



# Georgia Department of Veterans Service



**2014 Annual Report**  
Pete Wheeler, Commissioner



## About this Report

In accordance with state law, the Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Veterans Service annually submits a report of the agency's activities to the Governor and the General Assembly. The GDVS Annual Report also serves as a repository of general information about the department.

Throughout this report, many references are made to Fiscal Year 2014; this refers to the State of Georgia's fiscal year from July 1, 2013, to June 30, 2014. Where information refers instead to calendar year 2014, this will be noted.

Where federal data is concerned, the latest available data is sometimes from Federal Fiscal Year 2013 (Oct. 1, 2012, to Sept. 30, 2013). Such cases are noted where they occur.

An electronic version of this report is available online at [veterans.georgia.gov/annual-report](http://veterans.georgia.gov/annual-report). An archive of the most recent editions of the GDVS Annual Report may be found in the same location.

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## About the Cover

The Georgia National Guard Color Guard presents colors during the 2014 Vietnam Veterans Day/Medal of Honor Day Ceremony at the State Capitol Building. This was one of several special events the Georgia Department of Veterans Service sponsored to honor veterans during 2014.

(Credit: Photo, GDVS/Annalysce Baker)



**Department of Veterans Service**  
*Floyd Veterans Memorial Building*  
**Atlanta, Georgia**  
**30334**

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

December 15, 2014

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.”*

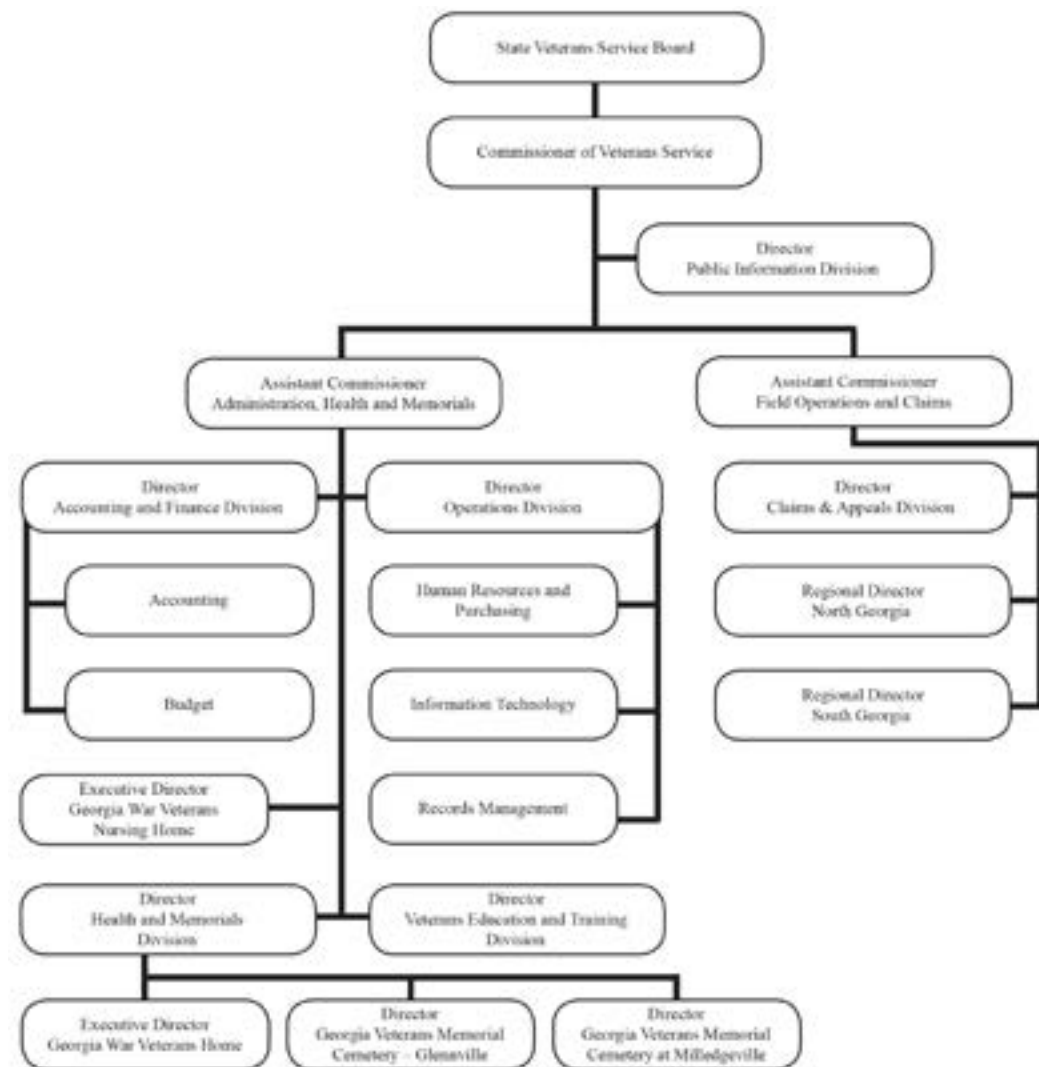
In compliance with the above section, I have the honor to present herewith the Annual Report of the Department of Veterans Service for the year 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

PETE WHEELER  
 Commissioner



# DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION



# VETERANS SERVICE BOARD

The constitution of the State of Georgia specifies the State Veterans Service Board be composed of seven members. Each member must be a veteran of the armed forces of the United States and must have served honorably during wartime.

The Governor appoints members, subject to confirmation by the State Senate. Board member terms are staggered and are for seven years. From its membership, the Board elects a chairman, vice chairman, and secretary. Every four years the Board appoints a Commissioner, through whom the Board controls the overall policy of the Department of Veterans Service.



From left: Shawn Hanley; Philip G. Youngblood; Ray Hendrix; Commissioner Pete Wheeler; Fred T. Fincher, Sr.; Pat Phillips; James K. Hussey, Jr.; Charles Edward "Eddie" Whitted

## MISSIONS:

To assist Georgia's 774,000+ veterans with benefits claims to obtain compensation, pension and services from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

To provide nursing 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 Glenville 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.

## 2014 BOARD MEMBERS

### BOARD MEMBER

PAT PHILLIPS  
 PHILIP G. YOUNGBLOOD  
 CHARLES EDWARD "EDDIE" WHITTED  
 FRED T. FINCHER, SR.  
 SHAWN HANLEY  
 RAY HENDRIX  
 JAMES K. HUSSEY, JR.

### POSITION

CHAIRMAN  
 VICE CHAIRMAN  
 SECRETARY  
 MEMBER  
 MEMBER  
 MEMBER  
 MEMBER

### CITY

BLAIRSVILLE  
 QUITMAN  
 BLACKSHEAR  
 LAGRANGE  
 ATLANTA  
 STATESBORO  
 APPLING



# GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICE

*Serving Those Who Served*

The mission of the Department of Veterans Service is to serve the 752,000+ 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 & appeals division, field offices, two veterans nursing homes, two veterans cemeteries, and a public information division.

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

The Veterans Field Service 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 War Veterans Nursing Homes provide skilled nursing care to Georgia's war veterans who need those services.

The Veterans Memorial 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 Public 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 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 earned 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 the 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.



# GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICE

*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 beneficiaries in the preparation, presentation, proof, and establishment of such claims, privileges, rights and other benefits accruing to them under federal, state, and local laws.

**Report** any evidence of incompetence, dishonesty, or negligence on the part of any employee dealing with veterans affairs.

**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 Veterans Service Board, and the General Assembly as to needed veterans legislation.

**Maintain** files on all veterans who have filed claims for veterans benefits 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.

**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 driving licenses and honorary driving licenses.

**Certify** eligibility for disabled veteran discounts at Department of Natural Resources facilities.

**Issue**, to qualified veterans, Certificates of Exemption from certain business taxes and fees.

**Assist** qualified veterans in obtaining honorary hunting and fishing licenses.

**Assist** in obtaining special motor vehicle license plates for qualified veterans, including veterans of specific military campaigns, retired veterans, and recipients of certain medals, as well as special tax-exempt license plates for Purple Heart recipients, former prisoners of war, disabled veterans, and Medal of Honor recipients.

**As State Approving Agency**, 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.

**As Chair Agency of the Returning Veterans Task Force**, investigate how state services can be provided to veterans returning from military service, issue recommendations to each agency regarding improving service delivery, and transmit specific suggestions for legislation to the Governor and senior leaders of the General Assembly.



# VETERANS EDUCATION & TRAINING DIVISION

## *State Approving Agency*

By 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.

Within GDVS, the State Approving Agency (SAA) function is performed by the Veterans Education & Training Division. This division is responsible for 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 (OJT). 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.

In 2014, GDVS continued to expand opportunities for Georgia veterans to receive their education benefits while enrolled in approved on-the-job training (OJT) and apprenticeship programs.

The Montgomery GI Bill education program, initiated in 1985, remains a great success. This program expanded the education benefits program to include vocational, technical, flight, correspondence, and OJT/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.

The Post 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Improvements Act of 2010 made 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.

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, a housing allowance, and a book stipend.

The Department of Defense also offers a “Transferability of Education Benefits” option for the Post-9/11 GI Bill. This retention program requires eligible active duty veterans to commit to a four-year extension to a six or more year active duty commitment.

During fiscal year 2014, there were 26,022 Georgians receiving GI Bill benefits. An additional 812 veterans were enrolled in OJT programs.

In total, 26,834 Georgia veterans were enrolled in college degree and professional programs, technical career programs, vocational programs, flight training, and OJT programs during fiscal year 2014.

In FY 2014, the approval of educational institutions and training establishments for the education of Georgia veterans resulted in the processing of numerous individual actions in the approval, re-approval, withdrawal and compliance survey process.

At the close of FY 2014, there were 380 approved educational institutions and 1,196 approved training establishments in Georgia. The Veterans Educational & Training Division monitors all 1,576 approved educational institutions and training establishments.

The division conducts regular inspection visits to ensure that approval criteria and schools’ standards of progress are being followed as prescribed by law.

During 2014, personnel assigned to the Veterans Educational & Training Division conducted numerous visits for the purpose of approval, re-approval, inspection, and compliance surveys.

For more information on all GI Bill programs, visit [benefits.va.gov/gibill](http://benefits.va.gov/gibill) or call the GDVS Education & Training Division at 404-656-2306.

# PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION

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

When appropriate, the division mails news and information releases concerning veterans 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 that may affect them.

Through an aggressive internal communication program, the division keeps the field offices informed about changes in the law and policy interpretations that impact veterans.

The division supports the department’s field personnel in their efforts to 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 Public Information Division compiles, edits, and publishes a series of print materials explaining

in detail the various benefits available to veterans, their dependents, and survivors. These include books, pamphlets, and calendars, all of which are updated as changes occur in laws, regulations, or benefits.

The Public Information Division maintains the department’s online presence, including its website and several social media channels.

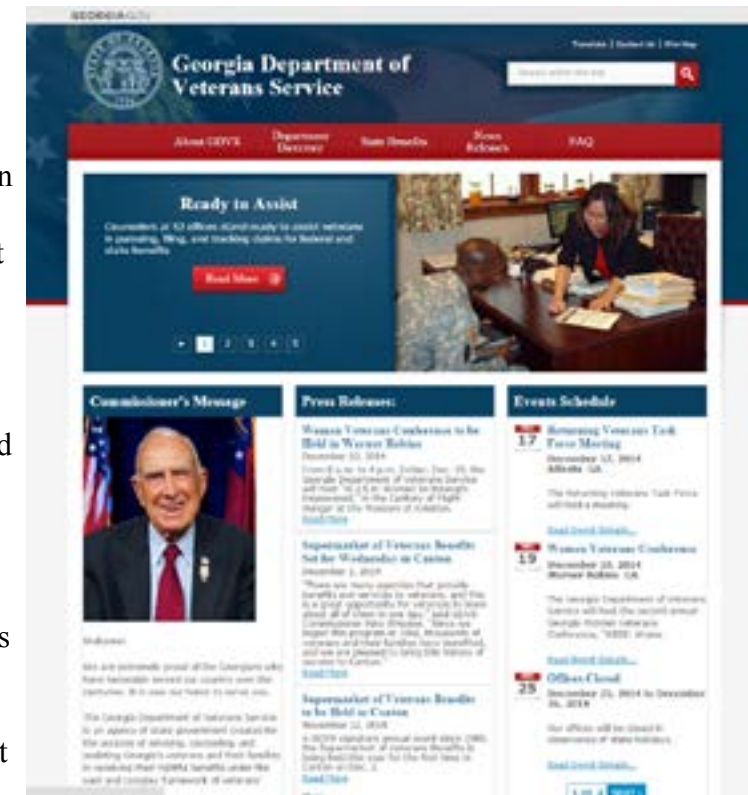
Veterans, their families, and all others interested in veteran-related news are encouraged to follow @gavetsvc on Twitter, where the department is leveraging the social media service to share the latest news of the day as it happens.

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: [facebook.com/gavetsvc](http://facebook.com/gavetsvc).

Although the division strives to utilize the latest available new media tools, the department’s website, [veterans.georgia.gov](http://veterans.georgia.gov), remains the top source for official Georgia Department of Veterans Service information.

The GDVS website is a repository of information about veterans benefits, including the most up-to-date version of *State Benefits for Georgia Veterans*, and detailed information concerning all aspects of the department: Commissioner Wheeler, Georgia War Veterans Homes, Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemeteries, Veterans Field Service Offices, Claims & Appeals, and Veterans Education & Training.

The website is also home to the department’s official news feed and calendar of events.



# GEORGIA WAR VETERANS NURSING HOME

## *Augusta*

The Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home in Augusta is a 192-bed skilled nursing care facility located adjacent to the campus of Georgia Regents University and the Charlie Norwood Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home is operated under an interagency agreement between the Georgia Department of Veterans Service and Georgia Regents University.

Primarily, the facility provides medical and skilled nursing services to Georgia's aged and infirm war veterans. Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home also serves as a teaching

facility to acquaint medical, dental, 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.

Also located at the facility is a GDVS Veterans Field Service 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 2014, the nursing home provided 56,891 days of care to Georgia's veterans with an average age of 83. During the year, there were 205 admissions and 207 discharges with an average length of stay of 238 days.

Services to patients included 7,077 physical therapy treatments and 4,093 individual occupational

therapy procedures.

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 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 \$6.4 million during fiscal year 2014.

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 Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home residents.



# GEORGIA WAR VETERANS HOME

## *Milledgeville*

The Georgia War Veterans Home, situated on approximately 17 acres in Milledgeville, is a 375-bed facility licensed and certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs 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, operates the home for the Department of Veterans Service under a contractual agreement.

The home operated three skilled nursing care facilities in 2014, which included the Richard B. Russell Building

with 86 budgeted beds; the Joe T Wood Building with 140 budgeted beds; and the Alzheimer's Wing of the Pete Wheeler Building with 24 budgeted beds.

The GDVS field office serving Baldwin, Hancock, Putnam, Washington, and Wilkinson counties is located in the Wheeler Building Rotunda. Veteran-related contacts for this field office totaled 20,299 for calendar year 2014. This office also serves the 250 veterans of the Georgia War Veterans Home by assisting with compensation and pension claims, counseling services, and family-related issues.

During fiscal year 2014, veteran patients at the home received 80,520 days of skilled nursing care. The nursing home admitted 180 patients during the year and had 72 discharges/deaths. The average length of stay for current skilled veteran patients is 1,264 days or 3.50 years.

During FY 2014, federal assistance in funding a portion of the cost of providing care to veterans in the home amounted to \$9,343,811.

As in previous years, many veterans service organizations, civic groups, 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 1,702 individual volunteers providing in excess of 7,503 hours of time valued at over \$165,066 presented over 647 activities during the year.

The value of in-kind donations made available to the home during fiscal year 2014 was \$47,022. Groups and

individuals also provided direct monetary donations of \$37,570 in support of special activities and projects.



# GEORGIA VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERY

## *Milledgeville*

Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Milledgeville is located approximately five 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.



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

There were 226 burials in FY 2014, making the total-to-date 2,252 veterans, spouses, and dependents buried at the GVMC. The burials are composed of 1,588 casketed burials, 385 cremations in the columbarium, 256 in-ground cremations, and 23 memorial markers.

The avenue of flags is displayed when ceremonies are held at the cemetery, such as Memorial Day and Wreaths Across America. In addition, it is displayed on Flag Day, Independence Day, and Veterans Day.

Flags were placed on all burial sites and at the front entrance of the cemetery in recognition of Memorial Day. The Knights of Columbus, Patriot Guard, and members of the 48th Infantry Brigade conducted a ceremony attended by approximately 500 people.

Flags were placed on all burial sites in the cemetery in recognition of Veterans Day.

