

Georgia Department of Veterans Service



2009 Annual
Report

Pete Wheeler,
Commissioner

Georgia State Veterans Memorial Cemeteries



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

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

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

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

**– Commissioner Pete Wheeler,
Georgia Department of Veterans Service**

REQUIREMENTS FOR BURIAL

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

OTHER RULES

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

WHAT IS THE COST?

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

WHAT IS PROVIDED?

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





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COMMISSIONER
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January 30, 2010

Governor Sonny Perdue
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 2009.

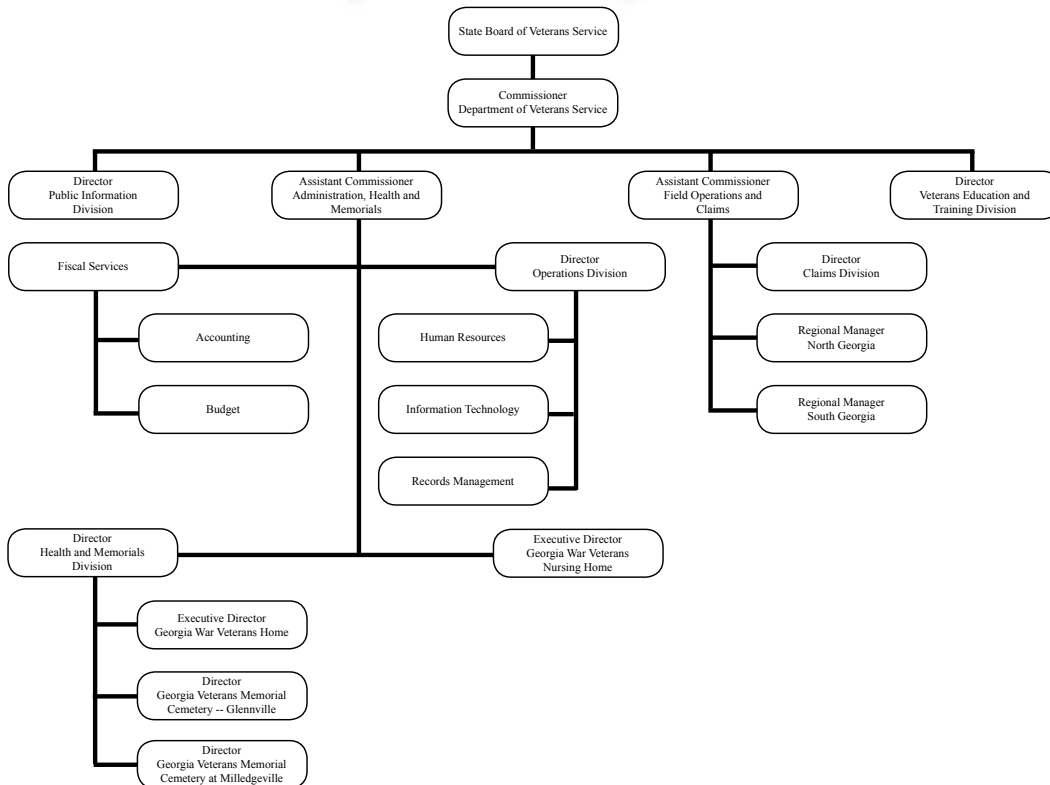
Respectfully submitted,


PETE WHEELER
Commissioner

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Department Organization



Veterans Service Board

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

2009 Board Members

Ray Hendrix	Chairman	Statesboro
Kenneth Birdsong	Vice Chairman	Gordon/Gray
Rod Casey	Secretary	Valdosta
Barbara J. Aaron	Member	Warner Robins
James Blaylock	Member	Decatur
Fred T. Fincher	Member	LaGrange
Pat Phillips	Member	Blairsville



Mission ...

“To Serve Those Who Have Served”

The mission of the Department of Veterans Service is to serve the 772,832 veterans (USDVA’s figures as of September 30, 2009) residing in Georgia, their dependents and survivors in all matters pertaining to veterans benefits.

This responsibility falls into two basic tasks:

informing the 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 staff, field offices, an information division, and a central office.

The Claims Staff is located at the Atlanta Regional Office of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs at 1700 Clairmont Road in Decatur.

The Claims Staff’s mission is to process claims and appeals of Georgia veterans.

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

The Information Division’s mission is to keep Georgia veterans informed about issues and how they impact on them.

The Central Office is for the administration of these services.

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 benefits to which they are entitled, to tell them when they are entitled, and to assist them in gathering and preparing evidence needed to justify a claim and prove their entitlement.

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

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

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

Department Functions

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

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

◆Assist veterans, their dependents, and their 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 to the proper authority.

◆To do everything possible to promote and protect the rights of Georgia's veterans under federal and state law.

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

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

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

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

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

◆Conduct educational programs by personal appearances before veterans' organizations, service clubs, fraternal groups and other such organizations so as to acquaint the public generally with the work of the department.

◆Make representatives of the department available throughout the state to assist all veterans, their dependents, and survivors in preparing and filing claims for benefits and to acquaint them with all legal rights and privileges.

◆Cooperate with all national, state, and local governmental and private agencies, securing or offering services or any benefits to veterans and their dependents.

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

◆As State Approving Authority, enter into

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

◆Assist other states in securing evidence for claims.

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

◆Sponsor observance of Veterans Day in the state.

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

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

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

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

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



Veterans Education and Training Division

State Approving Agency

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

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

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

Georgia veterans enrolled in college degree and professional programs, technical career programs, vocational programs, to include flight training and on-the-job training programs exceeded 14,000 during 2009.

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

“The Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act of 2008,” the newest education benefit program expanded the benefits available

to certain service members and veterans with active duty military service after September 11, 2001. This GI Bill program was implemented on August 1, 2009.



Officer Leroy Hartley of the Douglasville Police Department, a four-year veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, was a participant in the GI Bill On the Job Training Program.

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

The Department of Defense has approved a “Transferability of Education Benefits” option for the Post – 9/11 GI bill. DOD eligibility requirements must be met.

In 2009, the approval of educational institutions and training establishments for the education of Georgia veterans result in the processing of 8,000 individual actions in the approval, reapproval, withdrawal and compliance survey process. The State Approving Agency also conducted regular inspection visits to ensure that approval criteria and schools’ standards of progress are being followed as prescribed by law.

During 2009, personnel assigned to the Veterans Educational and Training Division conducted about 613 visits for the purpose of approval, reapproval, inspection and compliance surveys. Currently, the department monitors more than 1,250 educational institutions and training establishments.

In 2009, SDVS continued to expand opportunities for Georgia veterans to receive their Education Benefits while enrolled in approved On-The-Job Training (OJT) and Apprenticeship programs. For more information on all GI Bill programs go to: www.gibill.va.gov.

Information Division

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

When appropriate, the division mails news and information releases concerning veterans affairs to newspapers, radio and television stations throughout Georgia.

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

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

The Department publishes the online *Veterans Bulletin*, which contains information about veterans programs, VA actions and decisions, new rules and regulations, and news from various sources.

Public speaking forums are an important ingredient of the Department's overall information program. All Department personnel are encouraged to accept speaking engagements at meetings of veterans organizations and civic clubs. These personal appearances provide excellent opportunities for telling the veterans

benefits story. Department personnel also participate in local radio talk shows and make presentations at local schools.

The Information Division maintains the Department website, which is part of www.georgia.gov.

The site, <http://www.sdvs.georgia.gov>, contains news releases, information about Commissioner Wheeler, state veterans benefits, the Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home in Augusta, the

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

The website is also the distribution vehicle for the online *Veterans Bulletin*.

The Information Division compiles, edits, and publishes a series of pamphlets explaining in detail the various benefits available to veterans,

their dependents, and survivors. These pamphlets are updated as changes occur in laws, regulations, or benefits.

Through an aggressive internal communication program, the Division keeps the field offices informed about

changes in the law and policy interpretations that impact veterans.



GWVNH-Augusta

The Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home (GWVNH) in Augusta is a 192 – bed skilled nursing care

facility located adjacent to the campus of the Medical College of Georgia medical center and the Charlie Norwood Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Augusta, Georgia. It is operated under an interagency agreement between the Georgia Department of Veterans Service and the Medical College of Georgia.

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

In addition the facility houses a Georgia Department of Veterans Service field office that serves veterans of Columbia and Richmond 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 in the nation that is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations.

In Fiscal Year 2009 the home provided 61,137 days of care to Georgia’s veterans with an average age of 80. During the year, there were 196 admissions and 213 discharges with

an average length of stay of 310 days. Services to patients included 3,392 physical therapy treatments and 3,560 individual occupational therapy procedures. Veteran patients were treated by a medical director and family medicine residents providing daily medical coverage to each veteran patient. Medical services were also provided by a certified activities therapist and staff, two facility social



workers and a staff of registered nurses, licensed practical nurses and certified nursing assistants.

To help provide care and treatment, the federal government provided financial assistance totaling in excess of \$4.5 Million during 2009.

During the year, major renovation was undertaken to the veteran patients’ care areas on the second through fifth floors and to the food service preparation and dining room areas of the first floor. These upgrades and improvements also include the individual veteran patients’ bathrooms and congregate showers. The nursing stations were redesigned to protect veteran patient privacy and improve communication. Upgrades to the facility’s dining room and kitchen and improvements in the heating and air conditioning systems were completed for this project.

Throughout the year, veterans service organizations, civic and fraternal organizations and religious groups demonstrated their concern for the well being of the ailing veteran patients through numerous donations and the continuing sponsorship of frequent veteran – related activities.

GWVH-Milledgeville

The Georgia War Veterans Home, situated on approximately 17 acres in Milledgeville, is a 550-bed facility licensed and certified to provide skilled nursing care to aged and infirm Georgia war veterans. United Veteran Services of Georgia, Inc., a subsidiary of UHS-Pruitt Corporation of Norcross, Georgia, operates the home for the Department of Veterans Service under a contractual agreement.



The home operated four skilled nursing care facilities in 2009, which included the Richard B. Russell Building with 120 budgeted beds; the Carl Vinson Building with 45 budgeted beds; the Joe T Wood Building with 100 budgeted beds; and the Alzheimer's Wing of the Pete Wheeler Building with 20 budgeted beds.

The Georgia Department of Veterans Service field office serving Baldwin, Hancock, Putnam, Washington, and Wilkinson counties is housed on the first floor of the Vinson Building. This office also serves the 300 veteran patients of the home by assisting with compensation and pension claims, counseling services and family related issues.

Construction projects at the Georgia War Veterans Home for 2009 consisted of replacing the chiller/cooling tower in the Pete Wheeler Bldg. (\$815,289), electrical upgrades in the Pete Wheeler Bldg. (\$501,798) and roof replacement on Joe T. Wood Bldg. (\$941,000).

The Office of Regulatory Services of the Georgia Department of Community Health conducted an unannounced licensure survey of

each skilled nursing unit of the home in February and found no deficiencies. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs annual survey of the home

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

The veteran patients at the home received 109,511 days of skilled nursing care. The nursing home

admitted 34 patients during the year and had 45 discharges in 2009. The average length of stay for current veteran patients is 1,132 days.

Federal assistance in funding a portion of the cost of providing care to veteran patients in the home amounted to \$8,532,434. As in previous years, many veterans service organizations, civic and church groups, continued their sponsorship of numerous activities, such as movies, games, dance parties, bingo, picnics, and other activities and programs for the general well-being of the veteran patients at the home.

Groups and individuals provided the equivalent of 1,403 individual volunteers with an excess of 4,117 hours of time valued at over \$53,521.00. They presented over 396 activities during the year. The value of in-kind donations made to the home was \$69,113.04. Groups and individuals also provided direct monetary donations of \$32,786.76 in the year.

The Georgia Department of Veterans Service is dedicated to serving the veterans of the Georgia War Veterans Home along with all veterans throughout the state.

