



**COMMISSIONER WHITNEY P. ALLEN, JR.
LIEUTENANT COLONEL, US ARMY
(RETIRED)
November 18, 2024**

26 Years of Dedicated Service

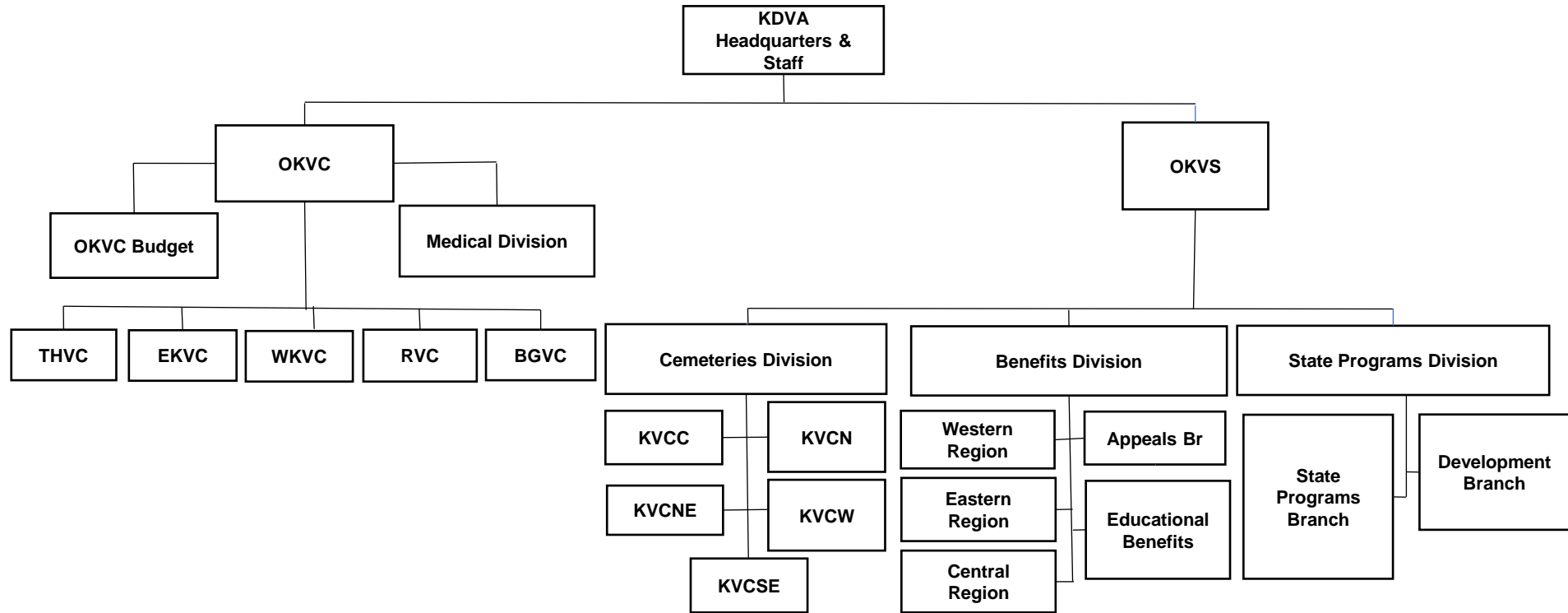


"Ensuring that Kentucky's veterans receive all the benefits and services they have earned."



"Serving Kentucky's Veterans Since 1998."

KDVA Organization Chart



“Serving those who have served the Commonwealth and our great Nation”

Recent Achievements

❑ National/State Recognitions:

- Fourth straight VA Abraham Lincoln Pillar of Excellence Award.
- Three Veterans Centers recognized by US News and World Report.
- Radcliff Veterans Centers recognized as the best rehab and service facility in Kentucky.
- Veterans Cemetery Southeast recognized with the Stewardship award.

❑ Revising the Women Veterans, Disable Veterans and Ky Veterans Employment and Training programs to reach special population veterans.

❑ Governor's Challenge and Suicide Prevention efforts in the state:

- Revived Governor's Challenge Team executive committee/meetings.
- Quarterly, regional lethal safety training.