On December 14, 2013, the cemetery hosted its annual Wreaths Across America ceremony honoring our past and present military. Seven wreaths, provided by the Worchester Wreath Company, were presented

honoring each branch of our Armed Forces, Merchant Marines and POWs/MIAs. The ceremony included members of the Patriot Guard Riders, Honor Guards from the Augusta Composite Squadron Civil Air Patrol and Putnam County High School, cadets from Georgia Military College Prep School, and representatives

from each branch of service. The cemetery received approximately 1,700 donated wreaths, which were placed on graves following the ceremony. This was the first year that wreaths were placed on every grave in the cemetery.

The cemetery has many visitors each year. Some are visiting grave sites, some are seeking information about the cemetery and burial requirements, and many have just heard about the cemetery and want to see the grounds.

Cemetery staff members remain active in the local community by meeting frequently with business groups, veterans organizations, and church groups.

The GVMC's hours of operation are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding official state holidays.

The cemetery is open to families, visitors, and the general public seven days each week from 8 a.m. to dusk.

# GEORGIA VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERY

## *Glennville*

Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery – Glennville is situated on the 42.6-acre site of the former Dyess Farm, just north of the Glennville city limits on 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 in-ground double vaults, for eligible veterans, their spouses, and eligible dependents; 766 conventional single depth sites; 1,384 cremation interment 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.

GVMC–Glennville was dedicated on November 28, 2007, and will eventually be the final resting place for more than 21,000 veterans, their spouses, and eligible dependents. As of June 30, 2014, there were 669 veterans, spouses, and family members interred.

A key feature of the cemetery is the co-location of the Glennville Veterans Field Service Office, which provides assistance to veterans and their families in Bryan, Liberty, Long, Tattnall, and Wayne counties.

In 2014, GVMC–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 Foreign Wars post. Lt. Col. Raymond T Banks, commander of Fort Stewart's 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division 4th Brigade Special Troops, was the guest speaker for the ceremony. He took the opportunity to inform the crowd of the importance of Memorial Day as a time

to honor today's soldiers as well as soldiers of the past who have all sacrificed. Also, Cemetery Director Ernie Cowart spoke of the beginnings of the holiday to its place in today's world and welcomed the crowd to the cemetery, as over 200 people attended the ceremony during a beautiful spring day.



For Memorial Day and Veterans Day, Boy Scout Troop 929 placed U.S. flags at the grave sites of the veterans interred in the cemetery. 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. Stephanie Lawless, director of the Toombs County High School Band, performed "Taps." Also involved in the ceremony were members of the Brunswick Civil Air Patrol and area Boy Scouts. A crowd of around 200 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.

GVMC–Glennville's hours of operation are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding official state holidays.

The cemetery is open to families, visitors, and the general public seven days each week from 8 a.m. to dusk.



# STATISTICAL REPORT

## Calendar Year 2014

### OVERVIEW

Office Visits .....	198,228
Other Visits .....	383,977
Hearings .....	1,678

### SERVICES & TRANSACTIONS – FEDERAL BENEFITS

Compensation and Pension .....	109,930
DIC and Death Pension .....	7,942
Eligibility Verification Reports .....	4,695
Education, Training, and Vocational Rehabilitation .....	7,373
Notices of Disagreement and Appeals Filed .....	10,763
Medical .....	45,795
Micellaneous (Insurance, Burials Loans, Powers of Attorney, and Changes of Address, Social Security, Veterans Preference Points, Other Forms) .....	230,269
Advice .....	241,702

### SERVICES & TRANSACTIONS – STATE BENEFITS

Driver's License .....	13,408
Business License .....	402
State Veterans Home Application .....	614
License Plates .....	4,764
Natural Resources .....	1,805
Tax Exemptions .....	2,342
Preference Points .....	916
Welfare Assistance .....	3,653
Advice .....	96,089

*Note: This statistical report contains figures through Dec. 12, 2014.  
Amended figures will be available in 2015.*

# STATISTICAL REPORT

## Definitions

**OFFICE VISIT:** A visit to a Veterans Field Service Office by a veteran, family member, or other interested individual to inquire about, or make application for, veterans benefits provided by the federal government or the State of Georgia. It includes the provision of advice and assistance to the individual(s), the completion of forms or other correspondence or documentation related to veterans benefits.

**OTHER VISIT:** A telephone call, email, mail or telefax made to or received from a veteran, family member, or other interested individual to inquire or advise about veterans benefits provided by the federal government or the State of Georgia. It includes the provision of advice and assistance to the individual(s).

**HEARING:** A hearing is conducted by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to review and adjudicate an appeal of a previous decision by the VA and is conducted by a hearing officer or judge of the VA. It includes the preparation by a claims and appeals officer (VCAO) and the actual presentation at the formal hearing in person or by electronic means by a VCAO.

*The following categories include the initiation and/or completion of an application for benefits as defined:*

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

**DIC AND DEATH PENSION:** Dependents Indemnity Compensation and Death Pension.

**ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT:** Required for pension benefits and/or the annual certification of income for medical benefits.

**EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION:** Includes educational benefits at an institution of higher learning, on-the-job training, or apprenticeship training, as provided in the current educational benefits of the "GI Bill." Referral to the GDVS Veterans Education & Training Division or the VA Regional Office Educational Benefits office is included as part of this service or transaction.

**NOD AND APPEALS:** Notice of Disagreement or Appeal related to a claim application for VA benefits.

**MEDICAL:** Treatment of medical or dental conditions, admission to health care facilities, and vocational rehabilitation.

**INSURANCE AND BURIALS:** Insurance claims and applications for burial benefits (grave markers and interment in veterans cemeteries).

**LOANS, POWERS OF ATTORNEY, AND CHANGES OF ADDRESS:** Loan benefits, advice on eligibility requirements, normal processing methods, etc.; applications for designation of power of attorney for GDVS to act on behalf of the veteran with VA claims actions; advice on making a change of address using VA's processes.

**ADVICE:** Advice provided to a veteran or family member about federal benefits. As a result of advice provided to a client, other services or transactions may be provided at the same time or at a later visit.

**DRIVER'S LICENSE:** Georgia Veteran's Driver's License, Honorary Driver's License, or National Guard Driver's License.

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

**STATE VETERANS HOME APPLICATION:** Admission to a State Veterans Home.

**LICENSE PLATES:** Commemorative service, disabled veteran, military award, etc.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** A park pass provided to eligible veterans and the submission of the application to the GDVS Central Office for approval and issuance.

**TAX EXEMPTIONS:** Tax exemptions for which the veteran may be eligible.

**PREFERENCE POINTS:** Provision of paperwork documenting service in the U.S. Armed Forces for use in employment application to State of Georgia.

**WELFARE ASSISTANCE:** Advice regarding an application for welfare benefits.

**ADVICE:** As above, pertaining to state benefits.





# GDVS FINANCIAL REPORT

*Fiscal Year 2014*

Class Name	Program Name	Budget	Expenditures
Personal Services	Administration	1,363,926.00	1,363,925.31
Regular Operating	Administration	65,158.00	59,038.97
Computer Charges	Administration	56,435.00	56,433.73
Real Estate Rentals	Administration	8,300.00	8,300.00
Telecommunications	Administration	73,244.00	73,243.31
Contracts	Administration	3,082.00	3,082.00
		<u>1,570,145.00</u>	<u>1,564,023.32</u>
Personal Services	Milledgeville Cemetery	343,373.00	266,278.02
Regular Operating	Milledgeville Cemetery	22,010.00	70,677.12
Telecommunications	Milledgeville Cemetery	4,183.00	2,673.11
		<u>369,566.00</u>	<u>339,628.25</u>
Personal Services	Glennville Cemetery	319,848.00	245,603.41
Regular Operating	Glennville Cemetery	21,282.00	61,026.33
Telecommunications	Glennville Cemetery	7,904.00	6,373.36
		<u>349,034.00</u>	<u>313,003.10</u>
Personal Services	Augusta	44,374.00	47,067.48
Op Exp/Pay MCG	Augusta	12,112,650.00	12,059,954.96
ROE For Projects And Insurance	Augusta	329,500.00	308,270.00
		<u>12,486,524.00</u>	<u>12,415,292.44</u>
Personal Services	Field Operations	4,492,764.00	4,492,763.51
Regular Operating	Field Operations	413,690.00	410,007.57
Real Estate Rentals	Field Operations	226,715.00	226,714.50
Telecommunications	Field Operations	75,430.00	75,429.66
Capital Outlay	Field Operations	651,996.00	651,994.94
Contracts	Field Operations	48,935.00	48,935.00
ROE For Projects And Insurance	Field Operations	40,273.00	40,272.44
		<u>5,949,803.00</u>	<u>5,946,117.62</u>
Personal Services	Claims	927,115.00	927,114.77
Regular Operating	Claims	22,119.00	22,118.62
Telecommunications	Claims	6,312.00	6,311.40
		<u>955,546.00</u>	<u>955,544.79</u>
Personal Services	Education And Training	512,181.00	558,285.70
Regular Operating	Education And Training	128,940.00	41,113.62
Real Estate Rentals	Education And Training	8,300.00	77,723.00
Telecommunications	Education And Training	10,000.00	9,166.87
		<u>659,421.00</u>	<u>686,289.19</u>
Personal Services	Milledgeville Skilled Care	44,196.00	50,961.21
Contracts	Milledgeville Skilled Care	17,175,690.00	17,085,770.17
ROE For Projects And Insurance	Milledgeville Skilled Care	1,125,000.00	1,123,474.33
		<u>18,344,886.00</u>	<u>18,260,205.71</u>
Totals		<u>40,684,925.00</u>	<u>40,480,104.42</u>
	State	20,135,998.00	20,093,118.29
	Federal	17,019,797.00	16,957,858.28
	Other	3,529,130.00	3,429,127.85
		<u>40,684,925.00</u>	<u>40,480,104.42</u>

*Note: This financial report contains preliminary, unaudited figures for Fiscal Year 2014. Amended figures will be available in 2015.*

# VA MONETARY REPORT

*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 federal fiscal year 2013 (October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013). The figures were provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and were the latest available at the end of 2014. (See pages 58-62 for more detailed breakdown of these figures.)

**Compensation and Pension:** Benefits expenditures for the following categories: compensation payments, pension payments, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, and burial allowances.

**Medical Care:** Operating expenses incurred through the provision of health care services to veterans. The specific programs reported for this category are: medical care, General Post Fund, medical and prosthetic research, and miscellaneous accounts.

**Construction:** Funding for Major Projects, Minor Projects, Grants for Construction of State Extended Care Facilities, and Grants for Construction of State Veterans Cemeteries.

**Insurance and Indemnities:** Expenditures for death claims, matured endowments, dividends, cash surrender payments, total disability income provision payments, and total and permanent disability benefits payments.

**Education and Vocational Rehabilitation:** Expenditures in this category include: automobile and adaptive equipment, specially adapted housing, Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance (Chapter 35), Vocational Rehabilitation for Disabled Veterans (Chapter 31), Post-Vietnam Era Veterans' Educational Assistance (Chapter 32), Montgomery G.I. Bill for Selected Reserves (Chapter 1606), Reserve Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 1607), Montgomery G.I. Bill (Chapter 30), Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance (Chapter 33).

**General Operating Costs:** General Operating Expenses represent the costs necessary to provide administration and oversight for the benefits provided by VA. This includes costs for overhead and human resources [to operate VA's regional office, hospitals, health clinics, nursing homes, and domiciliary facilities in Georgia]. This category does not include payments made directly to beneficiaries.

**Compensation and Pension**  
**\$2,482,164,000**

**Medical Care**  
**\$1,574,087,000**

**Construction**  
**3,359,000**

**Insurance and Indemnities**  
**\$48,822,000**

**Education and Vocational Rehabilitation**  
**\$453,034,000**

**General Operating Expenses**  
**\$109,242,000**

**Total Expenditure**  
**\$4,670,709,000**





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

April 25, 2014

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

Dear Commissioner Wheeler,

Thank you for the opportunity to share with you some of the accomplishments and events that took place at the Atlanta Regional Office (RO) during fiscal year (FY) 2013 which ended on September 30, 2013. Last year was another busy year for both of our organizations.

During FY13 we continued our transformation from a paper based claims processing system to a self-service, electronic claims processing environment. We ended the FY with 95% of all pending rating claims available electronically. During the year we continued to focus on reducing our oldest pending claims nationwide and had much success.

#### Veterans Service Center (Compensation)

During FY13, the Veterans Service Center (VSC) completed 37,708 rating claims with an average of 357.7 days to complete a claim. The number of completed claims was an increase of 4% over the number of claims processed in FY12. During FY13 we focused on completing our oldest pending claims which resulted in a higher average days to complete. In FY14, the VSC will continue to focus on reducing the rating inventory of claims pending more than 125 days as well as reaching the 2015 goal of 98% quality.

The Atlanta VSC received 36,454 claims last year, which represents a 4.3% decrease in claims received compared to FY12.

The Intergrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES) is at three Army installations and two Air Force Bases in the state of Georgia: Fort Stewart, Fort Benning, Fort Gordon, Moody Air Force Base, and Robins Air Force Base. The IDES program involves coordination between VA and the Department of Defense (DoD) to ensure expedited claims processing for Servicemembers going through the Medical Evaluation Board process.

The Military Service Coordinators (MSCs) continue to be involved with events held throughout Georgia and other locations for the purpose of providing VA entitlement information. Additionally, MSCs conduct outreach activities that include TAP/DTAP briefings at Moody AFB, Warner Robins AFB, Fort Stewart, Hunter AAF, Fort Gordon, Fort Benning, and the Marine Corps Logistics Base in Albany. In FY13, the Benefits Delivery at Discharge (BDD) sites integrated into the Veterans Benefits Management System (VBMS) to deploy full integration of the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) Transformation Plan.

In FY14, the Atlanta RO continues to lead the way through Transformation with the enhancements of VBMS. Currently, the Atlanta RO has approximately 98% of its rating inventory in the digital environment.

In order to be successful with Secretary Shinseki's Transformation Plan to eliminate Veteran homelessness by the 2015, the Homeless Veterans Coordinator has become involved in all stages of the claims process to expedite development. Currently, the Atlanta RO has a total of 77 homeless claims pending and is meeting the homeless average days pending goal of 75 days.

#### Education

The Atlanta Regional Processing Office (RPO) is responsible for 7.8% of the nationwide education benefits workload.

The RPO processed 601,166 claims in FY13 while maintaining a payment accuracy rate of 98.3%. The Average Days to Complete for original claims processing improved from 45.2 days in FY12 to 38.8 days in FY13, a decrease of 14.2%. The Average Days to Complete for supplemental claims processing improved from 18.5 days in FY12 to 13.1 days in FY13, resulting in a decrease of 29.2%.

In FY13, the automation of Post 9/11 GI Bill supplemental claims had a positive effect on reducing timeliness and inventory. The Long Term Solution (LTS) fully automated approximately 40% of the supplemental Post 9/11 GI Bill claims electronically received and partially automated another 35%. It is anticipated that automation will continue to improve the RPO's performance going into FY14.

The effectiveness of automation has allowed for the reorganization of the Education business line. As of June 17, 2013, one hundred (100) Atlanta RPO Education employees were transitioned to the VSC to assist in meeting the Secretary's goal to reduce the backlog of claims. As a result of this initiative, the jurisdictional authority over the states of Florida and South Carolina were shifted to the Muskogee RPO. The Atlanta RPO continues to have jurisdiction for the states of Georgia, North Carolina, and Puerto Rico and surrounding islands.

In the area of Customer Service, the RPO assisted 25,864 students via Internet inquiries and interviewed 9,595 students visiting the RPO. The Outreach section presented information at 25 outreach events during FY13 providing information to school certifying officials and veterans. The Education Call Center, located in



Muskogee, Oklahoma, continues to handle all education telephone inquiries nationwide.

#### Loan Guaranty

FY13 marked the second year for the national Certificate of Eligibility program at the Atlanta Regional Loan Center (RLC). During FY13, we made 413,414 eligibility determinations and answered 221,554 phone calls. As a national call center, our Loan Production staff continues to provide "ICARE" service which is evidenced by positive feedback received from Veterans, their beneficiaries, and participating lenders.

The Atlanta RLC continued to be a leader in the nation in the number of VA loans closed with 89,969 for FY13. This accomplishment represents more than seven consecutive years in the top two performing RLCs in the nation in this category. During this period, the Atlanta RLC generated approximately 14.5% of all VA loans closed nationally. During FY13, our Construction & Valuation Section processed 61,132 appraisals, which ranked first among the eight Regional Loan Centers.

Our Loan Production and Loan Administration staffs continued to provide training and outreach to lenders and real estate professionals who assist Veterans in utilizing the loan guaranty benefit. During this past year, we attended over 18 outreach events and had direct contact with over 1,046 program participants. We participated in the Annual Supermarket Event for Veterans, sponsored by your office, and will continue to support this event in the future.

Our Loan Administration staff assisted 5,305 Veterans and their families in avoiding foreclosure through one of our successful alternatives. We approved 167 Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) grants totaling \$8.76 million dollars to our most deserving disabled Veterans. The delivery of the SAH grant benefit continues to be our most rewarding accomplishment and our highest priority.

#### Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment

The Atlanta Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Division (VR&E) maintains an active workload, which is the fifth largest in the nation, with an open case count of 4,866 as of September 30, 2013. In FY13, our office received 4,192 applications for VR&E services.

Independent Living (IL) services provided by this office represented approximately 10% of all IL cases nationwide. The program, designed for Veterans whose disabilities would prevent them from participating in competitive employment, seeks goals for independent functioning in the home and community, to the maximum extent possible.

The VR&E division continues early outreach with Servicemembers preparing for discharge from active duty. This outreach is conducted at Fort Gordon, Fort Benning,

Fort Stewart, and Robins Air Force Base. Part of the outreach includes a one-time vocational and career counseling assessment for Servicemembers who are within six months of discharge or have been discharged from active duty in the last 12 months. In FY13, we completed 486 assessments as part of this outreach. VR&E counselors also can begin the steps of the Chapter 31 initial assessment, entitlement determination, adjustment counseling, vocational exploration, and service delivery in preparation for their transition to civilian work upon their return home. This year we also hired four IDES Counselors, who are co-located with the DoD personnel. These Counselors are tasked with supporting all IDES Servicemembers.

#### Conclusion

As we enter 2014, we continue to focus on improving the timeliness of claims processing while increasing the quality of our decisions. Our goal continues to be to improve all the services that we provide to Georgia Veterans and Veterans across the country. We continue to strive to increase our role as advocates for our Veterans and their families. I am thankful for the outstanding partnership that we have in our joint effort to provide services to Georgia Veterans. We look forward to this relationship continuing to grow this year. We look forward to working with you and your staff serving Veterans in 2014. Thank you for your efforts and support during the year.

Keep Serving Veterans!

Sincerely,



A. Bocchicchio  
Director



# YEAR IN REVIEW

## *Marietta VFSO Grand Opening*



# YEAR IN REVIEW

## *Activities*



GDVS partnered with the Consulate of the Republic of Korea to distribute copies of "Korea Reborn" to Korean War veterans at the state's war veterans nursing homes in Milledgeville and Augusta.



GDVS partnered with the Georgia Building Authority and the Garden Club of Georgia to facilitate the placement of a Blue Star Memorial marker in front of the Floyd Veterans Memorial Building in Atlanta.



GDVS Commissioner Wheeler was honored several times this year, including an award for lifetime achievement in executive branch service from GMOAA and a service award from VAMC-Atlanta.



Both Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemeteries participated in Wreaths Across America, an annual program to honor those who are serving or have served, and to teach about the sacrifices made by veterans and their families.



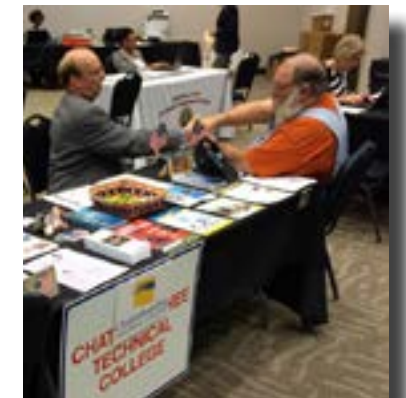
# YEAR IN REVIEW

## Supermarket of Veterans Benefits – Canton



# YEAR IN REVIEW

## Supermarket of Veterans Benefits – Canton



# YEAR IN REVIEW

## *Veterans Day*

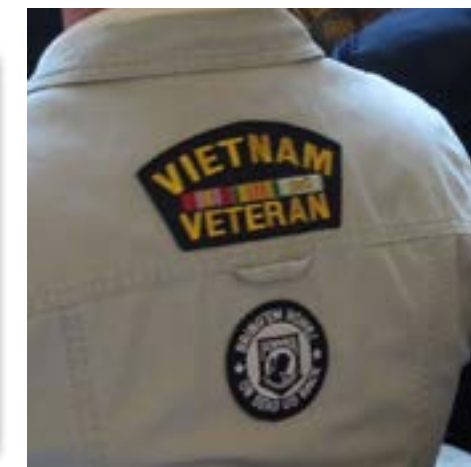
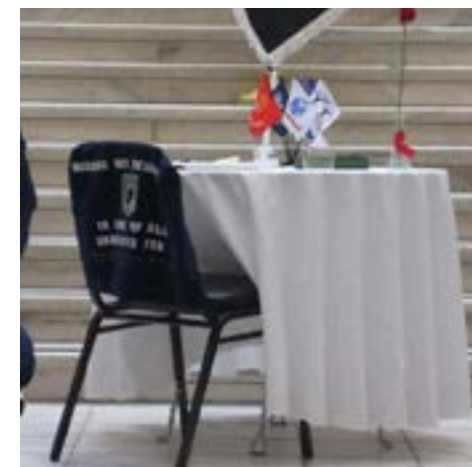


# YEAR IN REVIEW

## *Vietnam War 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration*



As part of its ongoing role as an Official Commemorative Partner with the U.S. Department of Defense during the Vietnam War 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration, the Georgia Department of Veterans Service sponsored two commemoration programs during 2014, a salute to Georgia's Vietnam War Medal of Honor recipients and a tribute to Georgia's Vietnam War POWs, MIAs, and their families.



# YEAR IN REVIEW

## Annual Training



The Georgia Department of Veterans Service annually gathers its Veterans Field Service Officers and Claims & Appeals Officers for training to ensure all employees maintain certification and stay up-to-date on the latest changes to regulations governing veterans benefits.



# YEAR IN REVIEW

## State Procurement Opportunities Conference



The Georgia Department of Veterans Service and the Georgia Department of Administrative Services, with support from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, hosted the first Georgia State Procurement Opportunities Conference for Veteran-Owned Small Businesses Oct. 10 at the Floyd Veterans Memorial Building in Atlanta.



# YEAR IN REVIEW

## *Women Veterans Conference*



Georgia Department of Veterans Service  
2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Women Veterans Conference

# W.I.S.E.



**Women in Strength Empowered**

Join Us for a Morning Filled with **Motivational Speakers** Enjoy an Afternoon of **Fun and Relaxation**

Registered Guests will be Served  
**Breakfast and Lunch**

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Friday, December 19, 2014  
Museum of Aviation at Warner Robins  
Century of Flight Hangar  
Georgia Highway 247 at Russell Pkwy.  
Warner Robins, Georgia 31088

Need More Information? Contact:  
Deborah Jones, Georgia Women Veterans Coordinator  
or  
Shelly-Ann Simpson  
Georgia Department of Veterans Service  
(404) 629-5345  
Register Online at:  
[gdvswomenveterans.eventbrite.com](http://gdvswomenveterans.eventbrite.com)


# YEAR IN REVIEW

## *Women Veterans Conference*

The Georgia Department of Veterans Service held its second annual Women Veterans Conference Dec. 19 at the Museum of Aviation in Warner Robins. Attendance nearly doubled from the first year, and the program was well-received. In the coming years, GDVS will continue to grow its Women Veterans Program to serve our state's 105,000+ female veterans.

For program information:  
Women Veterans Coordinator  
Deborah Jones  
404-656-5354





# GEORGIA'S VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

In rendering service to the veterans of Georgia, the Georgia Department of Veterans Service works closely with the state's veterans organizations and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

GDVS 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 GDVS in its group activities.

GDVS 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 VSO annual state conventions to present information to delegates about ongoing GDVS activities and issues that impact Georgia veterans.

Contact information for each VSO is listed on the next page.

Over the following pages, several VSO commanders have submitted letters detailing their organizations' 2014 activities on behalf on Georgia's veterans.



# GEORGIA'S VSO LEADERSHIP



**American Ex-Prisoners of War**  
Ray Reiersen  
State Commander  
[www.axpow.org](http://www.axpow.org)



**The American Legion**  
Randy Goodman  
State Commander  
Gabriele Barnett  
Auxiliary President  
[www.galegion.org](http://www.galegion.org)



**AMVETS**  
Robert Heiss  
State Commander  
Kay Floyd  
Auxiliary President  
[www.amvets.org](http://www.amvets.org)



**Atlanta Vietnam Veteran Business Association**  
Kurt Mueller  
President  
[www.avvba.org](http://www.avvba.org)



**Atlanta World War II Roundtable**  
Lee Weinstein  
Commander  
[www.atlantawwiiroundtable.org](http://www.atlantawwiiroundtable.org)



**Blinded Veterans Association**  
Joseph McNeil  
State President  
Gwendolyn McNeil  
Auxiliary President  
[www.grgbva.org](http://www.grgbva.org)



**Disabled American Veterans**  
Burl Jimmerson  
State Commander  
JoAnn Atkinson  
Auxiliary President  
[www.davmembersportal.org/ga](http://www.davmembersportal.org/ga)



**Georgia Federal/Military Retiree Coalition**  
Kurt Schuler  
State President  
[www.georgiamoaa.org/GFMRC](http://www.georgiamoaa.org/GFMRC)



**Georgia Military Officers Association of America**  
Calvin S. Posner  
State President  
[www.georgiamoaa.org](http://www.georgiamoaa.org)



**Georgia Vietnam Veterans Alliance**  
Marvin Myers  
President  
[www.gvva.org](http://www.gvva.org)



**Jewish War Veterans of America**  
Joseph Kraut  
State Commander  
[www.jwv.org](http://www.jwv.org)



**Marine Corps League**  
Ron Kirstatter  
Commandant, Dept. of Georgia  
[www.mcldeptofga.org](http://www.mcldeptofga.org)



**Military Order of the Purple Heart**  
Doug Middleton  
State Commander  
Evelyn Morrison  
Auxiliary President  
[www.gapurpleheart.org](http://www.gapurpleheart.org)



**Reserve Officers Association**  
James D. Bankers  
State President  
[www.roa.org](http://www.roa.org)



**Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States**  
Al Lipphardt  
State Commander  
Martha Gilbert  
Auxiliary President  
[www.gavfw.org](http://www.gavfw.org)



**Vietnam Veterans of America**  
J. Spence Davis  
State Council President  
[www.vvageorgia.com](http://www.vvageorgia.com)



# THE AMERICAN LEGION

DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA



December 4, 2014

Commissioner Pete Wheeler  
Georgia Department of Veterans Service  
Floyd Veterans Memorial Building  
East Tower, Room 970  
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

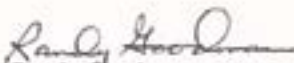
I thank you for the opportunity to share the accomplishments of The American Legion and to express my gratitude for the unwavering dedication you and your employees give to Georgia veterans and their families. I have met with current and former employees of your department and they all share a common goal—veterans first! We are very fortunate to have this attitude resounded from the front office to the front line! Please thank your entire staff.

Since its formation, The American Legion has fought for compassionate, timely care and treatment of U.S. military veterans. This holds true in what we call a "system worth saving," the VA health-care system. The American Legion had been testifying before Congress about preventable deaths at VA health-care facilities for over a year when a newly retired Phoenix VA doctor blew the whistle on appointment scheduling practices that were linked to the preventable deaths of at least 40 veterans. The American Legion successfully called for the resignation of the VA Secretary and demanded urgent reform. In August, President Obama signed into law the Veterans' Access, Choice and Accountability Act of 2014. The American Legion will be deeply involved in the reform as it proceeds.

More than 52,000 Georgia Legionnaires serving in 237 American Legion Posts are dedicated to the Four Pillars of The American Legion—Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth. We are very proud to be such an integral part of Georgia and the communities we serve. Governor Nathan Deal and the citizens of Georgia joined us in celebrating 95 years of service on September 16, 2014, the official "American Legion Day" nationwide.

Thank you again for what you do every day for veterans and their families! As with The American Legion, we are "Still Serving America!"

For God and Country,

  
Randy Goodman  
Commander

8085 Mt. Zion Road, Stockbridge, Georgia 30281 • Tel: 678-289-8883



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

December 3, 2014

Dear Commissioner Wheeler,

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Department of Georgia and its' Ladies Auxiliary are proud to have the opportunity to continue our unwavering support of the Georgia Department of Veterans Services and in particular to you Commissioner Wheeler. Your dedication and commitment to those who have served in uniform has been marked with over 60 years of unequalled leadership. I am extremely humbled to serve as the 2014-2015 VFW Department of Georgia State Commander, for the nation's oldest Veterans Service Organization dedicated to combat veterans. It has been my pleasure to work more closely with you and your outstanding staff of professionals throughout our state. Those who have the good fortune to visit your office come away with a deep sense of pride by the display of historical memorabilia amassed over your tenure. It is truly a tribute to your leadership and visionary efforts to take care of our veterans, their widows and orphans, and to insure promises made for their sacrifice and service are never broken.

To say that this year has been challenging when it comes to addressing issues within the Veterans Administration would be a gross understatement. VFW National Commander in Chief, Mr. John Stroud has declared his motto for the year is "Defending America's Defenders". In attempting to embrace his commitment to those who serve, I have determined that the motto for the VFW Department of Georgia is, "Believe In What You Do – Do What You Believe In". We currently have a media blitz intended to remind the public of who we are and what we do. The tag line is "Don't Talk About It, Be About It". With you at the helm Mr. Commissioner, the Georgia Department of Veterans Services is "Defending America's Defenders" because you "Believe In What You Do and You Do What You Believe In". Your department doesn't talk about serving our veterans, they take the action to be about it! The great State of Georgia is lucky to be the home of a true American hero and leader in the likes of Mr. Pete Wheeler.

One of the most accurate ways to predict the future is to reflect on the past. Though there will be more challenges to come as our veteran population increases and their needs become more demanding, there is absolutely no doubt the Georgia Department of Veterans Services will be there to protect these proud men and women so that no veteran will be failed when the need arises.

Our wish for you is that you continue to receive the many blessings you have. That you continue to be filled to capacity with the spirit of giving, of involvement and of commitment: And that you continue to receive the grace to live the life for which you were created by being, as you are in all things – the best you can be.

Yours in Comradeship and Service,

  
Al Lipphardt  
State Commander

**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**

Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Georgia  
P.O. Box 3025 | Macon, Georgia 31205-3025 | 478.474.3737





Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States  
Department of Georgia

December 2014

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

Dear Commissioner Wheeler,

On behalf of the 5000 members of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Department of Georgia, I thank you for the continued assistance and cooperation you and your staff provide for our Veterans and their families in Georgia.

As State President, it has been my privilege to travel throughout Georgia and see the outstanding medical facilities and meet the dedicated medical personnel and staffs, who provide quality care for our Nation's Heroes.

The Ladies Auxiliary VFW values the partnership which exists between our organization and the Department of Veterans Service. We appreciate the tireless efforts of the Department of Veterans Service, to ensure that our Veterans and their families receive all the benefits to which they are entitled.

The Ladies Auxiliary VFW looks forward to our continuing association with you and the Department of Veterans Service. Do not hesitate to call upon the Ladies Auxiliary VFW if we can be of service to you or assist you in any way. We promise to continue our mission to provide "Unwavering Support For Uncommon Heroes".

God Bless you and God Bless the United States of America.

Respectfully,

Martha Gilbert  
Ladies Auxiliary VFW Department of Georgia  
President 2014-2015



Department of Georgia  
4462 Houston Ave., Macon, Ga. 31206  
Phone: (478) 781-7336 FAX: (478) 788-2934  
Email: [gadav1@outlook.com](mailto:gadav1@outlook.com) or [davmavet2@yahoo.com](mailto:davmavet2@yahoo.com)  
Website: <http://www.davga.org>  
December 2, 2014

Honorable Pete Wheeler, Commissioner  
Georgia Department of Veterans Services  
Floyd Veterans Memorial Building, Suite E-966  
2 MLK JR Drive  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

On behalf of our Disabled American Veterans of the Department of Georgia, it is my distinct pleasure to express our gratitude to you and your staff. You and your staff display **Pride, Leadership, Integrity, Teamwork, Accountability, and Innovation**. It is a pleasure and an honor to be associated with a man of your stature who shows genuine concern for the rights of Veterans and their families in our great State of Georgia.

Thus far, the Department of Georgia has had a fantastic year. We made plans to purchase **four** new vans for our DAV Transportation Network Program which includes the following hospitals: **Charlie Norwood, VAMC (Augusta, GA 2 Vans), Carl Vinson, VAMC (Dublin, GA 1 Van), and Atlanta VAMC (1 Van)**. We are accomplishing this by asking the Chapters to help raise funds through donations from the various Businesses/ Corporations and from fundraising endeavors.