GVMC-Milledgeville

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

downtown Milledgeville along Georgia Highway 112. This cemetery, established on 142 acres the Department received from the Georgia Forestry Commission, includes an administration/visitor center with a state of the art information booth, a committal chapel, a carillon and 12 columbarium shelters for cremations. Cemetery grounds also include a six – acre lake and a three – acre, multi – tier walled ceremonial area available for use by veterans’ organizations on remembrance days, such as Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

Presently occupying 30 of the 142 acres, the cemetery will eventually be the final resting place for more than 100,000 eligible veterans, their spouses and eligible dependents.

There were 103 burials in 2009, making the total-to-date 1,330 veterans, spouses and dependent buried at the GVMC. The burials are composed of 807 casketed burials, 224 cremations in the columbarium, 162 in-ground cremations and 15 memorial markers.

The eighth annual Arbor Day Ceremony co-hosted by the Georgia Forestry Commission was held on April 24, 2009. Director Robert Farris of the Georgia Forestry Commission and Assistant Commissioner Len Glass of the Georgia Department of Veterans Service dedicated a tree to the memory of Georgia Veterans. Mr. Ryan Klesko, former Atlanta Braves baseball player and a Georgia tree farmer was the guest speaker. Oak seedlings were given out to attendees. Approximately 150 people attended.

Flags were placed on all burial sites and at the Front Entrance in recognition of Memorial

Day, May 25, 2009. We were supported in this activity by the Sons of the American Revolution and scouts from the troop based at the

Milledgeville First United Methodist Church.

The cemetery hosted the Memorial Day ceremony conducted by the Knights of Columbus and supported by the Sons of the American Revolution. Approximately 200 people attended. The cemetery placed flags at front



entrance in recognition of Flag Day on June 14, 2009, for of Independence Day on July 4, 2009 and on each gravesite in recognition of Veterans Day on November 11, 2009.

The cemetery hosted the third Wreath Laying Ceremony on December 12, 2009 honoring our military (past and present). Seven wreaths were presented honoring each branch of the Armed Forces, Merchant Marines and our POW/MIAs. The ceremony included members of the Patriot Guard Riders, an Honor Detail from Georgia Army National Guard, representatives of each branch of service, and members of the Baldwin County High School Navy JROTC program. The ceremony was conducted inside the committal chapel due to inclement weather. Approximately 125 people attended the ceremony. The Worcester Wreath Company provided the seven wreaths for the ceremony. We received approximately 500 wreaths from donations to the cemetery. These wreaths were placed on the gravesites by attendees following the ceremony.

The GVMC at Milledgeville’s hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8:00 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 8:00 A.M. to dusk.

GVMC-Glenncville

The Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery – Glennville is situated on the 42.6-acre site of the former

Dyess Farm, just north of the Glennville, Georgia city limits. It is located along U.S. Highway 301, 25 miles west of the main post of Fort Stewart. The initial 26-acre phase of the cemetery contains 1,400 pre-placed 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.

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

GVMC – Glennville was dedicated on November 28, 2007 and will eventually be the final resting place for more than 21,000 veterans and their spouses and eligible dependents. As of December 31, 2009 there were 176 veterans, spouses, and family members interred in the cemetery. State veterans cemeteries, such as the GVMC- Glennville, are an integral part of the VA's National Cemetery System. The requirements for burial are the same for all National Cemetery System cemeteries in Georgia.

During the past year, the Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery - Glennville hosted its annual Memorial Day ceremony to honor veterans

who paid the ultimate sacrifice in service of our country. The ceremony was held in conjunction with the Glennville Industrial Development



Authority, the Glennville American Legion post, and the Glennville Veterans of Foreign Wars post. Georgia State Senator Jack Hill was the guest speaker for the ceremony. In June, Brent Walker, of the Glennville Industrial Development Authority, hosted a ceremony to rename a portion of U.S. Highway 301. The por-

tion of highway that runs through the Glennville city limits and in front of the cemetery entrance was renamed Veterans Boulevard. This was done to honor all veterans and in recognition of the cemetery's location. The Georgia Department of Veterans Service Commissioner Pete Wheeler was the guest speaker for the dedication ceremony. For Veterans Day, The Glennville Rotary Club and the Glennville Chamber of Commerce placed American Flags at the grave markers 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. This year the Air Force JROTC of Effingham County High School took part in the ceremony and provided the color guard.

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

The GVMC – Glennville's hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8:00 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 8:00 A.M. to dusk.

SDVS Statistical Report

Contacts.....	686,563
New Case Files.....	12,262
Hearings.....	434
Letters Written.....	324,549
Compensation and Pension.....	50,265
Education.....	2,011
Medical.....	15,728
Insurance.....	1,450
Loans.....	2,938
Powers of Attorney.....	16,188
Changes of Address.....	1,945
Notices of Disagreement and Appeals Filed.....	5,033
Vocational Rehabilitation.....	904
VA Claims Folders Reviewed.....	31,580
Driver Licenses.....	7,408
Business Licenses.....	199
Nursing Home Applications.....	444
License Plates.....	1,260
Natural Resources.....	2,465
Tax Exemptions.....	1,107
Preference Points.....	623
Welfare Assistance/Social Security.....	9,497
Miscellaneous Personal Affairs.....	215,849
Other Forms and Evidence.....	216,059

Statistical Report Definitions

Below is an explanation of the terms described in the report (opposite) of the number of cases and types of services rendered by the Georgia Department of Veterans Service during 2008.

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

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

LETTERS WRITTEN: Outgoing correspondence originated in the Department on behalf of claimants in developing their claims.

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

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

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

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

HOME LOAN APPLICATION: Applications for direct home loans from the VA and guaranteed loans from private lenders.

POWERS OF ATTORNEY: The appointment of a service organization as a claimant's representative.

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

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

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

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

OTHER FORMS AND EVIDENCE: Documents completed and transmitted in support of applications filed for claims.

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

SDVS Financial Report

For the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2009

<u>FUNDS AVAILABLE</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
State Appropriation	22,807,280	22,807,280
Federal Revenues	13,932,321	13,932,321
Other Funds	3,449,494	3,449,494
	40,189,095	40,189,095

<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
Personal Services	6,474,503	6,328,715
Regular Operating Expenses	501,864	434,656
Real Estate Rentals	240,283	225,522
Telecommunications	112,248	116,735
Per Diem and Fees	18,822	18,822
Operating Expenses/Payments to Medical College of Georgia	10,258,401	10,096,834
Regular Operating Expenses for Projects and Insurance	161,366	151,055
Contracts	18,932,971	18,643,147
Capital Outlay	3,468,637	2,525,667
Outreach	20,000	2,048
	40,189,095	38,543,201

VA Monetary Benefits & Definitions

Listed below is a report of the monetary benefits received by the veterans and the dependent survivors of deceased veterans in Georgia during fiscal year 2009 (October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009).

The figures were provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Compensation and Pension

1,638,347,000

Medical

1,043,299,000

Insurance and Indemnities

49,905,000

Education and Vocational Rehabilitation

233,493,000

General Operating Expenses

104,714,000

Construction

7,305,000

Total

3,077,062,000



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

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

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

Construction: Represents returns in dollars concerning major and minor construction projects.

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



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

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

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some of the accomplishments and events that took place at the Atlanta Regional Office (RO) during fiscal year (FY) 2009. FY2009 was an exciting and extremely busy year, which included the implementation of a new education program, the new Post 9/11 GI Bill.

VETERANS SERVICE CENTER

The Veterans Service Center (VSC) continues to take an aggressive approach to improve the number of claims processed each year. In FY2009, the VSC completed 32,709 rating claims which exceeded Atlanta's performance target of 30,446, or 107% of the goal. The VSC completed 17% more rating claims during FY2009 than the prior year. This year the VSC is continuing to focus on increasing the number of completed rating claims and have increased the number of rating claims processors to address this workload. The VSC is also focusing on reducing the pending rating inventory, the number of claims pending over 180 days and over 1 year, the number of Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) claims pending over 180 days, and GWOT claims pending over 1 year.

The Atlanta RO has experienced a 12.2% increase in the number of rating related claims received during FY2009 compared to the same period for FY2008. In an effort to increase the VSC's output, staffing was increased from 286 full time employees in October 2008 to 341 at present. During FY2009 the VSC was authorized 41 additional temporary staff under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The majority of the additional staffing were decision makers who are assisting with the pending inventory and other performance measures.

In the area of outreach, the VSC conducted 706 briefings during FY2009 resulting in a total of 15,528 service members being briefed on VA benefits. Additionally, the VSC assisted with the demobilization of 4 Georgia National Guard Units and briefed over 1,124 service members in this capacity. In October 2009, the RO assisted the Decatur VAMC with the Homeless Stand-Down. Stand Down provided medical care and benefit information assistance to more than 400 veterans during the event. The Atlanta VSC will continue to seek methods and opportunities to inform veterans of the services we provide and the benefits to which they may be entitled.

The Atlanta VSC continues to participate in the Disability Evaluation System (DES) program at Ft. Stewart. The DES program is a joint initiative between VA and DoD. This program will provide a single disability examination, a single disability rating decision prepared by the VA that is binding on both Departments and expeditious payment of VA benefits after the service member is separated by service. This program was implemented at Fort Stewart on December 1, 2008. Through December 2009 a total of 751 service members have participated in the program through Ft. Stewart. Two Military Service Coordinators are stationed at Ft. Stewart to support this endeavor. The DES program is expected to expand to Ft. Benning in March 2010 and to Ft. Gordon in late 2010.

EDUCATION

The Atlanta Regional Processing Office (RPO) is responsible for 19.4% of the nationwide education benefits workload. During FY2009, the RPO implemented the new Post 9/11 GI Bill. This new comprehensive educational benefit program provides for payments of tuition and fees, books and supplies, and a housing allowance to those veterans serving at least 90 days after September 11, 2001, if eligibility is established. In preparation for administering this education benefit beginning August 1, 2009, the RPO hired 83 temporary claims processors to assist with processing this workload.

The RPO processed 307,889 claims in FY2009. Average Days to Complete for original claims processing went from 20 days in FY2008 to 34.2 days in FY2009, an increase of 14.2 days. Average Days to Complete for supplemental claims processing increased from 9.9 days in FY2008 to 14 days in FY2009. The increase in processing timeliness was due to the implementation of the Post 9/11 GI Bill and the increase in receipt of claims under this program. The RPO began accepting applications on May 1, 2009, and began issuing payments on August 1, 2009. Despite this increased workload, the RPO maintained a 96.1% payment accuracy rate during FY2009.

In the area of Customer Service, the RPO assisted 28,066 students via Internet inquiries and interviewed 3,148 students visiting the RPO. Telephone inquiries

regarding education benefits are processed in the Educational Call Center located in Muskogee, Oklahoma.

LOAN GUARANTY

FY2009 was an excellent year for the Atlanta Regional Loan Center (RLC). The RLC closed the greatest number of loans with 52,854 loans guaranteed and conducted the most appraisals of real property at 41,353. The Loan Administration Section provided oversight and guidance to 5,130 veterans experiencing financial hardships and assisted many of them in concluding alternatives to foreclosure during the year. Our Loan Production section provided yearlong assistance to the Winston Salem Eligibility Center by issuing 87,000 Certificates of Eligibility to veterans that allowed them to purchase a home. This represented 20% of all certificates issued nationally during the year and earned special recognition for excellent service to veterans.

The administration of the Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) Grant Program, with its many changes, remains the RLC's highest priority. During the past year, the RLC successfully administered 161 SAH grants for a total of \$5.9 million dollars in housing grant funds.

