882	Ś	\$	133,246	ŝ	1,353	ŝ	32,996	s	ŝ	1,845	Ś	2,577	\$ 88	88,303	12,360
GEORGIA (Totals)	773.858	\$ 3.481.761	~	1.722.943	~	15.944		372.060		-	126.946	-	49.477	\$ 1.194.391	391	158.032
			4 I.													
Notes: * Vidence accidation actimates an of Contambar 20	timotoo oo of	Contombor 3		2010 are and used by the VA Office of the Actives 0/stBas 2007)	Per per	NA Office	4 J C C	Action 1	Viot Dan 201	1						
Herican populations estimates, as or sopremone to version, are provided by the YK ontred of the Population Sour # Prior to FD(R *) and Caracteria states included in the Education & Vicensional Bebabilitation and Employment /ERVPE1. Increases	n Guaranty" ev	nenditures we		Inded in the F	duron b	ing VA Vineti		Tehahilitatio	n and Emn	1.1	AF (ERVIDE)	1000		Currently all "I can Guaranty"	S and	iaranh/"
expenditures are attributed to Travis, TX, where all	uted to Travis,	TX, where all	Loan	Loan Guaranty payments are processed.	ments	are proces	sed.	VA will continue to improve data collection for future GDX reports to better distribute	nue to impl	ove d	ata collectio	n for i	uture GDX	reports to	better	listribute
loan expenditures at the state, county and congressional district levels. ^{**} Unique patients are patients who received treatment at a VA health care facility. Data are provided by the Allocation Resource Center (ARC).	ne state, count patients who n	y and congres eceived treatn	siona nent a	I district levels	care fe	scility. Data	are pt	rovided by t	he Allocatio	n Res	ource Cent	er (AF	C)			
Expenditure data sources: Federal Assistance Awards Data System (FAADS) for Compensation & Pension (C&P) and Education and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (EVRE) Benefits; Veterans Benefits Administration Insurance Center for the Insurance costs; the VA Financial Management System (FMS) for Construction, Medical Research,	ces: Federal A rans Benefits /	Administration	Insur	rds Data System (FAADS) for Compensation & Pension (C&P) and Education and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employmen Insurance Center for the Insurance costs; the VA Financial Management System (FMS) for Construction, Medical Research,	AADS) for Compe Insurance of	osts; ti	n & Pensio he VA Finar	n (C&P) an hcial Manag	d Edu	cation and t t System (F	Vocati MS) fe	onal Rehat or Construc	bilitation ar	id Empl cal Res	oyment earch,
General Operating Expenses, and certain Corr and	penses, and c		o rea	readjustment data; and the Aliocation Resource Center (ARC) for Medical Care costs	and a	TEOD IS 51 0		source Cen		Lange	lical care o	DSUS.	6			
		nearest mouse	NO DUE	DIIBLS, FOL EXAL	upie,	1'1¢ 01 00c¢	NU BIL	e rounded t	0 11 20 10	DDtt	are rounded	10 \$0	- ¢ DUR		xpendit	ures.
 The Compensation & Pension expenditures include dollars for the following programs: veterans' compensation for service-connected disability; dependency and indemnity compensation for service-connected deaths; veterans' pension for nonservice-connected disabilities; and burial and other benefits to veterans and their survivors. 	& Pension ext ice-connected	penditures includes deaths; veters	ans' p	lollars for the fu ension for non:	ollowir servio	ng programs e-connected	s: vete 1 disat	rans' compo	ensation for burial and c	servit	ce-connecte enefits to v	eterar	ability; dept is and their	endency al survivors	nd inder	nnity
 Medical Care expenditures include dollars for medical services, medical administration, facility maintenance, educational support, research support, and other overhead items. Medical Care expenditures do not include dollars for construction or other non-medical support. 	nditures includ tures do not inc	e dollars for m slude dollars fo	or con	I services, me struction or oth	dical a	dministratio n-medical s	upport	ility mainten t.	ance, educ	ationa	l support, n	esearc	ch support,	and other	overhea	ad items.
4. Medical Care expenditures are based on where patients live instead of where care is delivered.	nditures are ba	ised on where	patie	nts live insteat	d of w	here care is	delive	ered.								

VA Statistical Data

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HEALTH CLINICS

526 W. Broad Ave., Albany, GA 31701 Phone: 229-446-9000 9249 Highway 29 South, Suite A, Athens, GA 30601 Phone: 706-227-4534 2041 Mesa Valley Way, Austell, GA 30082 Phone: 404-417-1760 1294 Highway 515 East, Suite 100, Blairsville, GA 30511 Phone: 404-329-2222; SDVS Field Office: 706-745-6341 1111 Glynco Parkway, Brunswick, GA 31525-7921 Phone: 912-261-2355; SDVS Field Office: 912-262-2345 1310 13th Ave., Columbus, GA 31906 Phone: 706-257-7200 755 Commerce Drive, 2nd Floor, Decatur, GA 30030 Phone: 404-417-5200 1513 Cleveland Ave., East Point, GA 30344 Phone: 404-321-6111, x2600 1970 Riverside Parkway, Lawrenceville, GA 30043 Phone: 404-417-1750 5398 Thomaston Road, Suite B, Macon, GA 31220 Phone: 478-476-8868

39-A Oak Hill Ct., Newnan, GA 30265 Phone: 404-329-2222 3931 Munday Mill Road, Oakwood, GA 30566 Phone: 404-728-8210 2370 S. Houston Lake Road, Perry, GA 31047 Phone: 478-224-1309 30 Chateau Drive SE, Rome, GA 30161 Phone: 706-235-6581 325 W. Montgomery Crossroads, Savannah, GA 31406 Phone: (912) 920-0214; SDVS Field Office: 912-921-3744 205 Lakeshore Point, St. Marys, GA 31558 Phone: 912-510-3420; SDVS Field Office: 912-510-3440 175 Medical Blvd., Stockbridge, GA 30281 Phone: 404-329-2222 2841 N. Patterson Street, Valdosta, GA 31602 Phone: 229-293-0132; SDVS Field Office: 229-333-2178 515B City Blvd., Waycross, GA 31501 Phone: 912-279-4400; SDVS Field Office: 912-285-6340

Veterans Crisis Hotline: 800-273-TALK



Georgia Department of Veterans Service

Floyd Veterans Memorial Building, Suite E-970 Atlanta, Georgia 30334-4800

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