Our **Hospital Service Coordinator Report** for the 2013-2014 year consists of the following: Atlanta VAMC, GA had a total of 11,172 Hours, 133,939 Miles, and 4,409 Total Veterans Transported. Augusta VAMC, GA had a total of 11,087 Hours, 194,857 Miles, and 7,279 Total Veterans Transported. Dublin VAMC, GA had a total of 4,490 Hours, 96,871 Total Miles, and 2,197 Total Veterans Transported. Our **NSO Report** is from June 2014- September 2014: 1,497 File Reviews, Received 1,091 Power Attorneys, and Conducted 1,400 Interviews, Reviewed 1,251 Rating Board Appearances, and filed 1,828 New Claims. The Decatur DAV NSO Office have obtained \$6,095,083.00 in Retro and Annual Award for New Service Connection, Compensation increase \$7,295,767.00, Non-Service Connected Pension Benefits \$260,812.00 for a total award of \$32,119,657.00 to include Compensation maintain, education benefits and death benefits.

The Disabled American Veterans Motto: "Fulfilling Our Promises To The Men And Women Who Served". Commissioner Wheeler, you have fulfilled that motto without wavering on your commitment to all veterans. Thanks.

Sincerely,  
Burl L. Jimmerson  
Commander Disabled American Veterans  
Department Of Georgia

BEW/BLJ



**MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART  
DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA**



December 5, 2014

Honorable Pete Wheeler  
Commissioner, Department of Veterans Services

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

The Patriots and the Ladies Auxiliary wish to express our gratitude for the outstanding service you and your staff continue to provide to the veterans of Georgia.

With your support and encouragement, the Department of Georgia has been able to promote our Purple Heart City and County campaign as an additional aspect of the Purple Heart Trail system. When we started last year, we had only one city; we now have 88 proclamations, tying us in second place in the nation.

We look forward to continuing our annual golf tournament, "Play it Again, Pete" in your honor to support the Homeless Veteran's Program at the Atlanta VAMC.

You can again be proud of your accomplishments in 2014 and together we will continue to make a difference in the lives of the veteran of our state. The Patriot members, Ladies Auxiliary and I look forward to continuing our progress as we work tirelessly with you and your staff in the coming year.

Yours in patriotism,

Douglas J. Middleton  
Commander



**LADIES AUXILIARY – MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART  
DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA**

December 5, 2014

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

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

The Ladies Auxiliary, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Department of Georgia, is proud to serve the Veterans of this great State of Georgia. On behalf of the members of the Ladies Auxiliary, I would like to express our thanks and gratitude to you and your staff for the exceptional service you provide to our Veterans and their families throughout Georgia.

Your history of service to our country's veterans is second to none. We realize that the many benefits veterans have today could not be possible without your expertise.

We have chartered one new chapter and one ladies auxiliary unit in Fitzgerald, Ga., Chapter and Unit 1000. They are providing a service to male and female veterans in South Georgia which is long overdue, especially for the combat wounded. They are bringing awareness of the MOPH into our communities, engaging in projects that give back and have a real impact and to proudly thank our veterans across their area for service.

We look forward to continuing our association with you and the Department of Veterans Service. Do not hesitate to call upon the Ladies Auxiliary if we can be of service to you and your department at any time.

Yours in Service.

Evelyn Morrison, President  
Ladies Auxiliary, Military Order of the Purple Heart  
Department of Georgia





COMMANDANT  
 DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA, MARINE CORPS LEAGUE  
 206 W DOUBLEGATE DRIVE  
 ALBANY, GEORGIA 31721-6301



BLINDED VETERAN ASSOCIATION  
 GEORGIA REGIONAL GROUP



6245 SEMINARY ROAD  
 COLUMBUS, GA 31904

November 25, 2014

December 4, 2014

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

Dear Commissioner,

As the Commandant of the Department of Georgia, Marine Corps League, it is my distinct pleasure, on behalf of our 29 Detachments to thank you and your staff for all their efforts in support of our Georgia Veterans.

One of the reasons the Marine Corps League in Georgia continues to grow and prosper is the Georgia Department of Veterans Services, under your leadership, makes Georgia a desirable location for veterans to live and work.

I hereby pledge the support of the Department of Georgia, Marine Corps League to you and your department.

I'm especially grateful for the service now being provided in Southwest Georgia at the newly opened facility aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany Georgia and look forward to its growth in the number of veterans served and the services provided.

Semper Fidelis,

Ronald V. Kirstatter  
 Commandant  
 Department of Georgia  
 Marine Corps League

To: Commissioner Pete Wheeler

From: President, Georgia Regional Group

Joseph D. McNeil Sr.

Subject: Letter of Support

Dear Commissioner Wheeler,

As President of the Blinded Veterans Association, Georgia Regional Group, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for your outstanding efforts to help improve the lives of Veterans of this Great State of Georgia. As you are aware the Blinded Veterans Association is the only Congressionally Chartered Veterans Organization dedicated to representing the issues and concerns of Visually Impaired Veterans and their families, your duties assist us greatly in accomplishing our mission.

On behalf of all the Members of the Blinded Veterans Association, Georgia Regional Group (BVA GRG), We would like to wish you good fortune, health and prosperity in the year to come.

Sincerely,

Joseph D. McNeil Sr.

President, Georgia Regional Group



Marvin Myers  
President



*"In Service To Veterans, Their Families and Community"*

December 2, 2014

Honorable Peter Wheeler  
Commissioner of Veterans Services  
State of Georgia  
Floyd Memorial Building  
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Pete,

We have been seeing an increasing number of veterans and their families over the past year. The veteran's service officers in your department have been wonderful advising and helping veterans and their families. In over 20 years of doing this I have yet to receive anything but praise for your officers. Your annual report makes it very easy to handle requests from all over Georgia. All of the counties are listed along with names and phone numbers of the different offices in the Department. I probably refer to it once a week or so as many of those who call live in other parts of Georgia.

As the year has gone on I see an uptick in the desire of many to reintegrate into the work force. Your super markets really do help those wanting to work find employment. We all tend to forget we have two great facilities for our senior veterans who live alone. Having had dear friends in one of them I can attest to the fact both fulfill a great need among our ageing veterans population. Lest we forget you have given us a lasting legacy in places for those who reach their final bivouac. Thank you again as Georgia is a leader among our nation in caring for our veterans. We are proud you are our Commissioner of Veterans Service and we are proud to live in a state that cares about veterans.

For a veteran this is a great state. Thank you for your leadership over the years Pete and we thank your wonderful staff.

Sincerely,

Marvin Myers  
President

5879 New Peachtree Road, Doraville, GA 30340 Phone 770.458.7934 Fax 770.452.9933



November 28, 2014

Commissioner Pete Wheeler  
Georgia Department of Veterans Services  
Floyd Veterans Memorial Building  
East Tower, Room 970  
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

Veterans of the State of Georgia are in your debt for your longstanding commitment to ensuring that their service to our country is not forgotten. For more than half a century you have been our spokesperson, advocating our causes. Vietnam Veterans, like our fellow veterans of all branches and times of service, are in your debt.

The Atlanta Vietnam Veterans Business Association, AVVBA, was founded 33 years ago to promote patriotism and sponsor activities of a patriotic nature among the business community; to recognize those who served and honor those who gave their lives in the Vietnam War; and to promote the positive image of the Vietnam Veteran. In the past year we have undertaken a number of efforts to achieve those goals.

The AVVBA website displays with pride the certificate of appreciation we received from the Georgia Department of Veterans Services (GDVS) for our efforts on Vietnam Veterans Day in Georgia. We also were honored to be a participant in the Tribute to the Families of Georgia's Fallen Heroes of the Vietnam War, coordinated by the GDVS. This year we became a partner with the Department of Defense for the commemoration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the Vietnam War.

On May 22, 2014 AVVBA dedicated a memorial to Harry Kenneth Vaughan, an Army Corporal from what is now Milton, Georgia, who was killed in action in Vietnam. Corporal Vaughan was the 28<sup>th</sup> Atlanta area resident to be so memorialized.

Members of AVVBA are strong supporters of the USO. We have contributed more than 826 volunteer hours and \$6,300 in cash donations. In addition, our members collected more than \$10,150 for the USO by manning collection stations outside of designated Kroger stores in the Atlanta area.

AVVBA is the organizer and primary sponsor of the Birdies for the Brave, a PGA Tour Charities, Inc. golf event held in September at Horseshoe Bend Country Club. The golf event is a fund raising effort supporting the military veteran charities of the Birdies for the Brave PGA Tour Charities, Inc. program. The 2014 event raised in excess of \$56,000 for this program to support wounded warriors and their families.

While we are proud of our accomplishments in 2014 we are mindful that there are always more opportunities for service to our active military, to veterans and to our community, and we are glad to have a role with GDVS toward addressing that goal.

Sincerely,

Kurt Mueller  
AVVBA President





## THE GEORGIA MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.

AFFILIATED WITH THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.  
INCORPORATED MARCH 14, 1955

5710 VININGS PLACE DRIVE  
MABLETON, GEORGIA 30126-4557



### PRESIDENT

MAJ Calvin S. Posner, USA-Ret  
770-933-0881  
[calposner@aol.com](mailto:calposner@aol.com)

### IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Lt Col Alton Johnson, Jr., USAF-Ret  
229-561-0690  
[buddy1612@bellsouth.net](mailto:buddy1612@bellsouth.net)

### 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT/DIRECTOR, TRANSITION ASSISTANCE

COL Mayo "Biff" Hadden, USA-Ret  
706-615-2455  
[bhadden@mindspring.com](mailto:bhadden@mindspring.com)

### 2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT

MAJ Neal Moore, USA-Ret  
912-576-7559  
[mnmoore@tds.net](mailto:mnmoore@tds.net)

### SECRETARY

Col Dan Holtz, USAF-Ret  
678-403-2693  
[laurahn@bellsouth.net](mailto:laurahn@bellsouth.net)

### TREASURER/

LTC Paul Clark, USA-Ret  
770-819-8371  
[clark9699@gmail.com](mailto:clark9699@gmail.com)

### DIRECTOR, MEMBERSHIP/ CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT

COL Frank Valentine, USA-Ret  
706-868-9186  
[valentinf@aol.com](mailto:valentinf@aol.com)

### DIRECTOR, VETERANS SERVICES

COL Chuck Davis, USA-Ret  
770-427-3894  
[ctdavis101@hotmail.com](mailto:ctdavis101@hotmail.com)

### DIRECTOR, PUBLIC AFFAIRS

LCDR Al Harper, USN-Ret  
[alhrpr@msn.com](mailto:alhrpr@msn.com)

### DIRECTOR, LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

COL Art Carey, USA-Ret  
[carey200511@comcast.net](mailto:carey200511@comcast.net)

### CHAPLAIN

Col Paul Evans, USAF-Ret  
478-254-3391  
[pevansqa2@cox.net](mailto:pevansqa2@cox.net)

### JUDGE ADVOCATE

CPT Dave Cross, USA-Fmr  
706-496-8994  
[dccross@aol.com](mailto:dccross@aol.com)

### HISTORIAN

MAJ Joe Crews, USA-Ret  
[joe.crews@comcast.net](mailto:joe.crews@comcast.net)

Nov. 6, 2014

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

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

Thank you for your leadership in helping veterans. It's always a pleasure to work with the dedicated members of your team. Their initiative, helpfulness and professionalism are a testament to that leadership. On behalf of our nearly 1,500 Georgia Military Officers Association of America (GMOAA) members, please accept our appreciation and gratitude for all you and your staff do for our currently serving active duty and retired Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines, National Guardsmen, Reservists and Veterans of Georgia.

Many of our warriors return from combat with wounds that previously would have proved fatal. However, due to advanced field medical technology and practices, our veterans are often able to return home to their families and lead productive lives. The role of the Georgia Department of Veterans Service will be even more essential in providing the training, benefits and services they require to become fully constructive members of their communities. Your department has met the challenge and we are forever grateful to you and your staff. Your continuing efforts to assist our returning warriors obtain meaningful employment is the key to reintegration into a productive civilian life.

The ongoing hard work of the Department of Veterans Service ensures that our defenders receive the benefits they earned to become as good a civilian as they were a warrior. We support the department's mission and will continue to work with you and your staff to achieve the best for our heroes.

Sincerely,

*Calvin S. Posner*

Calvin S. Posner, MAJ, USA-Ret  
President, Georgia MOAA

The Honorable Pete Wheeler, Commissioner  
Department of Veterans Services  
Floyd Veterans Memorial Building, Suite E-960  
205 Jesse Hill, JR. Drive  
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

As President of the Georgia Federal/Military Coalition, I wish to thank you and your staff for the excellent support and services you provide to Georgia's military veterans. You have our sincere gratitude for the many years of your leadership in providing and protecting our benefits.

I also wish to express the Coalition's sincere appreciation for the vital services and hospitable accommodations you and your staff continue to provide to us.

We look forward to your continuing leadership and service to Georgia's military veterans and their families, and our continuing partnership with your Department.

Sincerely,

**Kurt H. Schuler**

Kurt H. Schuler  
President



# DIRECTORY

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICE CENTRAL OFFICE  
 Floyd Veterans Memorial Building, Suite E-966, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, Atlanta, GA 30334-4800  
[veterans.georgia.gov](http://veterans.georgia.gov) [facebook.com/gavetsvc](https://www.facebook.com/gavetsvc) [twitter.com/gavetsvc](https://twitter.com/gavetsvc)

*This directory was published in December 2014. For the most recent version visit [veterans.georgia.gov](http://veterans.georgia.gov)*

## COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

Pete Wheeler	Commissioner		404-656-2300	
Mary Aukerman	Confidential Secretary	<a href="mailto:aukerman@vs.state.ga.us">aukerman@vs.state.ga.us</a>	404-656-2312	404-657-9738

## PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION

Jon Suggs	Director	<a href="mailto:jsuggs@vs.state.ga.us">jsuggs@vs.state.ga.us</a>	404-656-5933	404-656-7006
Open	Comm & Outreach Spec		404-656-5933	404-656-7006

## ADMINISTRATION, HEALTH & MEMORIALS

Dan Holtz	Assistant Commissioner	<a href="mailto:dholtz@vs.state.ga.us">dholtz@vs.state.ga.us</a>	404-656-2307	404-656-7006
Brian Zeringue	Project Manager	<a href="mailto:bzeringue@vs.state.ga.us">bzeringue@vs.state.ga.us</a>	404-463-3080	404-656-7006
April Dodgen	Budget Analyst	<a href="mailto:adodgen@vs.state.ga.us">adodgen@vs.state.ga.us</a>	404-656-7439	404-656-7006
Debbie Gregory	Administrative Assistant	<a href="mailto:dgregory@vs.state.ga.us">dgregory@vs.state.ga.us</a>	404-656-2300	404-656-7006

## ACCOUNTING & FINANCE DIVISION

Chris Hambright	Director	<a href="mailto:clhambri@vs.state.ga.us">clhambri@vs.state.ga.us</a>	404-656-5896	404-656-7006
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## OPERATIONS DIVISION

Rick Graham	Director	<a href="mailto:rgraham@vs.state.ga.us">rgraham@vs.state.ga.us</a>	404-463-3076	404-656-7006
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## HUMAN RESOURCES

Wonda Jones	Senior HR Generalist	<a href="mailto:wfjones@vs.state.ga.us">wfjones@vs.state.ga.us</a>	404-463-3076	404-656-7006
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## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