In FY2010, the Atlanta RLC looks forward to continuing to provide first class access, service, and administration of the VA Home Loan Guaranty Program. This includes working with private stakeholders to meet Atlanta's tri-fold mission of providing homeownership to veterans, keeping veterans in their homes during these times of financial hardship, and administering the SAH grant program to the nation's deserving veterans.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND EMPLOYMENT

During FY2009, Atlanta's Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment Division (VR&E) saw an increase in the number of applications received for Chapter 31 benefits. VR&E received an average of 359 applications per month in 2009, approximately a 4% increase from 2008. An additional Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor was added to the staff to assist with the pending workload. During FY2009, 436 veteran cases were placed in a rehabilitated status and our rehabilitation rate at the end of 2009 was 77.1%.

The VR&E Division has continued efforts to provide early intervention services with the Coming Home To Work (CHTW) program at Ft. Gordon, Ft. Benning, and now at Ft. Stewart two days per week. The CHTW program targets active duty service members who are within six months of being discharged, with an emphasis on those individuals who are in a medical hold status. We had 568 participants in our initial assessments for this program for 2009. The Service Center continues to assist us in obtaining memorandum rating decisions.

Our focus on returning veterans and service members to suitable, competitive employment continues. We have strengthened and increased efforts for on-the-job training and non-paid work experience opportunities and partnership with the Department of Labor. Most recently, we participated in a forum to identify expanding services for visually impaired veterans. Ongoing efforts continue to work closely with VA Medical Center staff to grow the specialized evaluation and occupational training program for traumatic brain injured and other cognitively impaired veterans. Lastly, participation in the Independent Living program continues to grow, with an increasing number of veterans with serious employment handicaps applying for services.

CONCLUSION

As the Atlanta RO moves into 2010, I look forward to continuing our spirit of cooperation and service to Veterans. It has been rewarding to work with you and your staff in serving Georgia Veterans and their dependents.

As always, we look forward to working with you and your staff serving our Veterans in 2010.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Bocchicchio". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and a long, sweeping tail.

A. Bocchicchio
Director, Atlanta Regional Office

SDVS Year in Review

Sand from Normandy, France, in bridge foundation



Atlanta VARO-VAMC Bridge Ground Breaking



OIF Banner Ceremony, Twin Towers, ATL



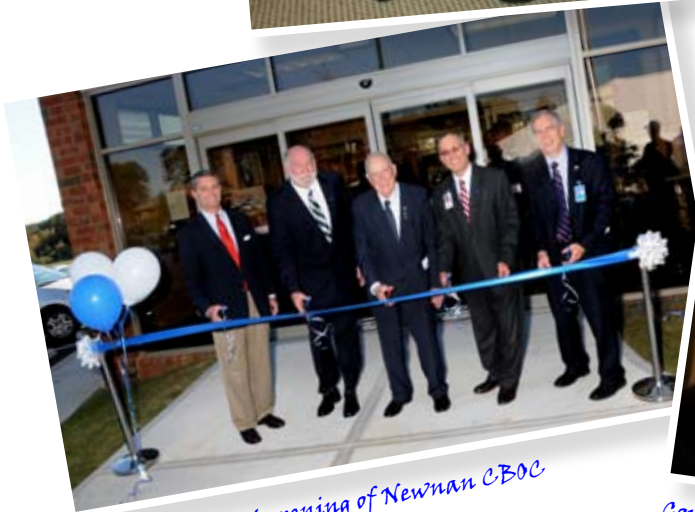
Arbor Day at GVMC-Milledgeville

Commissioner Wheeler visits with Secretary Shinseki at VARO-Atlanta



Keynote address at State Memorial Day observance

Official opening of Newnan CBOC



Governor recognizes SDVS Customer Service Excellence



SDVS Year in Review



Governor Perdue's Veterans Day Proclamation Signing

SDVS Year in Review



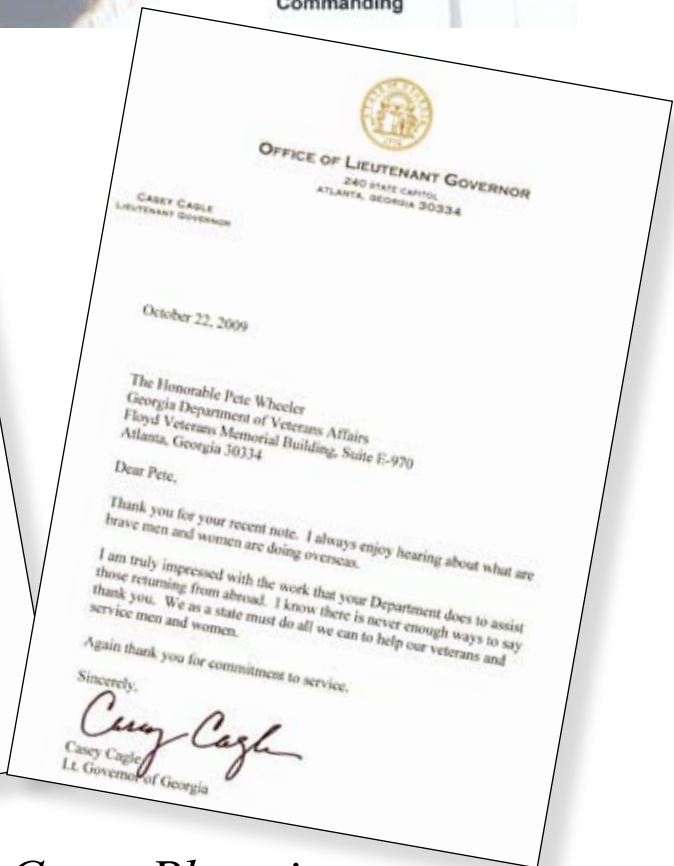
Supermarket of Veterans Benefits in Griffin

SDVS Year in Review



Supermarket of Veterans Benefits in Griffin

SDVS Year in Review



The Flag Over Camp Phoenix

SDVS Year in Review



"Play it Again Pete" Golf Tournament

Georgia's Veterans Service Organizations

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

This Department sincerely appreciates the leaders of the veterans organizations in Georgia, who so generously give their time, energy, and expertise in conducting the Department Commanders Conference. The group meets periodically and when called upon, and advises and assists this Department in its group activities.

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

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



Georgia's VSO Leadership



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



Marine Corps League
Robert Mullins of College Park
Commandant, Dept. of Georgia
www.mcldeptofga.org



The American Legion
Henry Adams of Douglasville
State Commander
Bettye Williams of Albany
Auxiliary President
www.galegion.org



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



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



Military Order of the Purple Heart
Jeffrey Lear of Woodstock
State Commander
Diane G. Jenkins of Augusta Auxiliary
President
www.purpleheart.org



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



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



Disabled American Veterans
Freddie Swint of Hephzibah
State Commander
Ann Wilner of North Augusta, SC
Auxiliary President
www.georgia-dav.org



Reserve Officers Association
Geoffrey Wooten of Eatonton
State President
www.roa.org



GA Federal/Military Retiree Coalition
Gerald Johnson of Milledgeville
State President
www.georgiamoaa.org/GFMRC



Veterans of Foreign Wars
David Pipes of Kingsland
State Commander
Sandy LaMarsh of Kennesaw
Auxiliary President
www.gavfw.org



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



Vietnam Veterans of America
Wayne Watkins of Dawsonville
State President
www.vva.org

THE AMERICAN LEGION

DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA



December 15, 2009

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

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

It has been an honor and a pleasure to work with you and your staff through these difficult financial times. On behalf of the state's largest Veterans organization, I would like to thank you and your staff for their dedicated service to the Veterans and their families of Georgia.

During this year you have met the challenge of budget cuts and lean times head on and still ensured our state's Veterans were cared for. We have worked as a team with the Supermarket of Benefits and T.R.I.P. training for your personnel. Through it all we continue to build a partnership and with this year's motto that "No Veteran Left Behind" you and your staff have lived up to that. We have been visited by the National Commander and National Adjutant of The American Legion and both spoke highly of you and your staff.

We are proud to call you a friend and you have been a great leader of the Georgia Department of Veterans Service and we once again thank you and your staff for their outstanding work.

For God and Country,

Henry "Butch" Adams
Department Commander

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



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA
3035 MT. ZION ROAD
STOCKBRIDGE, GEORGIA 30281
TEL (678) 289-8446 FAX (678) 289-9496
e-mail: amlegaux@bellsouth.net

December 21, 2009

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

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

The American Legion Auxiliary is the world's largest non-profit patriotic women's service organization in the world, and it is my honor to represent over 10,000 members in Georgia as their State President.

On behalf of our members, I thank you and your staff for your outstanding service and support to our Veterans and their families throughout Georgia.

We feel we are very fortunate to have you serving as Commissioner of Veterans Service in our great State. May God bless you and your staff for your concern and devotion to our veterans. It is because of your Leadership that they enjoy all of the wonderful programs and benefits you continue to provide for them over the years. **Keep up the good work!**

Sincerely,


Bettye D. Williams, President



Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

Department of Georgia

David G. Pipes
State Commander
2009-2010

Phone: (478) 474-3737
Fax: (478) 474-6853
Email: gahq@gavfw.org

250 N. Gross Rd., Apt.# 4-B
Kingsland, Georgia 31548
Phone: (912) 729-3865
Cell: (912) 552-3371
ldpipes@kgldcable.com

December 2009

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

It is an honor that I may like previous State Commanders of Georgia Veterans of Foreign Wars, emphasize and reiterate our pride in the association that we have with you and the entire Georgia Department of Veterans Service staff. You personally lead the individual employees of the Department and ensure not just a professional dedication but also a personal devotion to the Georgia veteran and family. You and your people are acknowledged by Service Officers across the Nation as committed, caring, compassionate, and courageous. You always fight the good fight!

Just recently, we noted the progress not just in retaining Commissary, Exchange, and Pharmacy services for retirees, drilling reservists, and guard members. Now it is likely those facilities will be maintained at Fort Gillem until new facilities are available at the Dobbins Air Reserve Base. You have led the charge. As previous State Commanders have noted, you have taken us from the DOD first ignoring the request, progressing to a maybe, to a reasonable probability and now to a relative certainty. Further, we continue to commend your actions and efforts as well as those of the entire GDVS have been exemplary in last year's suspension of operations of the Georgia War Veterans Home Domiciliary. Despite cries that the sky was falling, appropriate housing was found for every resident despite the budget shortfalls and no veteran was homeless as a result.

We continue to be proud of our involvement in and dedication to TRIP Training and working with the State Veterans Service Officers, GDVS Claims staff, and GDVS Field Offices regardless of affiliation or accreditation. Again, some of the most dedicated public servants and veterans' advocates in the Nation work in your offices and are affiliated with the Georgia Department of Veterans Service.

We appreciate your assistance to us as we have attempted to expand the network to ensure that every Georgian understands that "No veteran's benefit is automatic." We know that the budget may not be there just as our returning recent conflict veterans need it. We all have our work cut out for us in the future as they must deal with traumatic head injuries and amputations as well as other residuals of their combat experiences. We cannot allow their claims and benefits to be put on the back burner by the Veterans Benefit Administration. Together we will have to fight to ensure that we care for those "...who have born the battle..." and those who survive them.

You demonstrate that we are routinely "United on Our Mission". Be assured that you can always count on the Georgia Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary in that struggle.

Sincerely,

David G. Pipes
State Commander

"UNITED ON OUR MISSION"

Department of Georgia
Ladies Auxiliary
To the
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Of the United States



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

Dear Commissioner Wheeler,

On behalf of the 6,044 members of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States from the Department of Georgia, I would like to thank you for the continued assistance and cooperation that you and your staff provide for our Veterans. Our Veterans greatly appreciate the outstanding job you do in your service to them. As you know the Ladies Auxiliary was formed to help our Veterans and we are eligible to be members because we are Wife, mothers, sisters and daughters of Veterans and all your work and efforts for our Veterans also impacts us as their family members.

