



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

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*Honoring those who served U.S.*

# Communications & External Affairs Update

**Steve Murray**

***CVSOA / FDVA Fall 2017 Conference, Safety Harbor***

# Emergency Management



## Veterans' Liaison to State Emergency Operations Center

- Hurricane Irma
  - Power Restoration Efforts
    - State Veterans' Homes
    - U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers & Clinics
    - Network of FDVA Veterans' Claims Examiners & County Veteran Service Officers - **Disaster Recovery Centers**



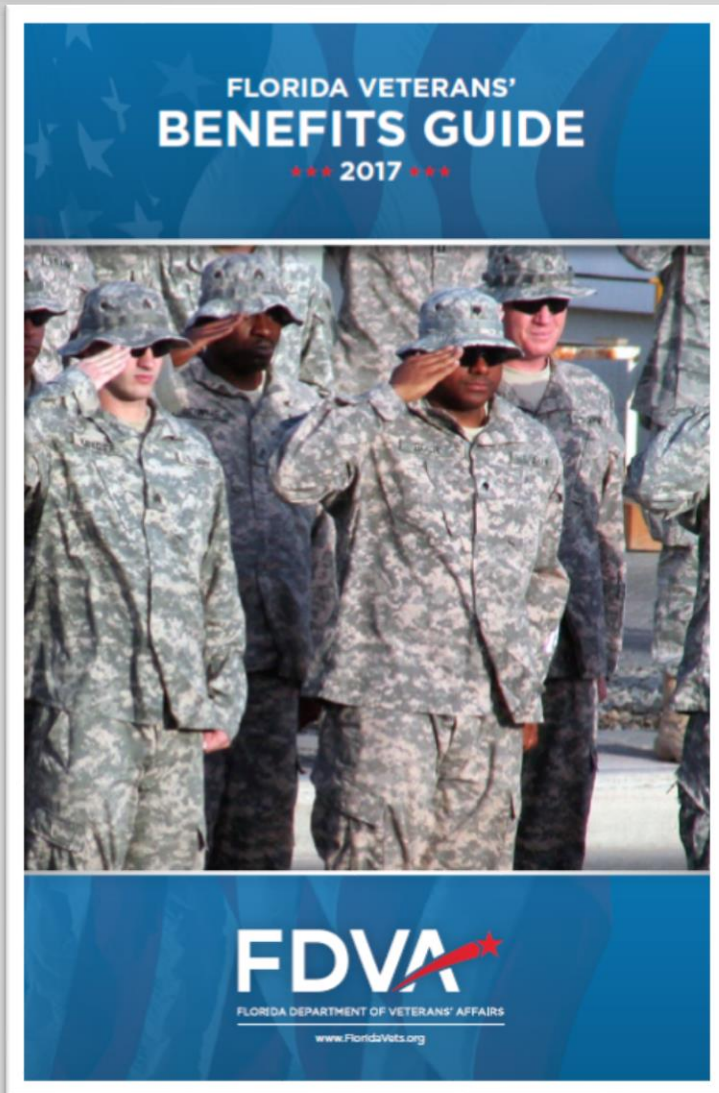
# Florida



***More than 1.5 million veterans, including approximately 154,000 women veterans in Florida – Nation's fastest growing veteran demographic!***

- **Nation's 3rd largest veteran population**
  - **773,000 veterans over 65 years of age**
  - **315,000 service-connected disabled veterans**
  - **66,000 World War II**
  - **144,000 Korean War**
  - **497,000 Vietnam War**
  - **190,000 Gulf War**
  - **173,000 Afghanistan/Iraq**

# Florida Veterans' Benefits Guide



- 100,000 copies printed annually, courtesy of the *Florida Veterans Foundation* – **2018 edition due November 1, 2017.**
- Single copies available through e-mail request on FDVA website
- We ship in bulk from publisher's warehouse
- Interactive version available online at [www.FloridaVets.org](http://www.FloridaVets.org)

# Governor's Veterans Service Award



- **12,000 Veterans & National Guardsmen presented medals by Gov. Rick Scott since August 2013**
- **2017 - Miramar, Tampa, Tallahassee, Live Oak, Bonita Springs, Brooksville, Panama City, The Villages, Cocoa, Wauchula, Melbourne**
- **Project Officer – Lee Ann Sferrazza-Rios**



# Veterans Florida

- **Non-profit corporation created by State of Florida in 2014 to:**
  - **Attract and retain out-of-state veterans and their families by connecting them to employment, training and educational opportunities**
  - **Strengthen Florida businesses by educating them on the value and skillsets veterans bring to the workforce and providing training resources for their veteran hires**
  - **Enhance the entrepreneurial skills of veterans**
- **[www.VeteransFlorida.org](http://www.VeteransFlorida.org)**
- **(850) 898-1444**

