

Albany County Honor A Veteran Program

In June of 1993, the Albany County Veterans Service Bureau formed the Albany County Honor a Veteran Committee. This committee honors a deceased Albany County Veteran each month with a ceremony at various locations throughout the County that includes a County Proclamation presented to the family of the veteran and the raising of an American flag that was flown over our Nation's Capitol in tribute of the honored veteran.

The Nomination Process:

Anyone (family, friends, funeral directors, veterans organizations, etc.) may submit nomination form and resume for consideration by the committee.

Nominee must meet the following criteria:

- A deceased Albany County veteran.
- An honorably discharged veteran.

Documents and information to include with any nomination:

- Obituary and residency documentation.
- Proof of honorable discharge (copy of **DD-214**).
- Campaigns, battles, or actions the participated in.
- Medals, awards, or citations received.
- Rank and service number.
- Details about the veteran's life after service (work, community activities and service, participation in organizations and memberships, etc.).
- Telephone number and email of the primary family member contact.

You can start the nomination process by sending resumes and documents to:

Kenneth Secor, Director

Albany County Veterans Service Bureau
162 Washington Ave, 7th Floor, Albany, NY 12210
or veteransbureau@albanycountyny.gov

Services For Veterans

The Albany County Veterans Service Bureau provides information on the various veterans benefits. We aid veterans and their families with various county, state, and federal entitlements such as:

- Disability, pension, and/or compensation benefits
- Burial allowances, headstones, and flags
- Educational benefits
- Upgrading military discharges
- Obtaining copies of discharges (**DD-214**) and medical records
- Job referrals
- Return the FAVOR cards

WESTERLO REFORMED CHURCH

564 State Route 143
Westerlo, NY 12193

Veteran Services ~ Every Tuesday

9:30 am – 11:30 am

ALBANY COUNTY
Cares about our veterans

Albany County Veterans Service Bureau



Daniel P. McCoy
County Executive

Kenneth Secor
Director

162 Washington Ave, 7th Floor
Albany, NY 12210
(518) 447-7710
Fax (518) 447-7714
veteransbureau@albanycountyny.gov

Please Call For Assistance Between
8:30 am and 4:30 pm
Monday - Friday

Our Mission



The mission of the Albany County Veterans Service Bureau is to assist county veterans and their families in obtaining any county, state, and federal benefits to which they are entitled.

Services we provide for Albany County veterans and families:

- Initiate, develop, and advance claims for local, state, and federal veteran benefits.
- Guide veterans enrolling in the VA Health Care System.
- Counsel and assist with burials and death benefits for veteran's survivors.
- Coordinate assistance or make referrals to appropriate agencies and organizations.
- Obtain military records.
- Issue Return the FAVOR cards.

As part of the outreach program, our staff attends various community meetings and events to inform veterans and dependents of available benefits. The staff also attends training sessions offered by various service organizations as well as state and national service officer organizations to keep updated on benefits and services in order to serve our county veterans better.

Steps to Take When a Veteran Dies

A Guide for Veterans Dependents & Families

- Contact the funeral director for burial arrangements.
- Contact the pastor of your church.
- Give the funeral director a copy of the veteran's military discharge certificate or report of separation (DD-214), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Claim Number (if known), and the veterans social security number.
- The funeral director will usually apply for the U.S. Flag to drape the casket. If not, contact the local postmaster with proof of military service and a copy of the death certificate.
- If the veteran was a member of any veteran organizations and requested a graveside service, contact the post commander of that organization.
- The Albany County Veterans Bureau will assist in determining what benefits you may be entitled to through the Veterans Administration including:
 - A. Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) for spouse or dependent children.
 - B. Death Pension for spouse or dependent children.
 - C. Veterans Administration burial benefits:
 1. Burial benefit for veterans receiving compensation or pension, or who would be receiving compensation or pension but for the receipt of military retirement.
 2. Burial allowance for indigent veterans who die as a result of service connected disabilities.
 3. Burial allowance for indigent veterans whose remains are unclaimed.
 4. Burial plot allowance.
 5. Headstones, grave or niche markers.



Return the FAVOR Discount for Veterans

"Return the FAVOR" (Find & Assist Veterans of Record) is a merchant discount program for eligible Albany County veterans. The program provides veterans with a discount on purchases or services at participating merchants. Veterans can enroll by bringing their DD-214 to the Albany County Veterans Bureau on the 7th floor of 162 Washington Ave, Albany, typically Monday through Friday 9am to 4pm. Please call for an appointment to ensure availability and timely service.

Return the FAVOR ID application form can be downloaded at:
<http://www.albanycounty.com/veterans>

Important Documents to Have Available When Applying For Assistance

- Honorable Discharge from the Armed Forces or Report of Military Separation (DD-214)
- Record of Marriage
- Birth certificate of dependent children
- Adoption Papers for dependent children
- Death Certificate of the veteran and any previous spouse
- Divorce Papers
- Veterans social security number and Department of Veterans Affairs claim or file number
- Annual family income figures: wages, retirement, interest, etc.

All Documents listed above may be copied, except for the DD-214, which must be a certified copy.