Please be assured we appreciate all you do in helping to improve the quality of life for our veterans and their families. You are truly carrying forward the motto of the VFW in "Honoring the Dead by Helping the Living".

Thank you again for all you do for our Veterans and God Bless you and your family, I know that this year has been hard for you, after losing your wife. Our prayers are with you as you continue to work and assist our Veterans.

God Bless you and God Bless America.

Yours Truly,

Sandy LaMarsh – President
Ladies Auxiliary VFW
Department of Georgia



Disabled American Veterans
Department of Georgia

4462 Houston Avenue, Macon, Georgia 31206
Phone: (478) 781-7336 FAX; (478) 788-2934



December 31, 2009

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

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

On behalf of all the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) in the State of Georgia, it is an honor to express our gratitude to you and your staff for all you do for veterans. We recognize the hard work and exemplary efforts made by your office and we sincerely thank you and your staff.

The Disabled American Veterans Department of Georgia is moving forward. We had our 89th annual state convention in June where we elected new leadership to the department. The new leaders are committed to what this organization was founded on: building better lives for our disabled veterans and their dependents.

Our National Service Officers' activities since August 2009 include: reviewing 1,169 files, receiving 747 powers of attorney, conducting 1,702 interviews, participating in 26 formal and 979 informal rating board appearances, along with various other activities for a total of 6,165 office activities. Awards granted since August 2009: 850 new service connections in the amount of \$459,569.00, 1,112 compensation increases totaling \$540,178.00, and 66 pensions in the amount of \$56,475.00. The total retroactive and annual payments for this reporting period are \$47,826,673.00.

Our Hospital Service Coordinators are Mr. Richard Simpson, Atlanta Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC), Ms. Roslyn Benekin, Charley Norwood VAMC, and Mr. Robert Phipps, Carl Vinson VAMC. They are responsible for our transportation network program, which currently covers 65 counties throughout Georgia and 11 counties in South Carolina. We have 29 vans and three new vans on order. We have 155 van drivers who donated 9,280 volunteer hours, to drive 168,507 miles and transport 4,641 veterans since August 2009. Of the veterans transported, 413 were from South Carolina.

We support six VA hospitals: Augusta, Dublin, Decatur, Georgia; Charleston, South Carolina; Lake City, Florida; and Tuskegee, Alabama.

We have two upcoming events that will be held at the Holiday Inn in Perry, Georgia in 2010. The first event is the Department Spring Conference scheduled for March 5-7 and second event is the State Convention on June 3-6, 2010.

In closing, I would like to leave this thought with you. Veterans Day is celebrated once a year; but for this great organization, every day is Veterans Day. It's the nature of our business and it's what we volunteered for.

Again, on behalf of all Disabled American Veterans in the State of Georgia, I would like to personally thank you for all you do for veterans and your support of the Disabled American Veterans Department of Georgia.

Sincerely,

Freddie Swint
State Commander
Department Of Georgia

Department of Georgia
Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary



January 13, 2010

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

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

As State Commander of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary, I would like to take this opportunity to say "Thank You" to you and your staff for all you do to help improve the lives of veterans and families in Georgia.

Over the last couple of years you have had many great accomplishments. We are very pleased with the outcomes that you have received from Atlanta. We are still proud of the accomplishments of the "Welcome Home Soldier" and the fact that you wouldn't let them take away one of our fine Georgia War Nursing Homes. We also know that the homeless veteran program is in the fore front of your mind because of the way the current economy is and now there are more homeless veterans in the State of Georgia.

We hope that you continue to keep up the good work that will help our fellow veterans for years to come. People like you are what make a difference in today's society and we are pleased to have you as an advocate for the State of Georgia.

The Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary of Georgia thanks you and knows that you will continue your very important work for many more years to come.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ann Wilner".

Ann Wilner, State Commander
Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary



AMVETS

DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA

Chester Wright
State Commander
Phone: 229-244-1463

P.O. Box 1822
Valdosta, GA. 31603
GA.AMVETS.exdir@bellsouth.net

January 30, 2010

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

As the representative of the Department of Georgia, American Veterans (AMVETS), I would like to thank-you for assisting in improving the lives of the veterans in Georgia and the United States.

The information that your department sends us, the training at the service officer school, and all the information received at the Veteran's Supermarket is a direct reflection of your staff great knowledge of veteran's needs. We also appreciate Brian Zeringue in keeping the AMVETS informed of Veteran's affairs and his personal involvement with AMVETS.

Commissioner Wheeler, you have done a remarkable job as the Commissioner for Veterans Affairs for years and it is our hope that you continue to be the Veterans Advocate in the State of Georgia for many years to come.

We really enjoy your present at our annually State Convention. This year, the state convention will be in Valdosta, Georgia on June 5, 2010. As always, we are looking forward for an inspirational speech.

If AMVETS can assist you or your staff in anyway, please do not hesitate to call on our support.

Sincerely,

Chester Wright
Commander



**AMVETS LADIES AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA
December 15, 2009**

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

Dear Honorable Pete Wheeler,

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

Mr. Wheeler, because of your knowledge and dedication to veterans, the lives of veterans and their families have changed and have been enhanced profoundly. Allow me to personally thank you for all you do and encourage you to continue your efforts in serving our veterans and their families. All of your efforts and accomplishments are greatly appreciated.

Again, with sincere appreciation, thanks for all you and your staff do for veterans and their dependents.

Sincerely,

Evie J. Wright
Evie J. Wright, State President
Ladies Auxiliary



MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

CHARTERED BY CONGRESS

OFFICE OF: *Jeffrey Lear*
Commander
Department of Georgia

January 11, 2010

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

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

As always, the Commanders, Patriots, & LAMOPH in the State of Georgia would like to express our grateful appreciation to you and your staff for the wonderful services that you have rendered to our veterans over the years.

You and your staff have done such an outstanding job for so many veterans without receiving the recognition that you so richly deserve. Our veterans are so often neglected and don't receive the adequate amount of help to fulfill their needs ; that's when the Georgia Department of Veterans Services does what it does best, aid, assist, and get things done for the veterans of this great state.

Please continue to provide us with the valuable information and assistance that we as veterans are so desperately in need of. Your newsletters, magazines and minutes from important meetings are more than helpful, not to mention all of the new clinic openings which you provide us with.

Commissioner Wheeler, the Purple Heart recipients of the great State of Georgia salute you and your staff for your untiring dedication and effort. We look forward to working with you and your staff in the coming year.

Thank you for being there for us.

Sincerely,


Jeffrey L. Lear



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



December 30, 2009

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

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

The Ladies Auxiliary Military Order of the Purple Heart would like to once again express our sincere appreciation to you and your staff for your outstanding service to our Veterans and their families throughout Georgia during 2009. It has been an honor to work with you and your staff in support of Georgia's veterans.

The veterans throughout our country have support from the "top" in that of VA Secretary Eric Shinseki. This year, my husband and I had the opportunity to attend the Veterans' Braintrust in Washington, DC, where Secretary Shinseki was one of the speakers. He is indeed the veterans' advocate—just as you are for the veterans of Georgia.

The Department of Georgia Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) received quite an honor this year. On October 3, 2009, the city of Port Wentworth, Georgia, issued a Proclamation naming Port Wentworth a Purple Heart City—the first in Georgia and the third in the United States. This became a reality due to the hard work of the MOPH Chapter and Ladies Auxiliary Unit in Savannah, Georgia.

Please continue to carry out the VA programs for Georgia's veterans because, like you, they sacrificed so much and provided a great service for our country. We need to make it convenient for them to receive health care, schooling, or whatever their needs. The Ladies Auxiliary will continue to volunteer in the VA hospitals and in our communities to do what we can for our veterans and their families. We stand ready to assist you and your staff whenever you need us.

Again, you have our heartfelt sympathy for the loss of Mrs. Wheeler. God bless you and your family, God bless our veterans, and God bless America!

Yours in service,

Diane Grant-Jenkins
Auxiliary President

JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE U.S.A.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTHEAST

THE HONORABLE PETE WHEELER

December 15, 2009

Commissioner, Georgia Department of Veterans Service

Floyd Veterans Memorial Bldg.

Atlanta Ga. 30334

My Dear Commissioner and Friend,

Again we have come to the end of another year and it is time to thank you and your staff for all your efforts in serving our veteran population all across the state.

We are a small organization, but with your help, we accomplish a great deal for all veterans. We are the oldest active veterans organization, in the nation in existence since 1896, as the Jewish War Veterans and prior to that as fighters in revolutionary times. We claim 355 loyal years of service to our great country. We thank you for your help in the past and for the future. With kindest personal regards and thanks I remain,

Respectfully yours,

Joseph W. Kraut



Department Commander



**Marine Corps League
Department of Georgia**

3835 Morning Creek Drive, College Park, GA 30349

Phone: (404)766-5698

Email: moonman37x1@bellsouth.net

January 11, 2010

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

Dear Commissioner Wheeler,

The Department of Georgia, Marine Corps League extends gratitude and sincere appreciation to you and your staff for the services performed and rendered by your Department to Marines and other military organizations throughout Georgia. The dedication and hard work of you and your staff bring great credit to Georgia in the service of Military Veterans, Retired, Active Duty, and Reserve men and women.

It has been a pleasure for the Department of Georgia, Marine Corps League Officers to meet with you and your staff in Atlanta on the considerations, planning, participation, and distribution of issues and information affecting Marines and other military groups. It was our pleasure to participate with you in two events of particular note which was the Governor's signing of the Official Proclamation on Veterans Day in Atlanta and the Supermarket of Veterans Benefits in Griffin. These two events served to recognize and appreciate the service to our country and to provide the "one stop" location for assistance and service to the well deserved benefits of Marines and other military service members.

The Marine Corps League perpetuates the traditions and spirit of ALL Marines and Navy FMF Corpsmen, who proudly wear or who have worn the eagle, globe and anchor of the Corps. It takes great pride in crediting its founding in 1923 to World War I hero, then Major General Commandant John A. Lejeune. It takes equal pride in its Federal Charter, approved by An Act of the Seventy-Fifth Congress of the United States of America and signed and approved by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on August 4, 1937. The League is the only Federally Chartered Marine Corps related veterans organization in the country.

We remain faithful to stand with you in service.

Sincerely,

Robert "Moon" Mullins, Commandant
Department of Georgia, Marine Corps League

American Ex-Prisoners of War

DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA

December 19, 2009

The Honorable Pete Wheeler
Georgia Commissioner of Veterans Affairs
Floyd Veterans Memorial Building, Suite E-970
Atlanta, GA 30334



Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

On behalf of the members of the Department of Georgia American Ex-Prisoners of War, I extend our appreciation of the efforts you and your staff of dedicated people has given to the Veterans of the State of Georgia.

I am sure that your support will continue for the new generation of veterans that will need the help of the Veterans Affairs Services.

Most of our members are from WW2 and the Korean War, therefore we appreciate the service and foresight of your office to obtain more cemeteries for this aging group. We are leaving at a rapid pace. We do not anticipate new memberships with the high tech of current wars.

You have done a remarkable job, as Commissioner Veterans Affairs for many years and it is our hope that you continue to be the Veterans Advocate in the State of Georgia for many more years.

Sincerely,

Ray Reierson
Commander, Department of Georgia
American Ex-Prisoners of War





**BLINDED VETERANS ASSOCIATION
GEORGIA REGIONAL GROUP
6245 SEMINARY ROAD
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA 31904
JANUARY 22, 2010**



**From: President, Georgia Regional Group
Joseph D. McNeil Sr.**

Dear Commissioner Wheeler,

As President of the Georgia Regional Group for the Blind & Visually Impaired Veterans of Georgia. I would like to take this opportunity to "Thank You" and your staff for all you do to help improve the lives of Veterans of this Great State of Georgia.

