



# YORK COUNTY - VICTORY CHAPTER #13

YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA

Volume 25 Issue 7	Monthly Newsletter		September 2024
<p><b>ELECTED OFFICERS</b></p> <p><b>COMMANDER</b> Larry Brewer</p> <p><b>SR. VICE CMDR.</b> Shay Odom</p> <p><b>1<sup>st</sup> VICE CMDR.</b> Russ Jordan</p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> VICE CMDR.</b> Don Lamury</p> <p><b>TREASURER</b> April Dozier</p> <p><b>CHAPLAIN</b> Ed Binder</p> <p><b>JUDGE ADVOCATE</b> Terry Bohlinger</p> <p><b>APPOINTED OFFICERS</b></p> <p><b>ADJUTANT</b> Ana Alicea</p> <p><b>ASSISTANT TREASURER</b> Jackie Herrmann</p> <p><b>CERTIFIED SERVICE OFFICERS</b> Terry Bohlinger, Carl Garrett, Tim Valentine, Dave Austin, Shay Odom, Sharri Peck, Rob Lurie</p> <p><b>SERGEANT AT ARMS</b> George Robinson</p> <p><b>BENEFITS PROTECTION OFFICER</b> Shay Odom</p> <p><b>MEMBER-AT-LARGE</b> George Robinson, Jacqueline Herrmann, Carl Garrett</p> <p><b>SOCIAL MEDIA</b> Ana Alicea, Terry Taylor, Bill Townsley</p> <p><b>WOMEN VETERANSCOMMITTEE CHAIR</b> Shay Odom</p>	<p><b>COMMANDER'S CORNER.</b> DAV Mission Statement: "We are dedicated to a single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. We accomplish that by ensuring that veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them; fighting for the interests of America's injured heroes on Capitol Hill; and educating the public about the great sacrifices and needs of veterans transitioning back to civilian life."</p> <p>The Department Fall Conference will be held October 16-20, 2024, at Four Points by Sheraton in Richmond, VA. Personnel who will attend will be voted on at the September 21, 2024, General Member Meeting.</p> <p>The DAV Chapter #13 member appreciation picnic will be held on September 28, at 1 P.M., at the Newport News Park. If you wish to attend please sign up at the chapter NLT September 23, 2024. POC: Senior Vice Commander Shay Odom.</p> <p>The Poquoson Seafood Festival will be held on October 18-20, 2024. We are looking for volunteers to man the DAV Chapter #13 booth. If you wish to volunteer please add your name to the list which is located at the chapter. POC: Comrade Ted Imbasciani.</p> <p>Our Chapter Chaplain Ed Binder is looking for volunteers to visit with veterans who are housed at Assisted Living and/or Nursing Home in our area of coverage. The visits provide camaraderie and at the same time we find out if they need assistance with VA compensations or other issues that the DAV can assist with. POC: Chaplain Ed Binder and 2<sup>nd</sup> Jr Vice Commander Don Lamury.</p> <p>We are continuously looking for members who want to be active at the chapter. We need volunteers for Chapter Service Officers, answering phones, events and an Assistant Adjutant. If interested please contact Adjutant Ana Alicea or Commander Larry Brewer.</p> <p><b>Attention</b> Chapter #13 Members and others who visit our office, the faces you see day in and day out at the Chapter working diligently to assist veterans and their families are all volunteers and like you – they are disabled veterans as well. They are not employees who get paid to assist veterans. We want these dedicated volunteers to continue their volunteerism with Chapter #13. Please be mindful of that fact and thank them for what they do.</p>		
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Commander Larry Brewer <a href="http://www.dav13va.com">www.dav13va.com</a> <a href="mailto:dav@dav13va.com">dav@dav13va.com</a> 1700 George Washington Memorial Hwy, Ste E, Yorktown, VA 23693 757-596-0062</p> </div>			



# YORK COUNTY - VICTORY CHAPTER #13

YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA

## Judge Advocate Corner

The 2024 Disabled American Veteran Convention took place in Phoenix, Arizona from August 1 to 7, 2024. Over 7,500 attendees, including both DAV members and auxiliary members, participated in the National Convention. Daniel Contreras was unanimously elected as the national commander, while Cynthia Madison, the assistant adjutant of the Department of Virginia, became the 2nd Jr. Vice Commander for the National line. Conference materials, including slides and presentations and YouTube videos, can be accessed on the DAV website by following the prompts after accessing the website:

[www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org) MEMBER RESOURCES + QUICK LINKS +Media Relations +Communications +National Convention Information Convention+ Presentation and Video.

The conference featured fast-paced sessions and showcased up-and-coming small veteran businesses. Ford Motor Company donated \$200,000 to provide free support for veterans' medical appointments. Chisholm, Chisholm and Kilpatrick, a respected law firm, contributed \$200,000 to DAV, known for its high success rate in appealing veterans' claims. The Department of Virginia donated \$100,000 to the National Service Foundation. Ground break initiatives including allowing local veterans and those who were attending the conference to file a claim and get rated while they were in attendance at the conference. This was the first time that DAV had all parties available to make this happen. Notably, veterans attending the conference could file claims and receive ratings on the spot, thanks to the presence of NSO, VA, and Contractors. One veteran even left with a 100% permanent disability rating.

### Legislation Goals:

- 118th Congress Oppose reduction, taxation or elimination of veterans' benefits
- Support legislation to provide service connection for disabling conditions resulting from toxic and environmental exposures
- Support legislation for studies and establishing presumptive diseases for PFAS exposure
- Support Legislation that prohibits special separation benefits from being withheld from disability compensation payments

**[See Attached for 119th Congress Vision for a complete listing \(Highlights\)](#)**

[DAV Dos & Don'ts.pdf](#)

[DAV Fighting for Women Veterans.pdf](#)

[Vision for Veterans for the 119th Congress.pdf](#)