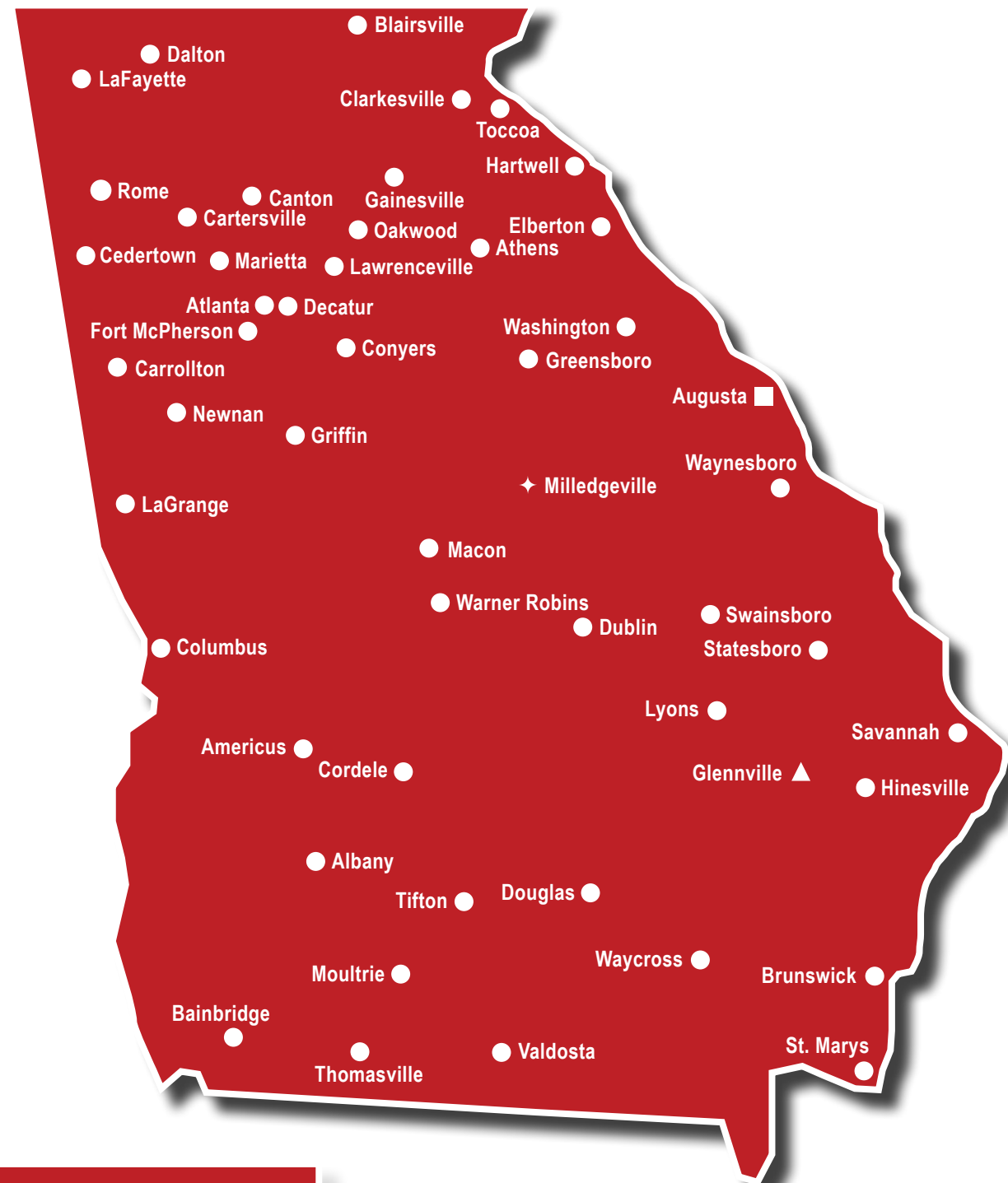
William Wilson	Sys Administrator	<a href="mailto:wcwilson@vs.state.ga.us">wcwilson@vs.state.ga.us</a>	404-657-4110	404-656-7006
Bryan Farr	Sys Administrator	<a href="mailto:bfarr@vs.state.ga.us">bfarr@vs.state.ga.us</a>	404-656-5893	404-656-7006

## LOGISTICS

Bradley Johnson	Proc & Supply Spec	<a href="mailto:bjohnson@vs.state.ga.us">bjohnson@vs.state.ga.us</a>	404-656-5893	404-656-7006
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## RECORDS MANAGEMENT

Barbara Beedles	Admin Support Spec	<a href="mailto:bcausey@vs.state.ga.us">bcausey@vs.state.ga.us</a>	404-463-3079	404-651-6947
DeMario Rucker	Admin Support Spec	<a href="mailto:ddrucker@vs.state.ga.us">ddrucker@vs.state.ga.us</a>	404-463-3077	404-651-6947



- Veterans Field Service Office
- VFSO/Veterans Nursing Home
- ▲ VFSO/Veterans Cemetery
- ★ VFSO/Home/Cemetery

An interactive version of this map is available at  
[veterans.georgia.gov/field-offices](http://veterans.georgia.gov/field-offices)

During 2014 the Georgia Department of Veterans Service opened three offices and relocated one. The new offices are in Fort McPherson (opened in March), Hinesville (opened in September) and Marietta (opened in October). The office formerly located in McRae relocated to Douglas in January.



# DIRECTORY

## HEALTH & MEMORIALS DIVISION

Georgia War Veterans Home, D-135, Wheeler Building, 2249 Vinson Highway, Milledgeville, GA 31059-0741

Ernie Simons	Director	esimons@vs.state.ga.us	478-445-2544	478-445-0828
Jenelle Moore	Administrative Assistant	jmoore@vs.state.ga.us	478-445-2544	478-445-0828

## GEORGIA VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERY – GLENNVILLE

8819 US Hwy 301, Glennville, GA 30427

Ernie Cowart	Director	ecowart@vs.state.ga.us	912-654-5398	912-654-2963
Stacy Howard	Asst. Director	showard@vs.state.ga.us	912-654-5398	912-654-2963
Tommy Waters	Maint Supervisor	twaters@vs.state.ga.us	912-654-5398	912-654-2963
Wallace Brannen	Maint / Hvy Equip Op	wbrannen@vs.state.ga.us	912-654-5398	912-654-2963
William C. Tackett	Maint / Hvy Equip Op	wtackett@vs.state.ga.us	912-654-5398	912-654-2963

## GEORGIA VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERY at MILLEDGEVILLE

2617 Vinson Highway, Milledgeville, GA 31061

Russ Feagin	Director	rfeagin@vs.state.ga.us	478-445-3363	478-445-3360
Wade Forehand	Asst. Director	wforehand@vs.state.ga.us	478-445-3363	478-445-3360
William Lester	Maint Supervisor	wlester@vs.state.ga.us	478-445-3363	478-445-3360
Valynsky Calhoun	Maint / Hvy Equip Op	vcalhoun@vs.state.ga.us	478-445-3363	478-445-3360
Madison Smith	Maint / Hvy Equip Op	msmith@vs.state.ga.us	478-445-3363	478-445-3360

## GEORGIA WAR VETERANS HOME – MILLEDGEVILLE

2249 Vinson Highway, Milledgeville, GA 31062

Dennis Mize	Executive Director	dmize@uhs-pruitt.com	478-445-6821	478-445-1701
Janice Scott	Associate Director	jscott@uhs-pruitt.com	478-445-4516	478-445-5113
Charolet Medlin	Office Manager	cmedlin@uhs-pruitt.com	888-453-6836	478-445-5190
Verdine Young	Admissions Coord	vyoung@uhs-pruitt.com	478-445-4295	478-445-5583

## GEORGIA WAR VETERANS NURSING HOME – AUGUSTA

1101 15th Street, Augusta, GA 30901-3196 [georgiawarveteranshome.org](http://georgiawarveteranshome.org)

Charles Esposito	Executive Director	cesposito@gru.edu	706-721-2531	706-721-3892
Carlton Deese	Associate Director	cdeese@gru.edu	706-721-2531	706-721-3892
Karen Yonce	Admin Associate	kyonce@gru.edu	706-721-2531	706-721-3892
Ramona Little	Business Svc Director	rlittle@gru.edu	706-721-2637	706-721-4252
Julia Eveker	Director Admissions	jeveker@gru.edu	706-721-2405	706-721-7530

## VETERANS EDUCATION & TRAINING DIVISION (STATE APPROVING AGENCY)

Floyd Veterans Memorial Building, Suite E-960, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr., Atlanta, GA 30334-4800

Main Office		saaga@vs.state.ga.us	404-656-2306/2322	404-657-6276
Larry Edwards	Director	saale@vs.state.ga.us	404-467-3073	404-657-6276
Dairrelle Shropshire	Administrative Assistant	dshropshire@vs.state.ga.us	404-656-2306	404-657-6276
Bobby Davis	Senior Coordinator	saabjd@vs.state.ga.us	404-657-7992	404-657-6276
Mark Bannister	Senior Coordinator	saasmb@vs.state.ga.us	404-463-3075	404-657-6276
Lily Snyder	Senior Coordinator	saals@vs.state.ga.us	404-656-2322	404-657-6276
Frank Kollig	Coordinator	fkollig@vs.state.ga.us	404-463-4267	404-657-6276

# DIRECTORY

## FIELD OPERATIONS & CLAIMS

Floyd Veterans Memorial Building, Suite E-966, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr., Atlanta, GA 30334-4800

Mike Roby	Assistant Commissioner	mrobby@vs.state.ga.us	404-656-2305	404-656-7006
Ava Ingram	Administrative Assistant	aingram@vs.state.ga.us	404-656-2305	404-656-7006

## NORTH GEORGIA REGION

Gainesville Veterans Field Service Office 311 Green Street NW, Room 405, Gainesville, GA 30501-6060

Harry Evans	Regional Director	hevans@vs.state.ga.us	404-213-1020
Linda Lavender	Economic Support Specialist, GWVH–Milledgeville	llavender@vs.state.ga.us	478-445-4449
Bob Pollard	Economic Support Specialist, GWVNH–Augusta	rpollard@vs.state.ga.us	706-721-4301

## SOUTH GEORGIA REGION

Bainbridge Veterans Field Service Office 307 East Broughton Street, Bainbridge, GA 39817-4003

Craig Couturier	Regional Director	ccouturier@vs.state.ga.us	229-248-2599	229-243-5362
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## CLAIMS & APPEALS DIVISION

1700 Clairmont Road, Decatur, GA 30033

Main Office			404-929-5345	404-929-5347
George Canavaggio	Director	george.canavaggio@va.gov	404-929-5362	404-929-5347
James Reeves	Assistant Director	james.reeves2@va.gov	404-929-5353	404-929-5347
Linda Williams	Administrative Assistant	linda.j.williams@va.gov	404-929-5360	404-929-5347
Joel Willis	Sr VCAO	joel.willis@va.gov	404-929-5355	404-929-5347
Mike Noles	Sr VCAO	mike.noles@va.gov	404-929-5352	404-929-5347
Deborah Jones	VCAO 2	deborah.jones11@va.gov	404-929-5354	404-929-5347
Shelly Simpson	VCAO 1	shellyann.simpson@va.gov	404-929-5370	404-929-5347
Rhonda Wilson	VCAO 1	rhonda.wilson2@va.gov	404-929-5357	404-929-5347
Antoinette Rutledge	VCAO 1	antoinette.rutledge@va.gov	404-929-5351	404-929-5347
Mike Dennard, Jr.	VCAO 1	mike.dennard@va.gov	404-929-5343	404-929-5347
Henri Torres	VCAO 1	enrique.torres@va.gov	404-929-5342	404-929-5347
Ervin Wright	VCAO 1		404-929-5350	404-929-5347
Robert Norman	VCAO 1		404-929-5360	404-929-5347
Deborah Clayton	Admin Support Spec	deborah.clayton@va.gov	404-929-5361	404-929-5347
Telethia Penn	Admin Support Spec	telethia.penn@va.gov	404-929-5358	404-929-5347
Reginald Lurry	Admin Support Spec	reginald.lurry@va.gov	404-929-5349	404-929-5347

## ALBANY (South Region)

1303 W. Broad Ave., Albany, GA 31707

Counties served: Dougherty, Lee, Terrell, Worth

Sherri Whitfield	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	swhitfield@vs.state.ga.us	229-430-1797	229-430-1796
Milton Hayes	VFSO 1	mhayes@vs.state.ga.us	229-430-1798	229-430-1796

## AMERICUS (South Region)

1601 N. Martin Luther King Blvd., Suite 220, Americus, GA 31719

Counties served: Macon, Marion, Schley, Sumter, Webster

Melissa Ingle	VFSO 2 (Office Mgr)	mingle@vs.state.ga.us	229-931-2546	229-931-5151
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# DIRECTORY

**ATHENS (North Region)** Counties served: Barrow, Clarke, Jackson, Madison, Oconee, Oglethorpe  
9249 U.S. Highway 29, Suite D, Athens, GA 30601

Dale Bell	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	dbell@vs.state.ga.us	706-369-5630	706-369-5998
Ramona Roper	VFSO 1	rroper@vs.state.ga.us	706-369-5631	706-369-5998
Aesia Brown	VFSO 1	abrown@vs.state.ga.us	706-369-5631	706-369-5998

**ATLANTA (Asst. Commissioner, FO&C)** Counties served: Fulton  
Floyd Veterans Memorial Building, Balcony Level, East Tower, Suite 460, 205 Jesse Hill Jr. Dr., Atlanta, GA 30334

Lenora Evans	VFSO 2 (Office Mgr)	levans@vs.state.ga.us	404-656-5940	404-657-1288
Crystal Rashad	VFSO 1	crashad@vs.state.ga.us	404-623-1514	404-657-1288

**AUGUSTA (North Region)** Counties served: Columbia, Richmond  
Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home, 1101 15<sup>th</sup> St., Augusta, GA 30901-3196

Beverly Lloyd	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	blloyd@vs.state.ga.us	706-721-4301	706-721-6015
John McKenzie	VFSO 1	jmckenzie@vs.state.ga.us	706-721-4302	706-721-6015
Daniel Jones	VFSO 1	djones@vs.state.ga.us	706-721-4302	706-721-6015

Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center, Room 2D-105C, 950 15<sup>th</sup> St., Augusta, GA 30914

Barbara J. Johnson	VFSO 2 (Office Mgr)	bjjohnson@vs.state.ga.us	706-823-2218/3916	706-823-1768
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**BAINBRIDGE (South Region)** Counties served: Baker, Calhoun, Clay, Decatur, Early, Miller, Quitman, Randolph, Seminole  
307 E. Broughton St., Bainbridge, GA 39817-4003

Terrie Hurst	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	thurst@vs.state.ga.us	229-248-2599/2663	229-243-5362
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**BLAIRSVILLE (North Region)** Counties served: Fannin, Rabun, Towns, Union  
1294 Highway 515 East, Blairsville, GA 30512

Robert Spaulding	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	rspaulding@vs.state.ga.us	706-745-6341	706-745-6341
Jonathan Ledford	VFSO 1	jledford@vs.state.ga.us	706-745-6341	706-745-6341

**BRUNSWICK (South Region)** Counties served: Glynn, McIntosh  
11 Judicial Lane, Suite 203, Brunswick, GA 31520

Christine Herring	VFSO 2 (Office Mgr)	therring@vs.state.ga.us	912-262-2345	912-261-3937
Mac Bollinger	VFSO 1	mbollinger@vs.state.ga.us	912-264-7360	912-261-3937

**CANTON (North Region)** Counties served: Cherokee, Cobb, Gilmer, Pickens  
100 North St., Suite G-20, Canton, GA 30114-2779

Rita Barnhart	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	rbarnhart@cherokeega.com	770-720-3538	770-704-2317
Daphne Nichols	VFSO 1	dnichols@cherokeega.com	770-720-6622	770-704-2317

**CARROLLTON (North Region)** Counties served: Carroll, Douglas  
Trinka Davis Veterans Village Outpatient Clinic, 180 Martin Drive, Carrollton, GA 30117

Theodore Merriss	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	theodore.merriss@va.gov	404-321-6111 x2554	404-417-2986
Lori Grant	VFSO 1	lgrant@vs.state.ga.us	404-321-6111 x2589	404-417-2986

# DIRECTORY

**CARTERSVILLE (North Region)** Counties served: Bartow, Paulding  
320 W. Cherokee Ave., Room 105, Cartersville, GA 30120

Robert Turner	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	rmtturner@vs.state.ga.us	770-387-3746	770-387-4077
Peter Lincoln	VFSO 1	plincoln@vs.state.ga.us	770-387-3746	770-387-4077

**CEDARTOWN (North Region)** County served: Polk  
142 West Ave., Cedartown, GA 30125  
OPEN ONLY Monday & Friday – 8 to 4:30; Wednesday – 8 to noon

Stephen Rood (P/T)	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	srood@vs.state.ga.us	770-749-2209	770-749-2266
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**CLARKESVILLE (North Region)** Counties served: Banks, Habersham, White  
6257 Ga. Highway 115, Suite 3, Clarkesville, GA 30523

Randy Woodie	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	awoodie@vs.state.ga.us	706-754-4316	706-754-9185
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**COLUMBUS (South Region)** Counties served: Chattahoochee, Muscogee, Stewart  
1520 Third Ave., Suite 5, Columbus, GA 31901

David Floyd	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	dfloyd@vs.state.ga.us	706-649-1264	706-649-1726
Sandra Bennett	VSFO 1	sbennett@vs.state.ga.us	706-649-1264	706-649-1726
Cynthia Gilyard	VSFO 1	cgilyard@vs.state.ga.us	706-649-1264	706-649-1726
Christopher McKan	VSFO 1	cmckan@vs.state.ga.us	706-649-1264	706-649-1726

**CONYERS (North Region)** Counties served: Newton, Rockdale, Walton  
983 Taylor St., Conyers, GA 30012

Janice Mohr	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	jeller@vs.state.ga.us	770-388-5075	770-785-6868
Horace Campbell	VFSO 1	hcampbell@vs.state.ga.us	770-388-5075	770-785-6868

**CORDELE (South Region)** Counties served: Crisp, Dooly, Wilcox  
210 Seventh St. South, Room 204, Cordele, GA 31015

David Foster	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	jdfoster@vs.state.ga.us	229-276-2366	229-276-2734
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**DALTON (North Region)** Counties served: Catoosa, Murray, Whitfield  
305 Point North Place, Suite 7, Dalton, GA 30722-1104

Judy Johnson	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	jjohnson@vs.state.ga.us	706-272-2355	706-272-2335
Kelly Johnson	VFSO 1	kjohnson@vs.state.ga.us	706-272-2355	706-272-2335
Elizabeth Mauldin	VFSO 1	emauldin@vs.state.ga.us	706-272-2355	706-272-2335