As your aware the Blinded Veterans Association is the only Congressionally Chartered Veteran Organization dedicated to representing the issues and concerns of Blind or Visually Impaired Veterans and their families and your position and duties assist us greatly in accomplishing our mission.

On behalf of all the members of the Georgia Regional Group, We would like to wish you Good Health and Prosperity in 2010.

Sincerely,


**Joseph D. McNeil Sr.
President
Georgia Regional Group**



GEN. RAYMOND G. DAVIS CHAPTER

December 27, 2009

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

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

As President of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc., General Raymond G. Davis Chapter, the Chapter members wish to thank you and your staff for the many services you have provided to our veterans and their families throughout Georgia.

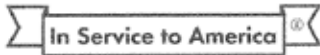
It was a pleasure meeting with you and your staff at the Governor's Official Proclamation signing for Veterans Day. A number of our members participated in the Veterans Day Parade as well.

We were also honored to have been invited to the grand opening ceremony for the Marietta Vet Center in November. Your efforts to bring to our state the new VA Clinics, as well as the Veterans Cemetery at Canton, are commendable.

Our most sincere thanks to you for all you have done. Our chapter stands ready to assist your department in your efforts to make certain our veterans know they are not forgotten.

Robert M. McCubbins

Most sincerely,
Robert M. McCubbins (MAJOR, USA/RET)
President
Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.,
General Raymond G. Davis Chapter



**Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.
Georgia State Council**

P.O. Box 1419
Buford, GA 30518
(706) 429-5002
wewatkins2000@windstream.net

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

January 25, 2010

Dear Commissioner Wheeler,

I commend Commissioner Wheeler and his staff for their efforts in keeping with the finest traditions of serving Georgia's Veterans.

We all shared in Commissioner Wheeler's loss this past year, but providing Services to Georgia's Veterans was always on Commissioner Wheeler's mind, and he never missed a beat. God Bless you for that sir.

We can feel confident that Georgia Department of Veterans Service will leave no one behind.

"Never again will one generation of Veteran abandon another"

Respectfully,

Wayne Watkins
President
Georgia State Council
Vietnam Veterans of America



THE GEORGIA MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.

AFFILIATED WITH THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.

INCORPORATED MARCH 14, 1955

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December 30, 2009

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

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

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

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

The hard work to reach the veterans of Georgia to assist them in obtaining the essential benefits they will need to live productive lives in our nation the Department of Veterans Service takes on a daily basis is integral to Georgia's veterans being successful members of our society. The role of the Department to facilitate veterans' abilities to obtain the benefits to which they are entitled is essential and the Department does a better job of acting as the agent of the veterans than any of the other entities advocating for our state's and nation's heroes. The Georgia Department of Veterans Service fills the gaps existing between the veterans and the VA. That is the major contributing factor to Georgia's standing of bringing - in more VA benefits to our veterans than states having similar sized veteran populations. VA benefits amounting to \$2.65 Billion for 770,000 veterans is a tremendous return on investment in the budget provided to accomplish the constitutionally assigned mission.

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

Sincerely,

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



Georgia Federal/Military Retiree Coalition, Inc.

**P. O. Box 406
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COL John Callaway, USA(Ret)
Mr. William Hathaway

August 17, 2009

The Honorable Peter Wheeler
Commissioner
Department of Veterans Service
Floyd Veterans Memorial Building
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Commissioner Wheeler:

Thank you for your kind August 12, 2009 note.

I appreciate the welcome you have provided to me, LTC Mel Wilkinson, LTC Joe Barto and COL Art Carey this year as we have joined representatives of other veteran-related groups for the monthly Veterans Service Board meetings. With all of the issues coming before you and your staff, we believe that our members are best served by getting information to them as soon as it is available. Attending these monthly meetings certainly facilitates the communications process. With this purpose in mind, we are also adding a "Congressional Corner" to our newsletters to encourage broad contact with our Representatives.

As the year passes, we continue to look to you for leadership and we appreciate what you and your staff have done for all Georgia veterans during these challenging times. We look forward to continuing our close relationship during the coming years and I appreciate the open invitation to bring matters of concern to your attention.

Respectfully,

Gerald A. Johnson, Colonel, USAF, Retired
President

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**Georgia
Veterans Day
Parade Association
of Atlanta, Inc.**



December 15, 2009

Commissioner Peter Wheeler
Georgia Department of Veterans Service

Floyd Veterans Memorial Building
Suite E-970

Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Pete,

When I walked into the Rotunda of the Capital Building for the Veterans Day Proclamation signing by the Governor last October, I was again reminded of what a wonderful job you do in assembling all of us. It is the one time of the year when all of the Veteran Service Organizations are gathered together. It is also a time when all of the Court Justices are with us. The icing on the cake are all of the local military commanders being present. We forget to thank you but we do appreciate it.

It is great to hear Governor Purdew's remarks and to be present at the signing of the Veterans Day Proclamation. It is probably the only time folks get to meet you and the Governor. As always it was a moving ceremony and the picture you give all of us is a great reminder and memento.

Pete of all the tasks you perform ever year it is perhaps most visual to many of us. It shows just how well you have the Department organized. We are all very grateful.

We have published a copy of the proclamation in our Veterans Day Program for years and proudly so, thanks to your staff.

Thank you again for another great year for veterans.

Marvin Myers

President

"Freedom Through Service" ©

1875 Withmere Way, Dunwoody, GA 30338 • WEB: gavetsdayparade.org • FAX 770.452.9933

Marvin Myers
President



“ In Service To Veterans, Their Families and Community”

December 23, 2009

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

Dear Pete,

It is hard to believe that another year has flown by and 2010 is on us. When I think about your office I realize I am fortunate to live in Georgia where we have such a Veteran's Advocate in our Department of Veteran's Service.

When Bob Humphries and I presented you with the plaque earlier in the year, every word came from our heart. You were the driving force behind the VA Regional office being located next to the Medical Center. You were the driving force in getting the Pedestrian Walkway being built to connect the two buildings. In addition I would also like to continue our praise for your veteran service officers. We have been really pleased with the professionalism of your staff in caring for the veterans of Georgia. Over this past year we have referred many to your service officers. None of those we referred had anything but praise for your officers. Those efforts are appreciated by all of us.

We have another new cemetery for our veterans. I remember a few short years ago when we had none. We now have three. You were the inspiration for Scott Hudgins to dedicate and donate the land for the National Cemetery in Canton. We have war veteran's homes for our retired veterans and special tags for our autos. As one of many who have visited the Cemetery, the new Cemetery in Canton, and the War Veterans home at Milledgeville, I am so impressed by the beauty and the complete facilities provided by your department

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 770.458.1985 Fax 770.936.0133

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- Veterans Service Field Office
- VSO/Veterans Nursing Home
- ▲ VSO/Veterans Cemetery
- ◆ VSO/Home/Cemetery

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Tom Cook, <i>Asst. Commissioner – Field Operations & Claims</i> Ava Ingram, <i>Admin Generalist</i> Rick Roby, <i>Sr. VCAO (Office Mgr)</i> Lenora Evans, <i>VFSO 2</i> Fred Daniels, <i>VFSO 1</i>	Floyd Veterans Memorial Bldg., E-367 Atlanta 30334-4800 Phone: 404-656-5940 FAX: 404-657-1288	Fulton	
George Langford, <i>Director</i> George Canavaggio, <i>Sr VCAO</i> Dan Cravey, <i>Sr VCAO</i> Charla Jones, <i>Sr VCAO</i> Mike Noles, <i>Sr VCAO</i> James Reeves, <i>Sr VCAO</i> Herb Ward, <i>Sr VCAO</i> Neil Slay, <i>Sr VCAO</i> Joel Willis, <i>Sr VCAO</i> Janice Eller, <i>VCAO 1</i> Debra Coleman, <i>Admin Generalist</i> Deborah Clayton, <i>Secretary 2</i> Deborah Jones, <i>Secretary 2</i> Dairielle Shropshire, <i>Secretary2</i>	1700 Clairmont Road Decatur 30033 Phone: 404-929-5345 FAX: 404-929-5347	Clayton Fulton	
Marilyn Ferguson, <i>Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)</i> Don Holland, <i>VFSO 1</i> Roderica Stewart, <i>VFSO 1</i>	VA Medical Center – Atlanta 1670 Clairmont Road Room 1C204 Decatur, Georgia 30033 VSO: 404-728-7611 FAX: 404-417-2918 VA Hospital: 404-321-6111 Ext. 6357, 6358, 6359		

Note: VFSO is abbreviation for Veterans Field Service Officer, VCAO is abbreviation for Veterans Claims & Appeals Officer

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<u>BLAIRSVILLE</u>			
Robert Spaulding, <i>Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)</i> Jonathan Ledford, <i>VFSO I</i>	Education Annex, 301 School Circle PO Box 782 Blairsville 30514-0782 Phone/FAX: 706-745-6341	Fannin Rabun	Town Union
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Note: VFSO is abbreviation for Veterans Field Service Officer; VCAO is abbreviation for Veterans Claims & Appeals Officer

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<u>GRIFFIN</u>			
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<u>ST. MARYS</u>			
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SDVS Directory

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>ADDRESS – PHONE- FAX</u>	<u>COUNTIES</u>	<u>SERVED</u>
<u>TIFTON</u> James Bolduc, <i>Sr VFSO 2 (Office Mgr)</i> Johnny Lamb, <i>VFSO</i>	222 Chesnut Avenue PO Box 534 Tifton 31793-0534 Phone: 229-386-3856 FAX: 229-391-6956	Ben Hill Irwin	Tift Turner
<u>TOCCOA</u> William Tucker, <i>Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)</i> <i>(Tuesdays & Thursdays only)</i>	Courthouse Annex, Room 104 102 West Tugalo Street Toccoa 30577 Phone: 706-282-4525 FAX: 706-282-4800	Franklin	Stephens
<u>VALDOSTA</u> Ed Kent, <i>Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)</i> Janet Pajerowsk, <i>VFSO 1</i>	2841 N. Patterson Street Valdosta 31602-1938 Phone: 229-333-2178, 2179 FAX: 229-259-5583	Berrien Brooks Cook	Echols Lanier Lowndes
Phil Youngblood, <i>South Ga. Regional Mgr</i>	Phone: 229-293-0152		
<u>WARNER ROBINS</u> Vincent Pritchett, <i>Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)</i>	City Hall, Room 206 700 Watson Blvd. Warner Robins 31093-3414 Phone: 478-929-1126 FAX: 478-929-1124	Houston	Peach
<u>WASHINGTON</u> Perry Morgan, <i>Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)</i> Jan Callaway, <i>VFSO 2</i>	104 E. Liberty Street Washington 30673-1422 Phone: 706-678-2821 FAX: 706-678-3144	Glascok Jefferson Lincoln McDuffie	Morgan Taliaferro Warren Wilkes
<u>WAYCROSS</u> Pamela Naylor, <i>Sr VFSO (Office Mgr)</i> Luke Williams, <i>VFSO 1</i>	415 Lott Street Waycross 31501 Phone: 912-285-6340 FAX: 912-285-6341	Atkinson Bacon Brantley Charlton	Clinch Pierce Ware
<u>WAYNESBORO</u> Carol Crawford, <i>VFSO 2 (Office Mgr)</i>	Burke County Office Park, Room 107 715 West 6th Street, PO Box 93 Waynesboro 30830-0093 Phone: 706-554-3874 FAX: 706-554-4496	Burke	

Note: VFSO is abbreviation for Veterans Field Service Officer; VCAO is abbreviation for Veterans Claims & Appeals Officer

SDVS Directory

STATE APPROVING AGENCY

Heldon (Bill) Jung, *Director*
Mark Bannister, *Sr. Coordinator*
Bobby Davis, *Sr. Coordinator*
Larry Edwards, *Sr. Coordinator*
Harry Stumpf, *Sr. Coordinator*
Mary Griffin, *Secretary III*
Lily Snyder, *Secretary II*