# Florida Veterans Foundation

- **Direct Support Organization of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs**
  - **Established by Florida Legislature in 2008 as 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization**
  - **Assistance to Florida veterans & families in times of financial need**
  - **Homeless Veterans Stand Downs**
- **[www.FloridaVeteransFoundation.org](http://www.FloridaVeteransFoundation.org)**
- **(850) 488-4181**



**FLORIDA VETERANS**  
— F O U N D A T I O N —

**FDVA** 

# Gold Star Families

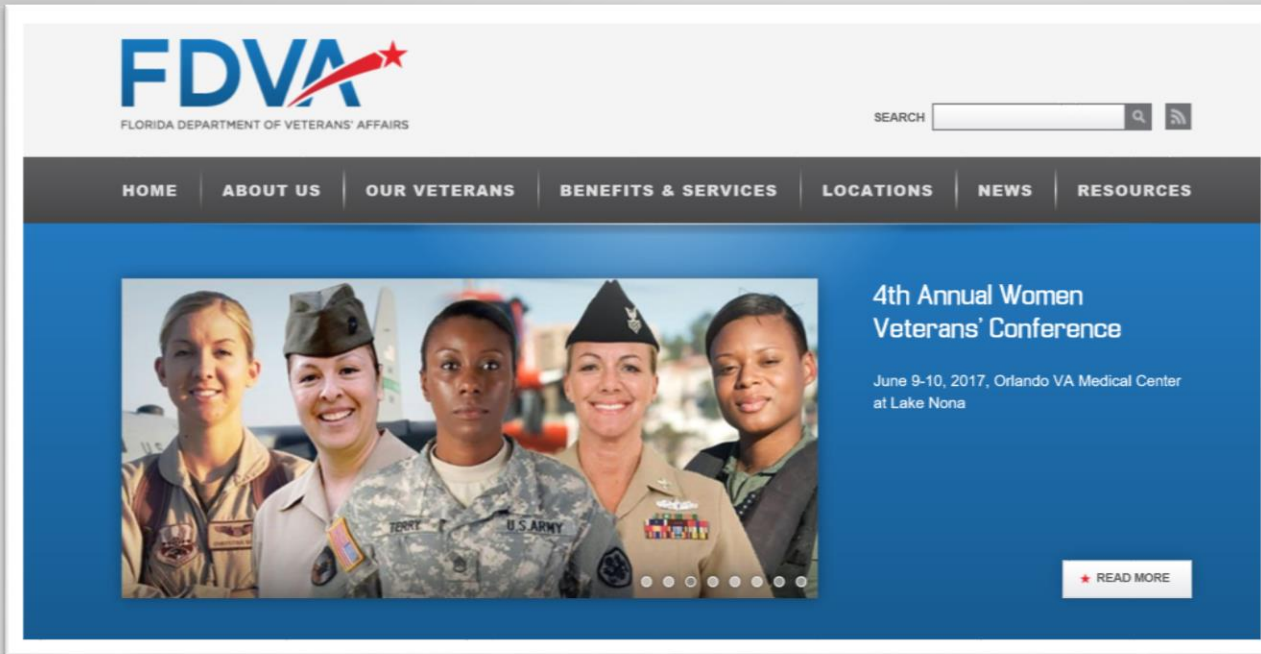


- Florida honors its Gold Star Families
- Contact FDVA Communications with updates





# Connecting with FDVA



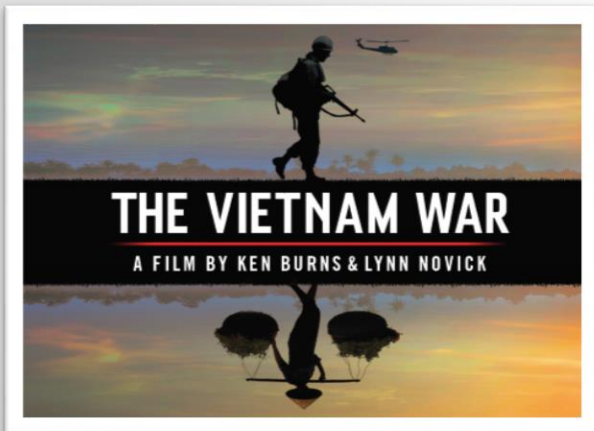
[www.FloridaVets.org](http://www.FloridaVets.org)



# Outreach & Branding Partners



- Social Media
- Mobile App
- Website
- Cinema Advertising
- Public Service Announcements



# Questions

## BLONDIE by Dean Young



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