**DECATUR (Claims)** County served: DeKalb  
Atlanta VA Medical Center, Room 1C204, 1670 Clairmont Road, Decatur, GA 30033-4004

Dennis Whitney	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	dennis.whitney@va.gov	404-728-7611	404-417-2918
Roderica Stewart	VFSO 1	roderica.stewart@va.gov	404-728-7611	404-417-2918
Garner Bracey	VFSO 1	garner.bracey@va.gov	404-728-7611	404-417-2918

**DOUGLAS (South Region)** Counties served: Appling, Coffee, Jeff Davis, Wheeler  
70 Lockwood Dr., Douglas, GA 31533

Del Parisella	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	aparisella@vs.state.ga.us	912-389-4898	912-389-4839
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# DIRECTORY

DUBLIN (South Region) Counties served: Bleckley, Dodge, Johnson, Laurens, Pulaski, Treutlen  
 Carl Vinson VA Medical Center, Room 124-6, Ward 6A, 1826 Veterans Blvd., Dublin, GA 31021-3699

Michael Hunnicutt	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	mike.hunnicutt@va.gov	478-274-7748	478-274-7802
Carrie Boatright	VFSO 1	carrie.boatright@va.gov	478-274-7748	478-274-7802

ELBERTON (North Region) County served: Elbert  
 Elbert County Office Complex, 45 Forest Ave., Elberton, GA 30635

Charles Hopkins	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	chopkins@vs.state.ga.us	706-213-2040	706-213-2094
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FORT McPHERSON (North Region) Counties served: Clayton, Henry, Fayette, Fulton  
 Room 2C221 Building 129 1701 Hardee Ave., SW Atlanta, GA 30310

Herbert Ward	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	herbert.ward1@va.gov	404-321-6111x4997	404-728-4160
Linda Lee	VFSO 1	linda.lee@va.gov	404-321-6111x4801	404-728-4160

GAINESVILLE (North Region) Counties served: Dawson, Forsyth, Gwinnett, Hall, Lumpkin  
 311 Green Street NW, Room 405, Gainesville, GA 30501-6060

Cynthia Hayes	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	chayes@vs.state.ga.us	770-531-6060	770-531-6061
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GLENNVILLE (South Region) Counties served: Bryan, Liberty, Long, Tattnall, Wayne  
 Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery – Glennville, 8819 U.S. Highway 301, Glennville, GA 30427

Tonya Malpass	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	tmalpass@vs.state.ga.us	912-654-5159 x227	912-654-2963
Tony Burkett	VFSO 1	tburkett@vs.state.ga.us	912-654-5179 x226	912-654-2963

GREENSBORO (North Region) County served: Greene  
 113 N. Main St., Suite 117, Greensboro, GA 30642 OPEN ONLY Tuesday and Friday – 8 to 4:30

Perry Morgan	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	gmorgan@vs.state.ga.us	706-453-7455	706-453-9816
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GRIFFIN (North Region) Counties served: Butts, Fayette, Henry, Pike, Spalding, Talbot, Upson  
 883 Memorial Drive, Griffin, GA 30223

Artis Robinson	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	arobinson@vs.state.ga.us	770-412-4074	770-467-6099
Willie Miles	VFSO 1	wmiles@vs.state.ga.us	770-412-4023	770-467-6099

HARTWELL (North Region) County served: Hart  
 194 Cade St., Suite B, Hartwell, GA 30643

Michael Partlow	VFSO 2 (Office Mgr)	mpartlow@vs.state.ga.us	706-376-4461	706-856-2737
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HINESVILLE (South Region) Counties served: Liberty  
 500 East Oglethorpe Highway, Room C-126, Hinesville 31313

Larry Floyd	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	lfloyd@vs.state.ga.us	912-920-0214, x 2948	
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LAFAYETTE (North Region) Counties served: Chattooga, Dade, Walker  
 Judiciary Annex, 108-E Villanow St., LaFayette, GA 30728-2519

Chuck Alsobrook	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)		706-638-5544	706-639-2046
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# DIRECTORY

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

Mike Hudson	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	mhudson@vs.state.ga.us	706-845-4095	706-845-4485
Steve Horton	VFSO 1	shorton@vs.state.ga.us	706-845-4095	706-845-4485

LAWRENCEVILLE (North Region) Counties served: Gwinnett, Hall  
 Lawrenceville CBOC, Building 200, Room 106, 455 Philip Drive, Lawrenceville, GA 30046

Chris Kicklighter	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	ckicklighter@vs.state.ga.us	404-321-6111 x1964	404-417-1755
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LYONS (South Region) Counties served: Montgomery, Toombs  
 126 W. Grady Ave., Lyons, GA 30436

Debra O'Neal	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	doneal@vs.state.ga.us	912-526-8860	912-526-4285
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MACON (North Region) Counties served: Bibb, Crawford, Jasper, Jones, Lamar, Monroe, Twiggs  
 653 Second St., Room 203, Macon, GA 31201-2817

Phi Williams	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	pwilliams2@vs.state.ga.us	478-751-3186	478-751-6594
Corey Fletcher	VFSO 1	cfletcher@vs.state.ga.us	478-751-3187	478-751-6594

MARIETTA (North Region) Counties served: Cobb  
 1150 Powder Springs Street, Suite 350, Marietta, GA, 30064

Freddie Daniels	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	fdaniels@vs.state.ga.us	770-528-3261	770-429-1414
Ingrid Sibley	VFSO 1	isibley@vs.state.ga.us	770-528-3263	770-429-1414

MILLEDGEVILLE (North Region) Counties served: Baldwin, Hancock, Putnam, Washington, Wilkinson  
 Georgia State War Veterans Home, Wheeler Building, 2249 Vinson Highway, Milledgeville, GA 31059-0741

Melanie Goss	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	mkay@vs.state.ga.us	478-445-4751	478-445-3139
Jim Brewer	VFSO 1	jbrewer1@vs.state.ga.us	478-445-4751	478-445-3139

MOULTRIE (South Region) Counties served: Colquitt, Mitchell  
 101 E. Central Ave., Room 127, Moultrie, GA 31768

James Bolduc	VFSO 2 (Office Mgr)	jbolduc@vs.state.ga.us	229-891-7135	229-891-7098
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NEWMAN (North Region) Counties served: Coweta, Taylor  
 22 E. Broad St., Room 119, Newnan, GA 30264

Rob Johnson	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	rjohnson@vs.state.ga.us	770-254-7408	770-254-7339
Veda Brooks	VFSO 1	vbrooks1@vs.state.ga.us	770-254-7260	770-254-7339

OAKWOOD (North Region) Counties served: Hall  
 4175 Tanners Creek Rd., Suite 111 Flowery Branch, GA 30542

Belinda Wise	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	bwise@vs.state.ga.us	770-531-6060	770-531-6061
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# DIRECTORY

ROME (North Region)  
201 Calhoun Ave., Rome, GA 30161

Counties served: Floyd, Gordon, Haralson

Stan McCord	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	smccord@vs.state.ga.us	706-295-6026	706-802-5520
Barry Hunter	VFSO 1	bhunter@vs.state.ga.us	706-295-6280	706-802-5520

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

Jewel Middleton	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	jewel.middleton@va.gov	912-920-0214 x2194	912-921-2016
Stephen Koritko	VFSO 1		912-920-0214 x2193	912-921-2016
Reggie T. Lewis	VFSO 1		912-920-0214 x2191	912-921-2016

STATESBORO (South Region) Counties served: Bulloch, Candler, Effingham, Evans, Jenkins, Screven  
3A W. Altman St., Statesboro, GA 30458

Kevin Gibbs	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	jk Gibbs@vs.state.ga.us	912-871-1104	912-871-1270
Winslow Hill	VFSO 1	whill@vs.state.ga.us	912-871-1104	912-871-1270

ST. MARYS (South Region) County served: Camden  
St. Marys VA Outpatient Clinic, 205 Lakeshore Point, St. Marys, GA 31558

Tiffany Thomas	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	tthomas7@vs.state.ga.us	912-510-3440	912-510-3426
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SWAINSBORO (Asst. Commissioner, FO&C) County served: Emanuel  
Emanuel County Office Building, Room 3, 101 N. Main St., Swainsboro, GA 30401

Tessa Gilmore	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	tgilmore@vs.state.ga.us	478-289-2617	478-289-2704
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THOMASVILLE (South Region) Counties served: Grady, Thomas  
101 S. Broad St., Thomasville, GA 31792

Larry Price	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	jprice@vs.state.ga.us	229-225-4050	229-227-2418
Telia Alexander	VFSO 1	talexander1@vs.state.ga.us	229-225-3998	229-227-2418

TIFTON (South Region) Counties served: Ben Hill, Irwin, Tift, Turner  
222 Chesnutt Ave., Tifton, GA 31793-0534

Larissa Vickers	VFSO 1 (Office Mgr)	lvickers@vs.state.ga.us	229-386-3856	229-391-6956
Patricia Jenkins	VFSO 1	pjenkins@vs.state.ga.us	229-386-3856	229-391-6956

TOCCOA (North Region) Counties served: Franklin, Stephens  
Courthouse Annex, Room 104, 12 W. Tugalo St., Toccoa, GA 30577 OPEN ONLY Tuesday and Wednesday – 8 to 4:30

Randy Woodie	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	awoodie@vs.state.ga.us	706-282-4525	706-282-4800
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VALDOSTA (South Region) Counties served: Berrien, Brooks, Cook, Echols, Lanier, Lowndes  
2841 N. Patterson St., Valdosta, GA 31602-1938

Janet S. Pajerowski	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	janet.pajerowski2@va.gov	229-333-2179	229-259-5583
John Jeffrey	VFSO 1	jjeffery@vs.state.ga.us	229-333-2178	229-259-5583
Eddie Taylor	VFSO 1	etaylor@vs.state.ga.us	229-333-2178	229-259-5583

# DIRECTORY

WARNER ROBINS (South Region) Counties served: Houston, Peach  
City Hall, Room 206, 700 Watson Blvd., Warner Robins, GA 31093-3414

Vincent Pritchett	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	vpritchett@vs.state.ga.us	478-293-1005	478-929-1124
Robert Claypool	VFSO 1	rclaypool@vs.state.ga.us	478-293-1005	478-929-1124

WASHINGTON (North Region) Counties served: Glascock, Jefferson, Lincoln, McDuffie, Morgan, Taliaferro, Warren, Wilkes  
104 E. Liberty St., Washington, GA 30673-1422

Perry Morgan	Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)	gmorgan@vs.state.ga.us	706-678-2821	706-678-3144
Jan Callaway	VFSO 2	jcallaway@vs.state.ga.us	706-678-2821	706-678-3144

WAYCROSS (South Region) Counties served: Atkinson, Bacon, Brantley, Charlton, Clinch, Pierce, Ware  
415 Lott St., Waycross, GA 31501

Pamela Naylor	VFSO 2 (Office Mgr)	pnaylor@vs.state.ga.us	912-285-6340	912-285-6341
Chris Parrish	VFSO 1	sparrish@vs.state.ga.us	912-285-6340	912-285-6341

WAYNESBORO (North Region) County served: Burke  
Burke County Office Park, Room 107, 715 W. Sixth St., Waynesboro, GA 30830-0093

Carol Crawford	VFSO 2 (Office Mgr)	ccrawford@vs.state.ga.us	706-554-3874	706-554-4496
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*This directory was published in December 2014. For the most recent version visit [veterans.georgia.gov](http://veterans.georgia.gov)*

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

Beneficiaries in Receipt of Pension Benefits	877-294-6380
Children of Women Vietnam Veterans (CWVV)	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 Check Only)	800-697-6947
Health Care	877-222-8387
Health Billing	866-393-9132
Home Loans	888-768-2132
Income Verification and Means Testing	800-929-8387
Life Insurance: Service Members and Veterans Group Life Insurance Program	800-419-1473
Life Insurance: All Other VA Life Insurance Programs	800-669-8477
Meds by Mail	866-229-7389
Special Issues: Gulf War/Agent Orange/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
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*NOTE: Listings for VA medical facilities in Georgia are listed inside the back cover of this publication.*



# VA STATISTICAL DATA

FY13 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF VA EXPENDITURES (GDX)

FY13 Summary of Expenditures by State Expenditures in \$000s										
County/ Congressional District	Veteran Population*	Total Expenditure	Compensation & Pension	Construction	Education & Vocational Rehabilitation/ Employment	Loan Guaranty#	General Operating Expenses	Insurance & Indemnities	Medical Care	Unique Patients**
APPLING	1,245	\$ 6,105	\$ 3,100	\$ -	\$ 194	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18	\$ 2,793	363
ATKINSON	452	\$ 3,422	\$ 1,432	\$ -	\$ 122	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15	\$ 1,852	179
BACON	801	\$ 4,303	\$ 2,476	\$ -	\$ 114	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 55	\$ 1,659	234
BAKER	330	\$ 1,074	\$ 609	\$ -	\$ 42	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17	\$ 405	68
BALDWIN	4,150	\$ 22,498	\$ 9,698	\$ -	\$ 1,054	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 106	\$ 11,640	957
BANKS	1,072	\$ 5,966	\$ 3,714	\$ -	\$ 257	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 38	\$ 1,956	266
BARROW	5,905	\$ 22,310	\$ 12,176	\$ -	\$ 2,116	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 146	\$ 7,872	1,011
BARTOW	8,141	\$ 32,593	\$ 20,436	\$ -	\$ 2,465	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 478	\$ 9,215	1,259
BEN HILL	1,263	\$ 9,959	\$ 5,484	\$ -	\$ 292	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 28	\$ 4,155	426
BERRIEN	1,517	\$ 11,646	\$ 6,690	\$ -	\$ 832	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 34	\$ 4,090	523
BIBB	12,325	\$ 78,328	\$ 40,885	\$ -	\$ 6,076	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 632	\$ 30,735	3,805
BLECKLEY	1,076	\$ 7,268	\$ 3,544	\$ -	\$ 288	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 92	\$ 3,344	241
BRANTLEY	1,374	\$ 8,338	\$ 4,320	\$ -	\$ 278	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 91	\$ 3,648	425
BROOKS	1,431	\$ 9,531	\$ 3,578	\$ -	\$ 243	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 317	\$ 5,394	551
BRYAN	3,905	\$ 26,878	\$ 16,087	\$ -	\$ 6,272	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 70	\$ 4,449	845
BULLOCH	5,024	\$ 22,100	\$ 11,201	\$ -	\$ 2,870	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 151	\$ 7,879	1,026
BURKE	1,842	\$ 13,633	\$ 6,252	\$ -	\$ 505	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 142	\$ 6,734	615
BUTTS	2,358	\$ 11,675	\$ 7,280	\$ -	\$ 704	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 77	\$ 3,615	408
CALHOUN	445	\$ 2,597	\$ 1,546	\$ -	\$ 124	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 56	\$ 871	141
CAMDEN	7,218	\$ 41,671	\$ 22,449	\$ -	\$ 8,330	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 174	\$ 10,718	1,644
CANDLER	834	\$ 5,124	\$ 2,087	\$ -	\$ 185	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 37	\$ 2,814	207
CARROLL	8,260	\$ 45,290	\$ 25,060	\$ -	\$ 3,510	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 395	\$ 16,324	1,796
CATOOSA	5,267	\$ 19,026	\$ 11,000	\$ -	\$ 1,045	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 199	\$ 6,781	1,127
CHARLTON	953	\$ 5,705	\$ 2,822	\$ -	\$ 188	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 81	\$ 2,614	301
CHATHAM	28,174	\$ 151,704	\$ 83,094	\$ -	\$ 30,772	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,414	\$ 36,425	6,254
CHATTAHOOCHEE	1,178	\$ 3,469	\$ 2,449	\$ -	\$ 252	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 32	\$ 735	174
CHATTOOGA	1,983	\$ 8,859	\$ 6,236	\$ -	\$ 355	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45	\$ 2,223	378
CHEROKEE	17,894	\$ 63,098	\$ 38,907	\$ -	\$ 6,738	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,238	\$ 16,215	2,192
CLARKE	6,201	\$ 29,273	\$ 17,077	\$ -	\$ 3,009	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 397	\$ 8,789	1,154
CLAY	311	\$ 973	\$ 586	\$ -	\$ 37	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40	\$ 311	58
CLAYTON	22,434	\$ 128,639	\$ 65,966	\$ -	\$ 13,130	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 693	\$ 48,850	5,530
CLINCH	565	\$ 2,377	\$ 1,285	\$ -	\$ 201	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2	\$ 890	151
COBB	48,898	\$ 205,122	\$ 110,986	\$ 474	\$ 29,651	\$ -	\$ 341	\$ 3,819	\$ 59,851	7,780
COFFEE	2,454	\$ 16,584	\$ 8,410	\$ -	\$ 576	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 90	\$ 7,508	855
COLQUITT	2,884	\$ 19,074	\$ 9,787	\$ -	\$ 721	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 208	\$ 8,358	861
COLUMBIA	15,256	\$ 149,175	\$ 88,792	\$ -	\$ 21,401	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,677	\$ 37,308	4,401
COOK	1,319	\$ 8,283	\$ 4,394	\$ -	\$ 377	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 95	\$ 3,417	458
COWETA	11,908	\$ 47,970	\$ 29,817	\$ -	\$ 4,445	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 370	\$ 13,337	2,095
CRAWFORD	1,024	\$ 3,825	\$ 1,587	\$ -	\$ 161	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 104	\$ 1,973	326