State Approving Agency
Education & Training Division
Floyd Veterans Memorial Bldg., E-970
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Phone: 404-656-2306, 2322
FAX: 404-657-6276

HEALTH & MEMORIALS DIVISION

Ernie Simons, - *Dir., Health Contracting & Facilities, GDVS*
Jenelle Moore, *Admin Asst.*

Georgia War Veterans Home
Wheeler Bldg., PO Box 741
Milledgeville, Georgia 31059-0741

Phone: 478-445-2544
FAX: 478-445-0828

Russell Feagin, *Director*
Wade Forehand, *Assistant Director*

Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery - Milledgeville
2617 Vinson Highway
Milledgeville, Georgia 31061

Phone: 478-445-3363
FAX: 478-445-3360

Richard Dunlop, *Director*
Ernie Cowart, *Assistant Director*

Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery - Glennville
8819 U.S. Hwy. 301
Glennville, Georgia 30427

Phone: 912-654-5398
FAX: 912-654-2963

Wylene Bloodworth, *Executive Director*
Hudie Langston, *Associate Director*
Charolet Medlin, *Office Manager*
Verdine Young, *Admissions Coordinator*

Georgia War Veterans Home - Milledgeville
2249 Vinson Highway
Milledgeville, Georgia 31062

Toll Free: 888-453-6836
Phone: 478-445-6826
Fax: 478-445-1701

Website: www.gwvh.org

Charles Esposito, *Executive Director*
Carla Wooten, *Associate Director*
Julia Eveker, *Director Admissions*

Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home
1101 15th Street
Augusta, Georgia 30901-3196

Phone: 706-721-2531
Fax: 706-721-3892

Website: www.georgiawarveteranshome.org

VA Statistical Data

FY 2009 Geographic Distribution of VA Expenditures by State (Thousands)								
State	Veteran Population	Comp&Pen	Construction	Education & VOCREHAB	GOE	VA Insurance	Medical Total	2009 Total
Alabama	409,997	\$ 1,145,325	\$ 9,310	\$ 73,789	\$ 31,854	\$ 26,515	\$ 721,953	\$ 2,008,746
Alaska	76,468	\$ 150,008	\$ 45,495	\$ 12,795	\$ 5,072	\$ 2,466	\$ 129,679	\$ 345,516
Arizona	561,387	\$ 950,929	\$ 9,128	\$ 113,744	\$ 100,435	\$ 36,864	\$ 935,941	\$ 2,147,040
Arkansas	257,625	\$ 718,243	\$ 14,437	\$ 39,832	\$ 41,754	\$ 14,606	\$ 720,613	\$ 1,549,485
California	2,025,934	\$ 3,472,898	\$ 143,510	\$ 420,521	\$ 176,375	\$ 166,245	\$ 3,960,154	\$ 8,339,703
Colorado	424,228	\$ 804,599	\$ 7,902	\$ 96,836	\$ 55,941	\$ 31,332	\$ 1,478,195	\$ 2,474,805
Connecticut	237,696	\$ 270,828	\$ 2,728	\$ 56,792	\$ 15,752	\$ 25,112	\$ 452,294	\$ 823,506
Delaware	79,166	\$ 122,820	\$ 3,336	\$ 9,232	\$ 5,215	\$ 5,136	\$ 158,536	\$ 304,275
District of Columbia	37,948	\$ 62,627	\$ 137,327	\$ 6,285	\$ 1,203,892	\$ 2,921	\$ 865,409	\$ 2,278,462
Florida	1,683,899	\$ 3,476,355	\$ 146,391	\$ 308,119	\$ 143,538	\$ 141,184	\$ 3,170,492	\$ 7,386,081
Georgia	772,832	\$ 1,638,347	\$ 7,305	\$ 233,493	\$ 104,714	\$ 49,905	\$ 1,043,299	\$ 3,077,062
Hawaii	117,254	\$ 220,837	\$ 1,622	\$ 22,390	\$ 13,063	\$ 13,409	\$ 160,145	\$ 431,466
Idaho	137,099	\$ 244,957	\$ 13,057	\$ 24,709	\$ 7,074	\$ 7,623	\$ 152,326	\$ 449,748
Illinois	802,834	\$ 980,149	\$ 26,956	\$ 134,690	\$ 79,123	\$ 65,604	\$ 1,463,786	\$ 2,750,307
Indiana	500,806	\$ 718,700	\$ 6,338	\$ 56,834	\$ 29,496	\$ 28,127	\$ 609,692	\$ 1,449,187
Iowa	240,317	\$ 349,403	\$ 963	\$ 32,637	\$ 8,882	\$ 19,467	\$ 463,612	\$ 874,964
Kansas	229,145	\$ 364,028	\$ 954	\$ 38,555	\$ 22,083	\$ 18,222	\$ 454,982	\$ 898,823
Kentucky	339,942	\$ 825,211	\$ 2,124	\$ 54,919	\$ 26,497	\$ 17,350	\$ 562,768	\$ 1,488,869
Louisiana	312,087	\$ 732,079	\$ 32,819	\$ 54,870	\$ 27,685	\$ 20,482	\$ 689,748	\$ 1,557,682
Maine	140,552	\$ 383,573	\$ 4,333	\$ 29,129	\$ 15,364	\$ 9,623	\$ 245,232	\$ 687,253
Maryland	476,202	\$ 716,030	\$ 7,824	\$ 81,935	\$ 30,756	\$ 39,314	\$ 515,750	\$ 1,391,610
Massachusetts	409,184	\$ 752,736	\$ 4,040	\$ 58,772	\$ 30,537	\$ 45,542	\$ 887,746	\$ 1,779,374
Michigan	723,368	\$ 1,076,829	\$ 8,202	\$ 77,697	\$ 47,710	\$ 45,542	\$ 1,081,225	\$ 2,337,204
Minnesota	390,576	\$ 729,215	\$ 9,719	\$ 68,565	\$ 71,067	\$ 32,448	\$ 814,375	\$ 1,725,388
Mississippi	209,242	\$ 490,415	\$ 49,205	\$ 32,807	\$ 28,681	\$ 15,365	\$ 644,665	\$ 1,261,138
Missouri	514,724	\$ 890,644	\$ 4,166	\$ 72,982	\$ 105,505	\$ 34,370	\$ 1,042,029	\$ 2,149,696
Montana	102,986	\$ 225,864	\$ 2,352	\$ 16,775	\$ 7,241	\$ 6,975	\$ 169,160	\$ 428,367
Nebraska	147,928	\$ 369,853	\$ 23,344	\$ 33,216	\$ 22,004	\$ 12,021	\$ 344,454	\$ 804,893
Nevada	245,064	\$ 405,948	\$ 111,650	\$ 38,285	\$ 13,948	\$ 12,908	\$ 491,693	\$ 1,074,432
New Hampshire	129,629	\$ 205,365	\$ 2,193	\$ 21,843	\$ 8,845	\$ 9,002	\$ 132,271	\$ 379,520
New Jersey	463,720	\$ 700,167	\$ 2,440	\$ 80,476	\$ 18,633	\$ 52,772	\$ 473,248	\$ 1,327,736
New Mexico	176,566	\$ 512,480	\$ 3,454	\$ 38,203	\$ 13,862	\$ 12,198	\$ 367,731	\$ 947,928
New York	988,217	\$ 1,563,168	\$ 31,398	\$ 175,138	\$ 126,835	\$ 99,567	\$ 2,420,188	\$ 4,416,295
North Carolina	770,080	\$ 1,883,967	\$ 14,780	\$ 175,819	\$ 75,019	\$ 50,815	\$ 1,265,895	\$ 3,466,294
North Dakota	57,074	\$ 110,354	\$ 141	\$ 11,610	\$ 6,379	\$ 3,915	\$ 166,288	\$ 298,688
Ohio	913,296	\$ 1,343,327	\$ 43,892	\$ 111,815	\$ 1,211,478	\$ 63,183	\$ 1,864,483	\$ 4,638,178
Oklahoma	329,601	\$ 1,128,791	\$ 3,204	\$ 70,858	\$ 84,858	\$ 19,964	\$ 579,469	\$ 1,887,143
Oregon	340,020	\$ 740,512	\$ 10,319	\$ 51,921	\$ 37,756	\$ 21,566	\$ 746,508	\$ 1,608,582
Pennsylvania	995,135	\$ 1,483,207	\$ 47,829	\$ 102,054	\$ 156,150	\$ 81,539	\$ 1,866,507	\$ 3,737,286
Rhode Island	73,957	\$ 151,783	\$ 13,236	\$ 8,459	\$ 9,385	\$ 6,145	\$ 208,381	\$ 397,390
South Carolina	408,747	\$ 1,021,051	\$ 13,492	\$ 82,272	\$ 43,256	\$ 27,632	\$ 580,364	\$ 1,768,067
South Dakota	72,704	\$ 165,285	\$ 1,773	\$ 12,981	\$ 9,179	\$ 5,338	\$ 320,558	\$ 515,113
Tennessee	501,907	\$ 1,108,175	\$ 14,585	\$ 83,925	\$ 57,775	\$ 30,270	\$ 1,258,010	\$ 2,552,740
Texas	1,701,675	\$ 4,188,343	\$ 50,006	\$ 390,710	\$ 209,729	\$ 105,838	\$ 2,890,723	\$ 8,163,560
Utah	155,052	\$ 231,579	\$ 3,042	\$ 30,647	\$ 40,138	\$ 10,294	\$ 330,608	\$ 646,308
Vermont	53,222	\$ 92,138	\$ 2,286	\$ 22,478	\$ 5,358	\$ 4,085	\$ 160,752	\$ 287,099
Virginia	819,490	\$ 1,577,061	\$ 12,963	\$ 204,381	\$ 116,031	\$ 62,761	\$ 864,207	\$ 2,837,404
Washington	637,019	\$ 1,234,389	\$ 29,271	\$ 119,510	\$ 45,481	\$ 43,476	\$ 797,938	\$ 2,270,064
West Virginia	170,783	\$ 475,629	\$ 8,475	\$ 73,164	\$ 140,657	\$ 8,634	\$ 681,223	\$ 1,387,781
Wisconsin	427,527	\$ 744,493	\$ 6,695	\$ 62,959	\$ 46,961	\$ 32,551	\$ 819,026	\$ 1,712,684
Wyoming	56,079	\$ 92,454	\$ -	\$ 8,154	\$ 2,956	\$ 3,437	\$ 177,240	\$ 284,241
Puerto Rico	116,029	\$ 539,523	\$ 39,394	\$ 27,360	\$ 24,159	\$ 2,880	\$ 476,101	\$ 1,109,418
Island Areas & Foreign	102,945	\$ 25,308	\$ -	\$ 2,337	\$ -	\$ 162	\$ 3,981	\$ 31,788
Grand	23,066,965	\$ 44,607,997	\$ 1,191,406	\$ 4,270,278	\$ 4,962,137	\$ 1,704,701	\$ 43,881,655	\$ 100,946,386

VETERANS BY STATE, AGE GROUP, PERIOD, GENDER, 2009

Numbers from this table should be reported to the nearest 1,000. See documentation for details.