❑ Federal and state community partnerships and outreach engagements:

- Annual KDVA State Commanders Conference
- Women Veterans State Conference
- Event with VA Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnership (CFBNP)
- DAV-KDVA Joint PTSD Awareness Event
- Sponsored Workforce Summits and Hiring Academy

Recent Achievements



Recent & Upcoming Events

Recent Events:

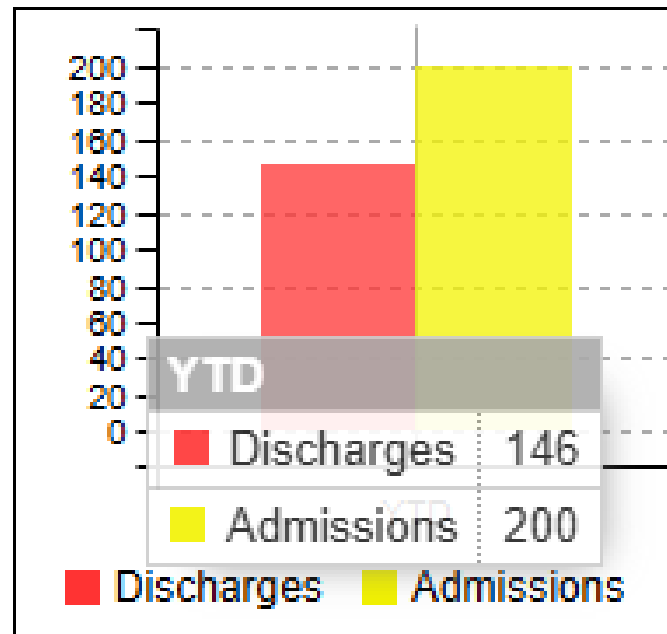
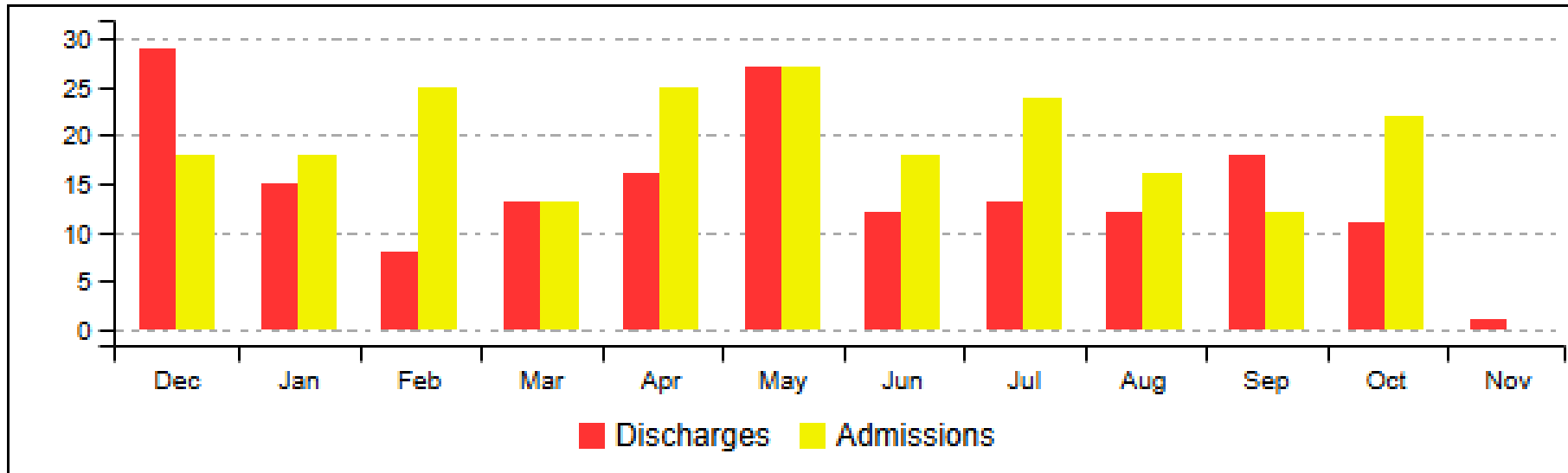
- ❑ **Women Veterans Conference**, June 25, 2024
- ❑ **KDVA State Commanders Conference**, August 29-30, 2024
- ❑ **Patriots Day Ceremony**, September 11, 2024
- ❑ **Homeless Veterans 5K Run/Walk**, October 19, 2024
- ❑ **Veterans Day Events**, Week of November 10th-16th

Upcoming Events:

