



The National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs

James S. Hartsell (FL)
President

Vito Imbasciani (CA)
Senior Vice President

Dennis Wimer (IN)
Junior Vice President

John Scocos (WI)
Executive Director

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NASDVA Hosting 2023 Midwinter Training Conference in Washington, Feb. 19-22

WASHINGTON – The National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs (NASDVA) is hosting its annual midwinter training conference in Washington, D.C., from Feb. 19-22, 2023. NASDVA was established in 1946 to unite and connect the leaders of state veterans' affairs agencies created in the aftermath of World War II.

“Our association was founded more than 75 years ago to bring together the State Directors, Commissioners and Secretaries from all 50 States, U.S. Territories and the District of Columbia to encourage communication, facilitate discussion, and promote best practices to successfully advocate for our Nation’s more than 18.5 million Veterans, their families and survivors,” said NASDVA President James S. Hartsell, of Florida. “It’s vital work and we’re committed with purpose and passion to address these important issues.”

VA Secretary Denis McDonough will be giving an update on VA priorities and presenting the Abraham Lincoln Pillars of Excellence Awards. The Pillars of Excellence Award recognizes State programs focused on improving customer experience, eliminating veteran homelessness, reducing claims and appeals backlog, preventing veteran suicides, and creating innovative State programs.

During the conference, the association will be presenting its Veteran Advocate of the Year Award and electing its 2023-24 executive officers. The association’s 15 committees, focused on issues such as veteran homelessness, employment, mental health, memorial affairs, and more will convene to continue their work. Members will hear from a range of VA leadership, with presentations from the Veterans Health Administration, Veterans Benefits Administration, Center for Women Veterans, Board of Veterans Appeals, Native American Veterans Program, National Cemetery Administration, Veteran Health Innovation Experience, Veterans Experience Office, and more.



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The annual training conference is supported by a number of supporters from the private and non-profit sectors focused on veteran and military issues, innovations, and services. Premier sponsors of the 2023 midwinter training conference include HMR Veterans Services, Grail, Optum Serve, Optum Ventures, Oracle Cerner, WellHive, and Weber Health Logistics.

NASDVA's purpose is to foster the effective representation of persons claiming entitlements on account of the honorable military service of any person as defined in 38 U.S.C. 101; provide a medium for the exchange of ideas and information; facilitate reciprocal state services; secure uniformity, equality, efficiency, and effectiveness in providing services to veterans and their family members in all states and territories; and maintain an interest in all veteran legislation. More information on the association is available at nasdva.us.

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