Source: VetsPop2007, VA Office of the Actuary

Date	10/30/2008
Period	(M)
Gender	(M)

State	4-20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85-89	90+	Grand Total
Alabama	145	5,133	13,543	15,712	21,057	27,544	34,844	38,154	42,319	60,117	60,202	33,245	33,837	24,007	14,262	4,573	408,987
Alaska	42	1,330	3,107	3,980	5,016	6,905	8,937	9,265	9,254	11,538	9,254	4,053	4,053	2,145	1,232	367	76,468
Arizona	150	6,879	17,952	21,075	26,520	35,938	43,712	48,533	49,422	74,859	55,811	50,675	63,025	42,100	27,115	8,615	861,387
Arkansas	133	3,773	9,795	12,733	16,530	19,870	23,874	28,845	25,856	39,245	25,856	22,341	21,818	16,132	10,261	3,915	257,825
California	548	30,814	79,034	82,287	98,753	126,392	157,164	184,874	179,880	268,134	298,751	227,025	174,886	139,257	84,258	36,000	2,025,904
Colorado	115	4,521	13,310	16,408	22,547	30,463	37,371	40,874	44,495	66,972	43,009	32,740	30,965	22,965	13,848	5,134	424,228
Connecticut	41	2,364	5,932	6,291	8,123	11,526	15,328	17,848	19,776	37,257	29,166	22,427	23,363	19,716	12,853	5,147	217,898
Delaware	29	968	2,444	2,743	3,459	4,176	5,791	6,969	6,969	9,969	6,969	6,969	7,273	6,969	3,444	1,053	76,186
D.C.	11	441	1,152	1,448	1,848	2,448	3,248	3,848	3,248	5,041	3,848	3,096	3,960	2,534	1,850	654	37,948
Florida	482	18,224	48,888	57,887	74,875	101,407	135,207	143,281	147,862	218,949	152,251	147,882	184,954	139,808	93,481	35,740	1,803,898
Georgia	283	10,073	27,533	33,355	46,015	62,397	79,292	79,292	79,292	114,480	74,974	55,066	48,974	35,329	20,587	7,187	770,832
Hawaii	54	1,806	4,667	5,190	6,769	9,196	11,282	10,245	9,864	15,125	10,692	6,920	6,264	7,584	4,643	1,506	117,254
Idaho	87	2,498	5,938	5,985	6,301	8,263	10,034	11,361	13,242	19,897	14,874	12,323	11,364	6,777	5,779	2,051	137,089
Illinois	439	12,438	29,284	31,504	40,210	50,416	58,549	57,054	66,481	122,869	83,350	69,398	71,354	58,069	36,938	13,390	802,804
Indiana	258	6,468	15,378	17,743	23,959	32,101	41,045	41,938	48,225	79,573	52,108	40,439	41,505	33,403	19,748	6,805	500,806
Iowa	89	3,012	7,279	8,183	10,837	14,544	16,481	16,873	22,396	38,402	23,540	20,838	21,807	16,938	11,225	4,332	248,317
Kansas	101	3,118	7,910	9,125	12,150	16,400	18,808	18,546	33,612	46,790	21,848	17,508	16,552	15,260	9,717	3,593	226,145
Kentucky	158	5,009	11,723	13,323	17,582	23,964	29,842	28,578	33,871	52,961	33,871	26,133	20,549	12,864	4,275	1,395,942	
Louisiana	204	6,545	14,925	15,032	17,743	22,259	24,423	24,140	29,174	42,890	29,427	24,315	25,373	20,560	12,168	4,365	310,987
Maine	55	1,712	4,183	4,896	5,853	7,833	11,833	12,782	13,543	23,112	15,238	12,198	11,834	8,719	5,560	1,981	148,582
Maryland	210	5,965	16,302	19,248	25,735	36,213	48,027	45,424	43,738	67,951	46,790	37,019	34,088	26,860	16,396	6,039	476,282
Massachusetts	133	4,548	10,477	11,186	14,258	18,581	25,988	29,275	33,020	63,064	46,860	40,781	43,285	35,123	23,784	8,259	408,184
Michigan	212	7,249	19,515	21,859	30,900	41,981	54,534	68,054	82,832	122,832	80,518	62,373	64,061	52,709	32,745	10,975	723,388
Minnesota	93	3,736	8,815	10,885	14,277	20,351	26,175	30,482	39,201	66,790	43,870	36,397	36,534	29,539	17,074	6,519	396,578
Mississippi	142	3,576	8,436	9,815	11,052	13,506	15,594	18,331	29,792	39,792	19,353	17,990	17,822	13,349	7,290	2,848	209,242
Missouri	213	6,251	15,720	19,248	24,377	32,559	41,000	43,896	50,712	79,866	52,396	42,124	48,310	34,571	21,183	7,397	514,724
Montana	72	1,852	3,725	3,868	4,855	6,111	7,472	8,106	9,305	15,806	10,821	9,483	8,504	6,772	4,305	1,507	102,988
Nebraska	51	1,950	4,877	5,423	6,281	8,282	10,524	11,350	14,302	23,045	14,302	12,958	13,865	10,242	6,433	2,275	147,928
Nevada	30	2,324	7,245	9,187	12,291	16,841	21,250	22,515	24,738	36,463	26,321	21,352	18,516	14,200	8,263	2,806	245,064
New Hampshire	35	1,172	3,188	3,671	5,274	6,837	10,560	11,826	12,170	20,687	15,117	11,635	11,236	8,645	5,324	1,845	129,829
New Jersey	119	5,051	12,861	13,005	14,911	21,138	29,819	31,381	33,571	68,795	52,499	47,212	51,290	43,382	38,170	10,596	463,720
New Mexico	84	2,337	6,442	7,509	9,854	12,713	16,083	16,043	16,983	23,948	16,957	14,135	14,385	10,887	6,273	2,458	116,388
New York	426	11,804	28,097	27,542	32,718	47,833	65,826	71,556	79,342	153,536	109,227	96,982	102,466	85,309	54,540	20,867	988,217
North Carolina	261	10,336	28,580	32,673	43,434	56,155	70,165	72,857	74,490	112,314	72,077	58,875	59,039	44,382	29,887	8,564	779,089
North Dakota	34	1,076	2,365	2,466	3,055	3,824	4,485	4,183	5,331	8,196	5,233	4,838	4,571	4,022	2,268	959	97,074
Ohio	375	11,306	28,294	32,058	41,834	55,196	67,847	72,019	86,982	148,784	95,867	75,882	79,211	66,411	41,182	13,691	911,296
Oklahoma	169	5,697	13,508	14,756	17,921	22,157	26,288	26,288	30,431	48,792	32,897	26,827	27,704	20,862	13,094	4,481	326,601
Oregon	101	3,748	10,049	11,785	15,071	19,543	23,751	26,891	34,214	52,217	32,545	31,438	28,458	23,120	13,034	5,968	246,020
Pennsylvania	353	11,365	27,597	29,698	36,551	51,943	65,734	70,389	84,503	157,274	110,744	91,627	96,919	85,059	54,957	19,795	965,135
Rhode Island	17	841	2,246	2,275	2,509	3,708	5,503	5,719	5,964	12,141	8,109	6,537	6,704	6,078	3,963	1,586	71,967
South Carolina	241	6,302	15,479	16,478	20,337	26,572	35,013	36,797	40,313	63,671	40,483	34,526	33,009	23,913	14,198	4,811	408,147
South Dakota	44	1,202	3,074	3,016	3,816	5,488	7,167	7,167	7,167	10,527	6,525	6,189	6,521	3,005	2,842	1,204	72,794
Tennessee	175	5,820	14,893	17,548	24,537	32,415	41,878	44,633	51,492	79,481	52,437	43,159	43,005	30,005	18,076	5,939	501,907
Texas	817	24,378	68,747	85,251	103,797	128,582	144,538	144,538	167,825	240,245	194,400	125,327	125,327	83,950	57,178	20,842	1,701,805
Utah	78	2,501	5,633	5,888	7,006	8,948	10,938	11,754	15,076	23,225	15,881	13,453	14,421	11,392	7,274	2,836	158,082
Vermont	13	428	1,123	1,351	1,850	2,816	4,235	4,712	5,025	6,600	6,470	4,984	4,984	3,717	2,235	851	50,222
Virginia	443	14,529	36,528	36,528	51,334	69,528	86,732	85,363	99,967	169,967	72,715	54,544	51,110	38,201	22,519	7,864	818,480
Washington	233	7,728	20,985	24,771	32,530	44,607	60,391	66,304	80,091	144,607	94,021	68,240	48,319	34,833	23,242	8,660	637,018
West Virginia	82	2,269	5,787	6,568	8,341	10,512	12,217	12,055	15,961	26,961	17,481	15,388	15,209	12,296	7,523	2,518	176,783
Wisconsin	132	4,505	11,797	13,671	18,580	26,247	31,159	33,085	36,982	68,987	45,456	39,745	39,745	30,536	18,517	6,694	437,527
Wyoming	38	1,048	2,453	2,474	2,754	3,358	3,654	4,577	6,135	9,292	6,135	4,588	3,861	3,040	1,833	645	56,079
Puerto Rico	37	1,121	3,009	3,184	3,877	5,002	7,861	9,787	10,859	15,528	12,385	13,065	14,584	8,216	4,787	1,731	116,028
U.S. Areas & Foreign	65	1,328	2,301	2,459	3,529	6,182	8,677	11,172	11,574	13,833	11,873	10,900	8,268	4,774	2,471	1,470	1,470

Georgia Veteran Population by County, FY 2009

All Genders, By Age Group, As of 9/30/2009

Office of Actuary, Planning & Policy, VACO

Age Group	17-44	45-64	65-84	85+	Total
Appling, GA	257	532	451	57	1,298
Atkinson, GA	79	142	187	17	425
Bacon, GA	215	338	242	4	799
Baker, GA	88	149	95	19	351
Baldwin, GA	916	1,897	1,349	149	4,310
Banks, GA	186	439	337	57	1,019
Barrow, GA	1,429	2,168	1,129	108	4,834
Bartow, GA	1,949	3,535	2,065	289	7,839
Ben Hill, GA	148	578	520	27	1,273
Bernier, GA	324	670	622	57	1,672
Bibb, GA	2,892	5,409	3,433	737	12,471
Bleckley, GA	224	619	221	20	1,084
Brantley, GA	230	670	646	107	1,653
Brooks, GA	287	627	427	66	1,406
Bryan, GA	763	1,342	532	55	2,692
Bulloch, GA	1,431	2,090	1,453	262	5,236
Burke, GA	486	866	560	67	1,980
Butts, GA	412	975	609	50	2,047
Calhoun, GA	120	128	112	2	362
Camden, GA	2,033	3,009	779	147	5,968
Candler, GA	152	419	358	36	966
Carroll, GA	1,715	2,993	2,951	282	7,941
Catoosa, GA	859	2,347	1,851	406	5,463
Charlton, GA	265	415	345	17	1,042
Chatham, GA	6,332	10,609	7,355	1,458	25,755
Chattahoochee, GA	426	354	105	6	891
Chattooga, GA	351	1,038	819	169	2,377
Cherokee, GA	3,283	7,736	4,372	250	15,642
Clarke, GA	1,894	2,056	1,658	413	6,021
Clay, GA	58	134	71	3	265
Clayton, GA	8,382	11,299	4,855	253	24,790
Clinch, GA	161	220	159	17	557
Cobb, GA	12,867	28,102	15,814	1,390	58,173
Coffee, GA	663	1,093	724	62	2,543
Colquitt, GA	521	1,213	1,311	269	3,313
Columbia, GA	2,530	6,675	3,564	569	13,339
Cook, GA	337	425	564	29	1,354
Coweta, GA	2,579	5,009	2,836	108	10,532
Crawford, GA	257	425	483	11	1,177
Crisp, GA	190	643	630	83	1,545
Dade, GA	275	745	652	55	1,727
Dawson, GA	300	678	828	49	1,854
Decatur, GA	505	949	578	36	2,068
DeKalb, GA	11,483	20,761	11,080	2,247	45,571
Dodge, GA	476	662	489	92	1,718
Dooly, GA	210	393	224	40	867
Dougherty, GA	2,006	3,321	2,458	613	8,399
Douglas, GA	2,897	5,397	2,896	162	11,352
Early, GA	228	319	179	14	740
Echols, GA	69	86	113	3	272
Effingham, GA	1,355	2,851	1,239	177	5,622
Elbert, GA	196	854	692	33	1,776
Emanuel, GA	214	510	586	110	1,419
Evans, GA	202	363	230	57	851
Fannin, GA	213	725	989	154	2,080
Fayette, GA	1,993	7,289	4,127	506	13,915
Floyd, GA	1,026	3,156	3,182	294	7,658
Forsyth, GA	1,986	5,833	3,126	83	11,028
Franklin, GA	312	791	878	22	2,003
Fulton, GA	11,636	25,137	14,109	2,924	53,805
Gilmer, GA	377	1,513	1,490	19	3,399
Glascock, GA	23	49	85	3	159
Glynn, GA	1,454	3,438	2,602	354	7,848
Gordon, GA	717	1,724	1,459	145	4,045
Grady, GA	239	853	700	70	1,862
Greene, GA	273	655	572	24	1,524
Gwinnett, GA	11,394	22,910	12,063	1,240	47,606
Habersham, GA	529	1,363	1,493	133	3,519
Hall, GA	2,200	4,729	4,184	408	11,521
Hancock, GA	226	316	136	13	690
Haralson, GA	374	1,006	767	12	2,159
Harris, GA	846	2,121	808	95	3,869
Hart, GA	273	818	1,155	50	2,296
Heard, GA	92	253	349	17	711
Henry, GA	4,814	8,152	3,716	488	17,171
Houston, GA	5,033	8,676	3,273	321	17,303
Irwin, GA	169	281	223	13	687
Jackson, GA	882	1,921	995	216	4,014
Jasper, GA	241	584	271	13	1,108
Jeff Davis, GA	79	415	326	3	822
Jefferson, GA	303	496	368	55	1,222

