We're here during this difficult time to assist families in obtaining federal or state benefits earned by their veteran's service in the Armed Forces, including: burial in a National Cemetery; provision of an American flag, headstone or marker; reimbursement of burial expenses; and pension.

All services are provided through the County of Ventura and, therefore, are free of charge.





he County of Ventura Human Services Agency provides public services that promote self-sufficiency, safety, health and well-being. Our programs and services help ensure the protection of children, the elderly, and dependent adults. We also provide a safety net for individuals and families who need assistance with basic necessities, such as food, housing, and health care. Additionally, we help people secure employment through education, training, job search skills, and job placement.



# **County of Ventura Veteran Services Main Office**

5740 Ralston Street, Suite 304, Ventura, CA 93003

Phone: (805) 477-5155 Fax: (805) 477-5418

Field offices are located throughout Ventura County.
Call (805) 477-5155
to schedule an appointment or for more information.



Referral line for health, human, & community services.





County of Ventura
Toll-Free: (866) 904-9362
www.vchsa.org

## Veteran Services Office

Services offered to survivors of veterans



Honoring our fallen heroes



## A salute to our Veterans

The Veteran Services Office was established in 1937 by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors to provide assistance to veterans, their dependents, and survivors in obtaining benefits from federal, state, and local agencies.



## With Compassion & Respect

The Veteran Services Office is here to help.

Veterans are not only national heroes; they are also someone's child, spouse, or parent. In the ultimate sacrifice, they have shown their bravery, honor, and love for their country. We extend our sincere condolences to the families of our fallen heroes for their loss and bereavement.

The County of Ventura Veteran Services Office is here during this difficult time to assist families in obtaining federal or state benefits earned by their veteran's service in the Armed Forces. These benefits may include burial in a National Cemetery; provision of an American flag, headstone or marker; reimbursement of burial expenses; and pension or compensation.

#### **Burial in a National Cemetery**

A veteran is entitled to burial in a National Cemetery. The veteran's spouse and minor children (and in some cases adult unmarried children) may also qualify for such burial. The National Cemetery closest to Ventura County is in Riverside, California.

American Flag

As a show of respect, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) furnishes an American flag to drape the casket of a veteran who was either a wartime veteran or one who served after January 31, 1955, or a veteran who served at least one enlistment during peacetime or was discharged sooner because of a serviceconnected disability.

The mortuary provides the flags, or they may be obtained from the USDVA or most local post offices. After the memorial service, the flag will be given to the veteran's next of kin, close friend, or associate.

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

~ President John Fitzgerald Kennedy

#### Headstone or Marker

All veterans with a discharge other than dishonorable are entitled to a free government headstone or marker.

## Reimbursement of Burial Expenses

The USDVA may reimburse a portion of a veteran's burial expenses if he or she was entitled to USDVA pension or compensation at the time of death. Eligibility is also established when death occurs in either a USDVA medical facility to which a veteran was properly admitted or in a contract nursing home.

Veterans who served in wartime may be eligible for partial reimbursement of plot allowance if interred in a private cemetery. Reimbursements are subject to availability of funds. If a veteran's death was caused by a service-connected disability, the USDVA will reimburse a portion of burial expenses.

#### **Death Pension**

If the veteran served 90 days or more on active duty during wartime, the surviving spouse and unmarried children under 18 (or 23 if attending school) may be eligible for pension benefits. The claimant's annual income may not exceed prescribed limitations.

### **Dependency & Indemnity** Compensation

If the veteran's death was service-related, benefits (including education and medical) may be paid to survivors.

### **Important Documents**

To apply for these benefits, gather the documents listed below and bring them to the County of Ventura

eek assistance, the faster we will be able to help you a claiming benefits.	
	Discharge papers (needed for burial)
	Birth certificate(s)
	Marriage certificate
	Death certificate
	Divorce document(s)
	Government insurance policy number
	Social Security card(s)
	Burial receipts
Other insurance name & policy number	
Retirement information (name of company/union, imployee ID number)	