# VA STATISTICAL DATA

FY13 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF VA EXPENDITURES (GDX)

FY13 Summary of Expenditures by State Expenditures in \$000s										
County/ Congressional District	Veteran Population*	Total Expenditure	Compensation & Pension	Construction	Education & Vocational Rehabilitation/ Employment	Loan Guaranty#	General Operating Expenses	Insurance & Indemnities	Medical Care	Unique Patients**
CRISP	1,591	\$ 8,847	\$ 4,210	\$ -	\$ 499	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 316	\$ 3,822	436
DADE	1,427	\$ 5,263	\$ 2,878	\$ -	\$ 332	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17	\$ 2,036	273
DAWSON	2,403	\$ 7,344	\$ 5,170	\$ -	\$ 443	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18	\$ 1,713	293
DECATUR	2,162	\$ 8,783	\$ 4,143	\$ -	\$ 569	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 158	\$ 3,913	626
DEKALB	40,518	\$ 443,244	\$ 145,539	\$ 995	\$ 32,435	\$ -	\$ 92,524	\$ 3,591	\$ 168,160	12,376
DODGE	1,551	\$ 11,298	\$ 4,083	\$ -	\$ 641	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 86	\$ 6,487	474
DOOLY	916	\$ 4,102	\$ 2,098	\$ -	\$ 138	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 48	\$ 1,817	189
DOUGHERTY	7,354	\$ 54,532	\$ 33,779	\$ -	\$ 5,638	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 435	\$ 14,680	2,439
DOUGLAS	12,184	\$ 64,227	\$ 36,911	\$ -	\$ 6,992	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 871	\$ 19,452	2,364
EARLY	895	\$ 3,647	\$ 2,158	\$ -	\$ 181	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 28	\$ 1,280	227
ECHOLS	247	\$ 1,319	\$ 233	\$ -	\$ 26	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 66	\$ 994	88
EFFINGHAM	6,111	\$ 21,683	\$ 12,757	\$ -	\$ 2,667	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 112	\$ 6,146	982
ELBERT	1,693	\$ 9,228	\$ 5,071	\$ -	\$ 216	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 55	\$ 3,886	472
EMANUEL	1,351	\$ 13,391	\$ 5,515	\$ -	\$ 512	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 58	\$ 7,308	552
EVANS	796	\$ 4,639	\$ 2,619	\$ -	\$ 198	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 72	\$ 1,750	229
FANNIN	2,137	\$ 14,131	\$ 8,495	\$ -	\$ 240	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 186	\$ 5,209	663
FAYETTE	11,522	\$ 54,635	\$ 38,636	\$ -	\$ 4,702	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 682	\$ 10,615	1,650
FLOYD	7,041	\$ 29,574	\$ 19,766	\$ -	\$ 1,740	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 418	\$ 7,849	1,260
FORSYTH	12,112	\$ 26,782	\$ 15,277	\$ -	\$ 1,871	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 784	\$ 8,849	1,338
FRANKLIN	1,861	\$ 9,051	\$ 5,291	\$ -	\$ 361	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75	\$ 3,324	409
FULTON	49,217	\$ 328,480	\$ 159,394	\$ 97	\$ 39,714	\$ -	\$ 2,031	\$ 4,091	\$ 123,154	12,197
GILMER	2,713	\$ 13,617	\$ 9,005	\$ -	\$ 243	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 120	\$ 4,249	650
GLASCOCK	164	\$ 1,441	\$ 517	\$ -	\$ 43	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5	\$ 877	65
GLYNN	7,973	\$ 38,339	\$ 21,523	\$ -	\$ 2,330	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 700	\$ 13,786	2,108
GORDON	3,718	\$ 14,667	\$ 9,569	\$ -	\$ 667	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 106	\$ 4,325	648
GRADY	1,810	\$ 9,251	\$ 4,530	\$ -	\$ 636	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 48	\$ 4,037	638
GREENE	1,448	\$ 6,883	\$ 4,071	\$ -	\$ 190	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 122	\$ 2,500	324
GWINNETT	47,476	\$ 190,726	\$ 96,856	\$ -	\$ 25,190	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,794	\$ 65,886	8,376
HABERSHAM	3,415	\$ 15,381	\$ 9,727	\$ -	\$ 695	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 135	\$ 4,824	742
HALL	12,412	\$ 48,211	\$ 28,062	\$ -	\$ 2,811	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 811	\$ 16,527	2,281
HANCOCK	699	\$ 5,652	\$ 2,952	\$ -	\$ 149	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 105	\$ 2,447	192
HARALSON	2,208	\$ 10,463	\$ 5,689	\$ -	\$ 495	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 43	\$ 4,236	473
HARRIS	4,160	\$ 20,578	\$ 14,347	\$ -	\$ 1,605	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 431	\$ 4,196	762
HART	2,047	\$ 8,670	\$ 4,225	\$ -	\$ 157	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 69	\$ 4,218	495
HEARD	875	\$ 4,389	\$ 1,970	\$ -	\$ 219	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 139	\$ 2,061	225
HENRY	20,685	\$ 124,307	\$ 75,102	\$ -	\$ 16,974	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,125	\$ 31,106	4,228
HOUSTON	20,820	\$ 131,967	\$ 84,923	\$ -	\$ 19,161	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,845	\$ 26,038	4,474
IRWIN	660	\$ 2,620	\$ 1,531	\$ -	\$ 106	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 49	\$ 934	186
JACKSON	5,140	\$ 22,109	\$ 13,946	\$ -	\$ 1,350	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 218	\$ 6,596	907

# VA STATISTICAL DATA

FY13 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF VA EXPENDITURES (GDX)

FY13 Summary of Expenditures by State Expenditures in \$000s										
County/ Congressional District	Veteran Population*	Total Expenditure	Compensation & Pension	Construction	Education & Vocational Rehabilitation/ Employment	Loan Guaranty#	General Operating Expenses	Insurance & Indemnities	Medical Care	Unique Patients**
JASPER	1,166	\$ 5,042	\$ 2,801	\$ -	\$ 269	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,887	282
JEFF DAVIS	805	\$ 5,910	\$ 2,620	\$ -	\$ 163	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,091	316
JEFFERSON	1,160	\$ 11,834	\$ 4,392	\$ -	\$ 334	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,052	439
JENKINS	788	\$ 3,922	\$ 1,742	\$ -	\$ 106	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,071	177
JOHNSON	581	\$ 4,778	\$ 1,772	\$ -	\$ 124	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 101	\$ 2,780	172
JONES	2,300	\$ 9,191	\$ 3,539	\$ -	\$ 445	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 165	\$ 5,041	619
LAMAR	1,853	\$ 7,440	\$ 4,599	\$ -	\$ 350	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 57	\$ 2,434	326
LANIER	854	\$ 5,749	\$ 2,784	\$ -	\$ 581	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,390	272
LAURENS	4,116	\$ 74,698	\$ 18,016	\$ 35	\$ 1,336	\$ -	\$ 11,048	\$ 327	\$ 43,937	1,958
LEE	3,254	\$ 12,814	\$ 8,113	\$ -	\$ 1,408	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 204	\$ 3,089	680
LIBERTY	10,917	\$ 89,873	\$ 54,898	\$ -	\$ 19,645	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 405	\$ 14,925	2,805
LINCOLN	877	\$ 6,129	\$ 3,114	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,859	243
LONG	1,637	\$ 12,614	\$ 6,671	\$ -	\$ 2,352	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 133	\$ 3,458	427
LOWNDES	12,870	\$ 73,597	\$ 39,958	\$ -	\$ 9,388	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 543	\$ 23,708	3,057
LUMPKIN	2,465	\$ 10,152	\$ 5,794	\$ -	\$ 1,118	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 158	\$ 3,082	453
MCDUFFIE	1,865	\$ 14,251	\$ 7,090	\$ -	\$ 579	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30	\$ 6,553	577
MCINTOSH	1,433	\$ 6,942	\$ 3,700	\$ -	\$ 291	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 63	\$ 2,888	383
MACON	1,114	\$ 4,690	\$ 1,887	\$ -	\$ 246	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27	\$ 2,530	262
MADISON	2,310	\$ 12,362	\$ 7,776	\$ -	\$ 589	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 116	\$ 3,871	542
MARION	886	\$ 4,771	\$ 2,706	\$ -	\$ 348	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41	\$ 1,674	194
MERIWETHER	1,992	\$ 8,194	\$ 4,417	\$ -	\$ 276	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 361	\$ 3,140	382
MILLER	533	\$ 1,599	\$ 872	\$ -	\$ 60	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ 666	124
MITCHELL	1,680	\$ 6,358	\$ 3,648	\$ -	\$ 483	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 64	\$ 2,163	381
MONROE	2,132	\$ 9,908	\$ 5,136	\$ -	\$ 485	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 149	\$ 4,139	547
MONTGOMERY	609	\$ 4,810	\$ 2,012	\$ -	\$ 141	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15	\$ 2,643	199
MORGAN	1,234	\$ 6,416	\$ 4,027	\$ -	\$ 308	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20	\$ 2,061	302
MURRAY	2,463	\$ 11,752	\$ 7,504	\$ -	\$ 335	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 38	\$ 3,874	555
MUSCOGEE	24,041	\$ 251,067	\$ 171,003	\$ -	\$ 30,071	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,478	\$ 47,515	6,458
NEWTON	8,546	\$ 47,460	\$ 26,002	\$ -	\$ 3,754	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 458	\$ 17,247	1,866
OCONEE	2,642	\$ 8,857	\$ 6,295	\$ -	\$ 542	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 145	\$ 1,875	318
OGLETHORPE	1,020	\$ 4,799	\$ 2,011	\$ -	\$ 128	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45	\$ 2,614	313
PAULDING	11,793	\$ 40,654	\$ 20,598	\$ -	\$ 4,310	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 541	\$ 15,205	1,761
PEACH	2,838	\$ 20,168	\$ 12,725	\$ -	\$ 2,171	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 198	\$ 5,074	708
PICKENS	3,359	\$ 10,834	\$ 7,444	\$ -	\$ 548	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 217	\$ 2,624	391
PIERCE	1,254	\$ 10,653	\$ 5,445	\$ -	\$ 318	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 77	\$ 4,814	564
PIKE	1,509	\$ 6,811	\$ 3,946	\$ -	\$ 519	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 62	\$ 2,284	295
POLK	2,886	\$ 13,174	\$ 9,026	\$ -	\$ 629	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 144	\$ 3,375	544
PULASKI	868	\$ 5,614	\$ 3,134	\$ -	\$ 273	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12	\$ 2,194	208
PUTNAM	2,181	\$ 8,956	\$ 4,217	\$ -	\$ 326	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 76	\$ 4,337	463

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# VA STATISTICAL DATA

FY13 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF VA EXPENDITURES (GDX)

FY13 Summary of Expenditures by State Expenditures in \$000s										
County/ Congressional District	Veteran Population*	Total Expenditure	Compensation & Pension	Construction	Education & Vocational Rehabilitation/ Employment	Loan Guaranty#	General Operating Expenses	Insurance & Indemnities	Medical Care	Unique Patients**
QUITMAN	292	\$ 2,587	\$ 1,203	\$ -	\$ 48	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,323	101
RABUN	1,686	\$ 7,873	\$ 4,362	\$ -	\$ 161	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,281	435
RANDOLPH	573	\$ 2,319	\$ 1,402	\$ -	\$ 148	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 712	112
ROCKMOND	22,212	\$ 288,957	\$ 135,534	\$ 1,759	\$ 20,634	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,501	\$ 126,231	9,679
ROCKDALE	8,389	\$ 45,974	\$ 25,540	\$ -	\$ 4,062	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 315	\$ 16,058	1,778
SCHLEY	297	\$ 1,260	\$ 786	\$ -	\$ 88	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 381	69
SCREVEN	1,197	\$ 6,314	\$ 2,379	\$ -	\$ 311	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 105	\$ 3,519	303
SEMINOLE	913	\$ 4,242	\$ 2,112	\$ -	\$ 153	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ 1,726	237
SPALDING	5,047	\$ 28,049	\$ 16,484	\$ -	\$ 1,617	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 287	\$ 9,662	1,170
STEPHENS	2,029	\$ 11,672	\$ 7,278	\$ -	\$ 415	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 76	\$ 3,903	498
STEWART	364	\$ 2,148	\$ 1,428	\$ -	\$ 121	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20	\$ 579	83
SUMTER	2,021	\$ 12,280	\$ 7,750	\$ -	\$ 684	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 121	\$ 3,725	511
TALBOT	632	\$ 4,741	\$ 3,423	\$ -	\$ 223	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 74	\$ 1,021	151
TALIAFERRO	150	\$ 823	\$ 316	\$ -	\$ 24	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ 482	39
TATTNALL	2,352	\$ 12,689	\$ 7,093	\$ -	\$ 810	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36	\$ 4,749	522
TAYLOR	653	\$ 3,194	\$ 1,803	\$ -	\$ 139	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21	\$ 1,230	155
TELFAIR	865	\$ 8,494	\$ 3,113	\$ -	\$ 128	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12	\$ 5,241	305
TERRELL	887	\$ 3,213	\$ 1,699	\$ -	\$ 233	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 106	\$ 1,175	208
THOMAS	3,592	\$ 24,404	\$ 12,392	\$ -	\$ 1,594	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 232	\$ 10,185	1,231
TIFT	2,503	\$ 17,137	\$ 10,374	\$ -	\$ 783	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 233	\$ 5,746	788
TOOMBS	1,796	\$ 14,096	\$ 6,150	\$ -	\$ 741	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 145	\$ 7,060	667
TOWNS	1,370	\$ 8,442	\$ 4,656	\$ -	\$ 181	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 186	\$ 3,419	458
TREULTEN	478	\$ 3,605	\$ 1,183	\$ -	\$ 65	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50	\$ 2,308	139
TROUP	4,877	\$ 29,074	\$ 17,855	\$ -	\$ 1,355	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 349	\$ 9,516	1,110
TURNER	649	\$ 3,885	\$ 2,558	\$ -	\$ 218	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11	\$ 1,098	205
TWIGGS	729	\$ 5,120	\$ 2,337	\$ -	\$ 163	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 57	\$ 2,563	246
UNION	2,789	\$ 15,257	\$ 9,037	\$ -	\$ 308	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 257	\$ 5,654	894
UPSON	2,341	\$ 12,592	\$ 6,970	\$ -	\$ 425	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 81	\$ 5,116	598
WALKER	5,329	\$ 28,069	\$ 17,998	\$ -	\$ 1,099	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 228	\$ 8,744	1,282
WALTON	6,676	\$ 36,650	\$ 23,375	\$ -	\$ 3,170	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 437	\$ 9,668	1,184
WARE	3,351	\$ 24,677	\$ 12,389	\$ -	\$ 533	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 206	\$ 11,550	1,203
WARREN	401	\$ 2,800	\$ 1,246	\$ -	\$ 99	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19	\$ 1,436	131
WASHINGTON	1,498	\$ 11,417	\$ 4,410	\$ -	\$ 301	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 33	\$ 6,673	509
WAYNE	2,849	\$ 15,259	\$ 8,348	\$ -	\$ 769	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80	\$ 6,062	723
WEBSTER	208	\$ 705	\$ 418	\$ -	\$ 9	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50	\$ 228	27
WHEELER	530	\$ 4,639	\$ 1,637	\$ -	\$ 78	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2	\$ 2,922	176
WHITE	2,533	\$ 12,251	\$ 7,228	\$ -	\$ 442	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 52	\$ 4,529	571
WHITFIELD	5,026	\$ 25,234	\$ 16,475	\$ -	\$ 1,153	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 321	\$ 7,284	1,178
WILCOX	763	\$ 5,079	\$ 2,181	\$ -	\$ 139	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 162	\$ 2,597	174

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## FY13 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF VA EXPENDITURES (GDX)