Georgia Veteran Population by County, FY 2009

All Genders, By Age Group, As of 9/30/2009

Office of Actuary, Planning & Policy, VACO

Age Group	17-44	45-64	65-84	85+	Total
Jenkins, GA	169	267	275	153	864
Johnson, GA	64	234	256	88	643
Jones, GA	421	876	571	14	1,882
Lamar, GA	430	811	666	112	2,019
Lanier, GA	284	442	174	14	915
Laurens, GA	900	1,889	908	227	3,923
Lee, GA	813	1,940	749	3	3,505
Liberty, GA	3,721	2,920	518	102	7,261
Lincoln, GA	135	400	320	3	857
Long, GA	551	635	141	4	1,332
Lowndes, GA	5,571	5,343	2,152	217	13,283
Lumpkin, GA	419	932	723	18	2,092
McDuffie, GA	355	1,059	624	51	2,089
McIntosh, GA	229	573	520	22	1,344
Macon, GA	348	419	335	21	1,123
Madison, GA	414	1,064	874	277	2,629
Marion, GA	211	521	232	3	967
Meriwether, GA	382	764	522	14	1,683
Miller, GA	71	230	176	16	493
Mitchell, GA	316	789	587	44	1,736
Monroe, GA	379	999	500	28	1,906
Montgomery, GA	146	246	250	14	656
Morgan, GA	165	398	489	17	1,069
Murray, GA	580	1,253	936	4	2,773
Muscogee, GA	6,438	11,045	4,391	1,033	22,906
Newton, GA	1,962	2,386	1,599	137	6,084
Oconee, GA	341	1,276	1,175	4	2,796
Oglethorpe, GA	181	473	361	72	1,087
Paulding, GA	3,366	4,667	2,116	300	10,449
Peach, GA	511	1,202	715	45	2,473
Pickens, GA	511	1,043	1,270	110	2,933
Pierce, GA	237	611	424	35	1,307
Pike, GA	309	610	432	43	1,395
Polk, GA	327	1,262	1,470	82	3,141
Pulaski, GA	220	374	283	67	943
Putnam, GA	404	1,051	860	150	2,464
Quitman, GA	42	75	97	14	228
Rabun, GA	131	560	697	142	1,531
Randolph, GA	81	228	150	2	461
Richmond, GA	6,304	10,035	4,661	760	21,760
Rockdale, GA	1,696	4,444	2,553	214	8,907
Schley, GA	80	141	110	43	374
Screven, GA	312	551	447	76	1,387
Seminole, GA	142	357	362	93	954
Spalding, GA	875	2,073	1,348	241	4,537
Stephens, GA	328	787	898	159	2,172
Stewart, GA	53	91	131	29	304
Sumter, GA	500	927	678	224	2,328
Talbot, GA	101	294	130	38	562
Taliaferro, GA	13	50	57	16	136
Tattnall, GA	602	980	563	127	2,272
Taylor, GA	120	285	208	35	648
Telfair, GA	219	414	335	55	1,023
Terrell, GA	219	402	187	62	870
Thomas, GA	687	1,780	1,322	194	3,983
Tift, GA	547	1,139	1,035	115	2,835
Toombs, GA	286	841	682	209	2,019
Towns, GA	157	447	872	19	1,495
Treuten, GA	76	211	240	48	575
Troup, GA	892	2,189	1,663	269	5,013
Turner, GA	172	239	211	15	636
Twiggs, GA	118	360	141	3	622
Union, GA	253	1,092	1,757	130	3,231
Upson, GA	360	1,127	928	51	2,465
Walker, GA	863	2,070	1,901	230	5,064
Walton, GA	1,182	2,652	2,074	169	6,077
Ware, GA	778	1,529	1,236	271	3,814
Warren, GA	37	117	145	18	317
Washington, GA	251	630	556	91	1,528
Wayne, GA	645	1,348	709	77	2,778
Webster, GA	47	60	62	2	172
Wheeler, GA	155	262	123	10	551
White, GA	396	1,222	1,221	89	2,927
Whitfield, GA	763	2,480	2,366	146	5,754
Wilcox, GA	145	442	273	63	924
Wilkes, GA	216	338	364	21	938
Wilkinson, GA	135	289	250	41	714
Worth, GA	386	1,095	631	144	2,255
TOTALS	179,655	350,140	215,253	27,784	772,832



VA Benefits & Health Care Utilization

Number of Veterans Receiving VA Disability Compensation (as of 12/31/09):	3.10 M
Number of Veterans Rated 100% Disabled (as of 12/31/09):	280,830
Number of Veterans Receiving VA Pension (as of 12/31/09):	312,206
Number of Spouses Receiving DIC (as of 12/31/09):	325,506
Number of Total Enrollees in VA Health Care System (FY 09):	8.061 M ¹
Number of Total Unique Patients Treated (FY 09):	5.744 M ¹
Number of Veterans Compensated for PTSD (as of 12/31/09):	380,509
Number of Veterans in Receipt of IU Benefits (as of 12/31/09):	263,299
Number of VA Education Beneficiaries (as of 09/30/09):	564,487
Number of Life Insurance Policies Supervised and Administered by VA (as of 12/31/09):	7.21 M
Face Amount of Insurance Policies Supervised and Administered by VA (as of 12/31/09):	1.33 T
Number of VA Voc Rehab (Chapter 31) Trainees (FY 09):	59,829
Number of Active VA Home Loan Participants (as of 12/31/09):	1.34 M
Number of Health Care Professionals Rotating Through VA (FY 09):	114,685
Number of OEF/OIF Amputees (as of 02/01/10):	960 ²

Source: DVA Information Technology Center; Health Services Training Report; VBA Education Service; VBA Office of Performance Analysis & Integrity; ¹ VHA (10A5); ² DoD

Veterans Demographics

Projected U.S. Veterans Population:	23,067,000	{Female 1,824,000 8%}
Projected Number of Living WW II Veterans (as of 9/30/2009):		2,272,000
Number of WW II Veterans Pass Away Per Day:		850
Percentage of Veteran Population 65 or Older:		39.9%
Veteran Population by Race:	White 79.3%	Black 11.3%
	Asian/Pacific Islander 1.5%	Hispanic 5.8%
	American Indian/Alaska Natives 0.8%	Other 1.3%

About VA

Number of VA Employees in Pay Status:	299,524
Number of VA Hospitals:	153
Number of VA Community-Based Outpatient Clinics:	783
Number of VA Vet Centers:	232
Number of VBA Regional Offices:	57
Number of VA National Cemeteries:	131

FY08 Appropriations (actual) ¹	VA: \$90.5B	VHA: \$39.6B ²	VBA-GOE: \$1.43B ³	NCA: \$195M
FY09 Appropriations (actual) ¹	VA: \$99.4B ⁴	VHA: \$44.5B ²	VBA-GOE: \$1.62B ³	NCA: \$280M
FY10 Appropriations (requested)	VA: \$112.8B	VHA: \$48.0B ²	VBA-GOE: \$1.83B ³	NCA: \$242M

Produced by the National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics (008A3)

Source: Veteran Population as of 09/30/09; VA Employ Pay Status Count 12/31/09; Veterans Affairs Site Tracking (VAST) 09/30/09; NCA as of 01/29/10; Office of Budget; Health Services Training Report FY09 ; ¹ Includes MCCF;

² Medical Care w/ MCCF and medical research; ³ Discretionary Spending Only; ⁴ Includes funding from the Economic Recovery Act

VA Medical System



- ▲ Medical Center
- ▲ Medical Center/Vet Center
- Clinic
- Clinic/Vet Center
- Proposed Clinic

MEDICAL CENTERS

Atlanta VA Medical Center

1670 Clairmont Road, Decatur, GA 30033
 404-321-6111 or 800-944-9726
 SDVS Field Office: 404-728-7611

Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center

1 Freedom Way, Augusta, GA 30904
 706-733-0188 or 800-836-5561
 SDVS Field Office: 706-823-2218

Carl Vinson VA Medical Center

1826 Veterans Blvd., Dublin, GA 31021
 478-272-1210 or 800-595-5229
 SDVS Field Office: 478-272-4266

VET CENTERS

- 1440 Dutch Valley Place, Suite 1100, Box 55, **Atlanta**, GA 30324
 Phone: 404-347-7264
- 930 River Centre Place, **Lawrenceville**, GA 30043
 Phone: 770-963-1809
- 750 Riverside Drive, **Macon**, GA 31201
 Phone: 478-477-3813
- 40 Dodd St., Suite 700, **Marietta**, GA 30060
 Phone: 678-290-0772
- 308-A Commercial Drive, **Savannah**, GA 31406
 Phone: 912-652-4097

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
- 1310 13th Ave., **Columbus**, GA 31906
 Phone: 706-257-7200
- 755 Commerce Drive, 2nd Floor, **Decatur**, GA 30030
 Phone: 404-417-5200
- 1513 Cleveland Ave., **East Point**, GA 30344
 Phone: 404-321-6111, x2600

HEALTH CLINICS

- 1970 Riverside Parkway, **Lawrenceville**, GA 30043
 Phone: 404-417-1750
- 5398 Thomaston Road, Suite B, **Macon**, GA 31220
 Phone: 478-476-8868
- 39-A Oak Hill Ct., **Newnan**, GA 30265
 Phone: 404-329-2222
- 3931 Munday Mill Road, **Oakwood**, GA 30566
 Phone: 404-728-8210
- 2370 S. Houston Lake Road, **Perry**, GA 31047
 Phone: 478-224-1309
- 30 Chateau Drive SE, **Rome**, GA 30161
 Phone: 706-235-6581
- 325 W. Montgomery Crossroads, **Savannah**, GA 31406
 Phone: (912) 920-0214; SDVS Field Office: 912-921-3744
- 582-A Concord Road, **Smyrna**, GA 30082
 Phone: 404-417-1760
- 205 Lakeshore Point, **St. Marys**, GA 31558
 Phone: 912-510-3420; SDVS Field Office: 912-510-3440
- 175 Medical Blvd., **Stockbridge**, GA 30281
 Phone: 404-329-2222
- 2841 N. Patterson Street, **Valdosta**, GA 31602
 Phone: 229-293-0132; SDVS Field Office: 229-333-2178



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