

National Society Sons of the American Revolution Veterans Recognition Committee (VRC) Charter

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Committee Members. **Vice-Chairman:** Victor George McMurry USN – (TN); **Secretary:** Col David Edward Thompson USAF (Ret.) – (AZ); **Veterans Bugle Editor:** Steven Craig Monez SGT USA – (AZ); **EX OFFICIO:** **Registrar General** LTC C. Bruce Pickette USA (Ret.) – (AL); SFC James Claude Arnold USA (Ret.) – (IN); Merlyn Troy Chalmers Bailey Sgt USAF – (OH); LtCol Herman Charles Brown USMC (Ret.) – (VT); Maj Bruce Alden Buehler USAF – (AL); LTC Paul Robert Callanan USA (Ret.) – (MI); Peter Malcolm Davenport USA – (VA); Rev James Oreal Fast USA – (OH); LCdr David George Jessel USN (Ret.) – (GA); Martin William Kabel 1LT USA – (GA); Dick P Marsh USN – (CO); Lt Col Stephen John Miller USAF (Ret.) – (AZ); SSgt Paul Ithel Prescott USAF (Ret.) – (GA); CW5 Kenneth Duane Roach USA – (CT); Douglas Baird Stuart – (MD); Col David Roy Shaul USA (Ret.) – (MO);

Mission Statement. Provide recognition to NSSAR Veterans, by awarding the SAR Certificates of Patriotism. Ensure the work of the VRC not only has a legacy dimension, but is also visionary and administratively sound, so that the incumbent President General can expand the Veterans Corps to include service to country during periods of peace, war and/or armed conflict.

Governing Policy. In accomplishing its mission the VRC holds these understanding as core beliefs:

- (1) The Compatriots who authorized the Military Service Medal in 2006 and articulated the policy relating to this award in the SAR Handbook grasped the difference between a congressional declaration of war as authorized by Article One, Section Eight of the US Constitution and undeclared wars as provided by the War Powers Resolution. The VRC too must be familiar thoroughly with the difference.
- (2) The decision as to what service medal a veteran receives is a function of Proof of Service and certification that resides at the chapter, state, and national levels.
- (3) As with medals obtained through Chapters or State Societies, to obtain a Certificate of Patriotism “**Proof of Service,**” in the form of military documentation or a redacted copy of the member's discharge, typically a Form DD-214, must be sent to the VRC before a Certificate can be prepared and issued. A copy of the DD-214 is not required but if submitted, for privacy concerns it is important to redact (censor or obscure part of the text) certain information before being sent with the Recognition Form. Information that should be redacted includes the Social Security Number, Service Number, and Selective Service Number. After being redacted, the DD-214 (or other redacted documentation) should be scanned into a .PDF or .JPG file.
- (4) For use as Proof of Service, in lieu of the DD-214, “military documentation” includes Citation Accompanying an Award, Discharge Letter, Honorable Discharge Certificate, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, Separation Qualification Record, Commission Letter, Special Orders, Officer Record Brief, Memorandums, and Supplemental Evaluation Sheets.
- (5) What the VRC needs in order to prepare an accurate Certificate is Name, Branch of Service (USA, USMC, USN, USAF, USCG), Grade, Rate or Rank, Pay Grade, “Record of Service” that shows the time served when on Active Duty, Character of Service (must state “Honorable”), and Decorations, Medals, and Badges received. Using this information, typically contained on the DD-214, the VRC can verify the proper Veterans Corps and the Certificate or Certificates that can be printed.
- (6) When questions are asked for interpretation or justification of the War Service Medal over the Military Service Medal, the VRC must be ready to provide creditable recommendations based upon research as found in law, legislation, Armed Services documents, and/or common sense.