County/ Congressional District	Veteran Population*	Total Expenditure	Compensation & Pension	Construction	Education & Vocational Rehabilitation/ Employment	Loan Guaranty#	General Operating Expenses	Insurance & Indemnities	Medical Care	Unique Patients**
WILKES	987	\$ 5,201	\$ 2,619	\$ -	\$ 212	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 60	\$ 2,310	242
WILKINSON	782	\$ 7,090	\$ 3,220	\$ -	\$ 215	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 55	\$ 3,601	268
WORTH	1,809	\$ 7,414	\$ 4,120	\$ -	\$ 450	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19	\$ 2,825	502
<b>GEORGIA (Totals)</b>	<b>774,464</b>	<b>\$ 4,670,709</b>	<b>\$ 2,482,164</b>	<b>\$ 3,369</b>	<b>\$ 463,034</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 109,242</b>	<b>\$ 48,822</b>	<b>\$ 1,674,087</b>	<b>179,821</b>
CONG. DIST (01)	77,060	\$ 458,087	\$ 255,822	\$ -	\$ 74,581	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,718	\$ 123,966	18,913
CONG. DIST (02)	62,636	\$ 465,920	\$ 288,900	\$ -	\$ 45,455	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,854	\$ 126,711	17,635
CONG. DIST (03)	63,163	\$ 320,077	\$ 198,255	\$ -	\$ 26,740	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,933	\$ 91,149	12,283
CONG. DIST (04)	49,369	\$ 430,542	\$ 162,870	\$ 995	\$ 34,077	\$ -	\$ 92,524	\$ 2,620	\$ 137,457	13,329
CONG. DIST (05)	38,878	\$ 378,305	\$ 171,274	\$ 97	\$ 40,320	\$ -	\$ 2,031	\$ 1,992	\$ 162,591	11,968
CONG. DIST (06)	39,406	\$ 118,476	\$ 56,099	\$ -	\$ 13,883	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,285	\$ 43,208	5,291
CONG. DIST (07)	39,980	\$ 135,656	\$ 70,031	\$ -	\$ 17,034	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,657	\$ 45,933	6,458
CONG. DIST (08)	66,492	\$ 409,732	\$ 225,530	\$ -	\$ 38,237	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,675	\$ 141,291	17,487
CONG. DIST (09)	57,147	\$ 256,353	\$ 153,935	\$ -	\$ 11,798	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,006	\$ 87,614	12,048
CONG. DIST (10)	54,788	\$ 295,586	\$ 156,328	\$ -	\$ 21,833	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,703	\$ 114,721	11,302
CONG. DIST (11)	50,694	\$ 194,232	\$ 111,975	\$ 474	\$ 23,215	\$ -	\$ 341	\$ 3,707	\$ 54,521	7,340
CONG. DIST (12)	64,407	\$ 632,329	\$ 299,620	\$ 1,793	\$ 49,055	\$ -	\$ 14,346	\$ 4,362	\$ 263,153	22,242
CONG. DIST (13)	60,533	\$ 365,054	\$ 202,269	\$ -	\$ 44,464	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,148	\$ 115,172	13,937
CONG. DIST (14)	49,911	\$ 210,360	\$ 129,257	\$ -	\$ 12,343	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,161	\$ 66,599	9,588
<b>GEORGIA (Totals)</b>	<b>774,464</b>	<b>\$ 4,670,709</b>	<b>\$ 2,482,164</b>	<b>\$ 3,369</b>	<b>\$ 463,034</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 109,242</b>	<b>\$ 48,822</b>	<b>\$ 1,674,087</b>	<b>179,821</b>

**Notes:**

\* Veteran population estimates, as of September 30, 2013, are produced by the VA Office of the Actuary (VetPop 2011).

# Prior to FY 08, "Loan Guaranty" expenditures were included in the Education & Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (E&VRE) programs. Currently, all "Loan Guaranty" expenditures are attributed to Travis County, TX, where all Loan Guaranty payments are processed. VA will continue to improve data collection for future GDX reports to better distribute 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). Expenditure data sources: USASpending.gov for Compensation & Pension (C&P) and Education and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (E&VRE) Benefits; Veterans Benefits Administration Insurance Center for the Insurance costs; the VA Financial Management System (FMS) for Construction, Medical Research, General Operating Expenses, and certain C&P and Readjustment data; and the Allocation Resource Center (ARC) for Medical Care costs.

1. Expenditures are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars. For example, \$500 to \$1,000 are rounded to \$1; \$0 to \$499 are rounded to \$0; and "\$-" = 0 or no expenditures.

2. The Compensation & Pension expenditures include dollars for the following programs: veterans' compensation for service-connected disabilities; dependency and indemnity compensation for service-connected deaths; veterans' pension for non-service-connected disabilities; and burial and other benefits to veterans and their survivors.

3. 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.

4. Medical Care expenditures are based on where patients live instead of where care is delivered.

5. A star symbol (\*) in the Unique Patients column denotes that there were less than 10 Unique Patients.

# VA STATISTICAL DATA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

## Fact Sheet

Office of Public Affairs | Washington, DC 20420  
Media Relations | (202) 461-7600  
www.va.gov

### America's Wars Nov 2014

#### American Revolution (1775-1783)

Total U.S. Servicemembers <sup>1</sup>	217,000
Battle Deaths	4,435
Non-mortal Woundings	6,188

#### War of 1812 (1812-1815)

Total U.S. Servicemembers	286,730
Battle Deaths	2,260
Non-mortal Woundings	4,505

#### Indian Wars (approx. 1817-1898)

Total U.S. Servicemembers (VA estimate)	106,000
Battle Deaths (VA estimate)	1,000

#### Mexican War (1846-1848)

Total U.S. Servicemembers	78,718
Battle Deaths	1,733
Other Deaths (In Theater)	11,550
Non-mortal Woundings	4,152

#### Civil War (1861-1865)

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Union)	2,213,363
Battle Deaths (Union)	140,414
Other Deaths (In Theater) (Union)	224,097
Non-mortal Woundings (Union)	281,881
Total Servicemembers (Conf.) <sup>2</sup>	1,050,000
Battle Deaths (Confederate) <sup>3</sup>	74,524
Other Deaths (In Theater) (Confederate) <sup>3,4</sup>	59,297
Non-mortal Woundings (Confederate)	Unknown

#### Spanish-American War (1898-1902)

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Worldwide)	306,760
Battle Deaths	385
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater)	2,061
Non-mortal Woundings	1,662

#### World War I (1917-1918)

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Worldwide)	4,734,991
Battle Deaths	53,402
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater)	63,114
Non-mortal Woundings	204,002

#### World War II (1941-1945)

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Worldwide)	16,112,566
Battle Deaths	291,557
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater)	113,842
Non-mortal Woundings	670,846
Living Veterans <sup>5</sup>	1,711,000

**NOTES:**

- Exact number is unknown. Posted figure is the median of estimated range from 184,000 – 250,000.
- Exact number is unknown. Posted figure is median of estimated range from 600,000 – 1,500,000.
- Death figures are based on incomplete returns.
- Does not include 26,000 to 31,000 who died in Union prisons.
- Estimate based upon new population projection methodology.

#### Korean War (1950-1953)

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Worldwide)	5,720,000
Total Serving (In Theater)	1,789,000
Battle Deaths	33,739
Other Deaths (In Theater)	2,835
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater)	17,672
Non-mortal Woundings	103,284
Living Veterans	2,275,000

#### Vietnam War (1964-1975)

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Worldwide) <sup>6</sup>	8,744,000
Deployed to Southeast Asia <sup>7</sup>	3,403,000
Battle Deaths <sup>8</sup>	47,434
Other Deaths (In Theater) <sup>8</sup>	10,786
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater) <sup>8</sup>	32,000
Non-mortal Woundings <sup>9</sup>	153,303
Living Veterans <sup>5,10</sup>	7,391,000

#### Desert Shield/Desert Storm (1990-1991)

Total U.S. Servicemembers (Worldwide)	2,322,000
Deployed to Gulf	694,550
Battle Deaths	148
Other Deaths (In Theater)	235
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater)	1,565
Non-mortal Woundings	467
Living Veterans <sup>5,10</sup>	2,244,583

#### America's Wars Total (1775-1991)

U.S. Military Service during Wartime	41,892,128
Battle Deaths	651,031
Other Deaths (In Theater)	308,800
Other Deaths in Service (Non-Theater)	230,279
Non-mortal Woundings	1,431,290
Living War Veterans <sup>11</sup>	16,962,000
Living Veterans (Periods of War & Peace)	23,234,000

#### Global War on Terror (Oct 2001 - )

The Global War on Terror (GWOT), including Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), are ongoing conflicts. For the most current GWOT statistics visit the following Department of Defense Website:  
[http://sia.dapp.dmdc.osd.mil/personnel/CASUALTY/gwot\\_component.pdf](http://sia.dapp.dmdc.osd.mil/personnel/CASUALTY/gwot_component.pdf)

- Department of Defense estimate
- Covers period 11/1/55 – 5/15/75
- Excludes 150,341 not requiring hospital care
- Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) estimate, as of 4/09, does not include those still on active duty and may include veterans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan.
- Total will be more than sum of conflicts due to no "end date" established for Persian Gulf War.
- Source: Department of Defense (DOD), except living veterans, which are VA estimates as of Sep 2010.

# VA STATISTICAL DATA



Department of  
Veterans Affairs

## Fact Sheet

Office of Public Affairs  
Media Relations  
Washington, DC 20420  
(202) 461-7600  
www.va.gov

October 7, 2014

### Women Veterans Population

The total Veteran population in the United States, Puerto Rico, and Territories/Foreign, as of Sept. 30, 2014, was approximately 21.6 million. The population of women Veterans numbered 2,294,308. States with the largest number of women Veterans were Texas, California, Florida, Virginia and Georgia. State-by-state totals are as follows:

Alabama	47,711	Montana	9,306
Alaska	12,471	Nebraska	13,691
Arizona	60,012	Nevada	24,267
Arkansas	24,500	New Hampshire	8,757
California	184,257	New Jersey	32,791
Colorado	47,266	New Mexico	21,935
Connecticut	15,948	New York	79,571
Delaware	7,704	North Carolina	91,217
District Of Columbia	3,971	North Dakota	5,834
Florida	167,464	Ohio	72,239
Georgia	108,719	Oklahoma	36,686
Hawaii	14,556	Oregon	28,324
Idaho	13,598	Pennsylvania	79,881
Illinois	67,993	Puerto Rico	5,248
Indiana	38,269	Rhode Island	5,857
Iowa	17,998	South Carolina	46,703
Kansas	24,340	South Dakota	8,560
Kentucky	31,362	Tennessee	52,892
Louisiana	33,580	Texas	195,490
Maine	10,740	Utah	13,752
Maryland	64,913	Vermont	4,401
Massachusetts	32,424	Virginia	137,020
Michigan	49,956	Washington	68,905
Minnesota	29,261	West Virginia	15,733
Mississippi	25,382	Wisconsin	38,345
Missouri	45,806	Wyoming	5,786
		Territories/Foreign	10,913

**Total Women Veterans 2,294,308**

**Source:**

Department of Veterans Affairs, Table 6L: *VetPop2011*, at <http://www.va.gov/vetdata/>

## VA Medical System



- ▲ Medical Center
- ▲ Medical Center/Vet Center
- Clinic
- Clinic/Vet Center
- Clinic Under Construction

**MEDICAL CENTERS**  
**Atlanta VA Medical Center**  
 1670 Clairmont Road, Decatur, GA 30033  
 404-321-6111 or 800-944-9726  
 GDVS Field Office: 404-728-7611  
**Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center**  
 Freedom Way, Augusta, GA 30904  
 706-733-0188 or 800-836-5561  
 GDVS Field Office: 706-823-2218  
**Carl Vinson VA Medical Center**  
 1826 Veterans Blvd., Dublin, GA 31021  
 478-272-1210 or 800-595-5229  
 GDVS Field Office: 478-272-4266

**VET CENTERS**  
**Atlanta**  
 1800 Phoenix Blvd., Bldg. 400, Suite 404  
 Phone: 404-347-7264  
**Augusta**  
 2050 Walton Way, Suite 100  
 Phone: 706-729-5762  
**Columbus**  
 2601 Cross Country Drive, Condo B-2, Suite 900  
 Phone: 706-596-7170  
**Lawrenceville**  
 930 River Centre Place  
 Phone: 404-728-4195  
**Macon**  
 750 Riverside Drive  
 Phone: 478-477-3813  
**Marietta**  
 40 Dodd St., Suite 700  
 Phone: 404-327-4954  
**Savannah**  
 308-A Commercial Drive  
 Phone: 912-961-5800

Veterans Crisis Hotline: 800-273-TALK

**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; GDVS Field Office: 706-745-6341
- 1111 Glynco Parkway, **Brunswick**, GA 31525-7921  
Phone: 912-261-2355; GDVS Field Office: 912-262-2345
- 180 Martin Drive, **Carrollton**, GA 30117  
Phone: 404-321-6111, ext. 2156; GDVS Field Office: ext. 2554
- 1310 13th Ave., **Columbus**, GA 31906  
Phone: 706-257-7205
- 755 Commerce Drive, 2nd Floor, **Decatur**, GA 30030  
Phone: 404-417-5200
- 1701 Hardee Ave. SW, Atlanta, GA 30310 (**Fort McPherson**)  
Phone: 404-321-6111, ext. 2222; GDVS Field Office: ext. 4997
- 740 East General Stewart Way, Suite 103, **Hinesville**, GA 31313  
Phone: 912-920-0214; ext. 5833
- 455 Phillip Blvd., Suite 200, **Lawrenceville**, GA 30046  
Phone: 404-417-1750
- 5398 Thomaston Road, Suite B, **Macon**, GA 31220  
Phone: 478-476-8868
- GWVH, Wheeler Building, A Wing, **Milledgeville**, GA 31061  
Phone: 478-414-4540; GDVS Field Office: 478-445-4751
- 39-A Oak Hill Ct., **Newnan**, GA 30265  
Phone: 404-329-2222
- 4175 Tanners Creek Drive, Flowery Branch, GA 30542 (**Oakwood**)  
Phone: 404-728-8210
- 2370 S. Houston Lake Road, Kathleen, GA 31047 (**Perry**)  
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; GDVS Field Office: ext. 2191, 2193, or 2194
- 205 Lakeshore Point, **St. Marys**, GA 31558  
Phone: 912-510-3420; GDVS Field Office: 912-510-3440
- 412 Northside Drive E., Suite 500, **Statesboro**, GA 30458  
Phone: 912-871-8719; GDVS Field Office: 912-871-1104
- 175 Medical Blvd., **Stockbridge**, GA 30281  
Phone: 404-329-2222
- 2841 N. Patterson Street, **Valdosta**, GA 31602  
Phone: 229-293-0132; GDVS Field Office: 229-333-2178





## Georgia Department of Veterans Service

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

[veterans.georgia.gov](http://veterans.georgia.gov)  
[facebook.com/gavetsvc](https://www.facebook.com/gavetsvc)  
[twitter.com/gavetsvc](https://twitter.com/gavetsvc)

### Veterans Field Service Offices

Albany 229-430-1797  
Americus 229-931-2546  
Athens 706-369-5630  
Atlanta 404-656-5940  
Augusta 706-721-4301  
Augusta VAMC 706-823-2218  
Bainbridge 229-248-2599  
Blairsville 706-745-6341  
Brunswick 912-262-2345  
Canton 770-720-3538  
Carrollton 404-321-6111, x 2554  
Cartersville 770-387-3746  
Cedartown 770-749-2209 (MWF)  
Clarkesville 706-754-4316  
Columbus 706-649-1264  
Conyers 770-388-5075  
Cordele 229-276-2366  
Dalton 706-272-2355  
Decatur 404-728-7611  
Douglas 912-389-4898  
Dublin 478-272-4266  
Elberton 706-213-2040  
Fort McPherson 404-321-6111, x 4997  
Gainesville 770-531-6060  
Glennville 912-654-5159  
Greensboro 706-453-7455 (Tues., Fri.)  
Griffin 770-412-4023  
Hartwell 706-376-4461  
Hinesville 912-920-0214, x 2948  
LaFayette 706-638-5544  
LaGrange 706-845-4095  
Lawrenceville 404-321-6111, x 1964  
Lyons 912-526-8860  
Macon 478-751-3186

### Veterans Field Service Offices

Marietta 770-528-3254  
Milledgeville 478-445-4751  
Moultrie 229-891-7135  
Newnan 770-254-7260  
Oakwood 404-321-6111, x 8225  
Rome 706-295-6026  
St. Marys 912-510-3440  
Savannah 912-920-0214, x 2194  
Statesboro 912-871-1104  
Swainsboro 478-289-2617  
Thomasville 229-225-4050  
Tifton 229-386-3856  
Toccoa 706-282-4525 (Tues., Wed.)  
Valdosta 229-333-2178  
Warner Robins 478-293-1005  
Washington 706-678-2821  
Waycross 912-285-6340  
Waynesboro 706-554-3874

### GDVS Central Office

Public Information 404-656-5933  
Claims & Appeals 404-929-5345  
Veterans Education & Training 404-656-2306  
Women Veterans Coordinator 404-929-5354

*We value your input.*  
Give feedback at [gavetsvc@vs.state.ga.us](mailto:gavetsvc@vs.state.ga.us),  
[facebook.com/gavetsvc](https://www.facebook.com/gavetsvc),  
or 404-656-5933.