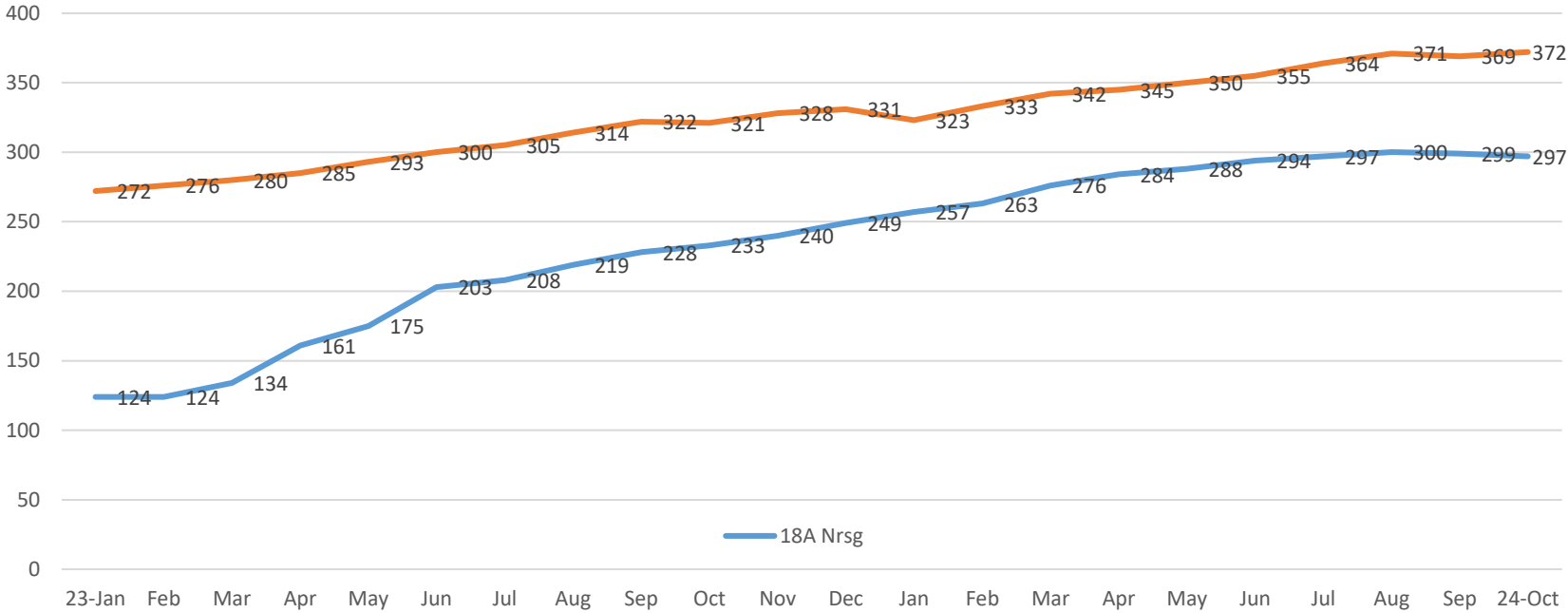
- ❑ **Wreaths Across America**, December 9th, 2024
- ❑ **Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central NCA Award Presentation**, December 11th, 2024
- ❑ **Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North NCA Award Presentation**, December 12th, 2024
- ❑ **Women's Veteran Summit & Retreat**, March 8th, 2024
- ❑ **Federal Center for Faith-Based & Neighborhood Partnership Veterans Summit**, May 17th, 2024

Kentucky State Veterans Homes





Nursing Staff & Census Trend



The Robert E. Spiller Bowling Green Veterans Center 60 beds, all private suites

September 2024 – Administrator started 9/3 – Jason Gumm

January 2025 – Estimated substantial completion of construction

March/April 2025 – Expected to be able to start admitting veterans



State Programs Division

- ❑ Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs was selected as one of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Fiscal Year 2024 Suicide Mortality Review (SMR) Cooperative Agreement recipients. (300K)
- ❑ Veterans Employment & Training Symposium; Employment & training for Veterans
- ❑ Virtual job fairs platform in support of KYVETS
- ❑ Connect-a-Vet: Veteran assistance phone application near completion

KDVA Benefits Division



KDVA Benefits Division Statistics

1st Quarter FY25 Totals as of August 2024

1st Quarter, FY25 Claim Summary as of Aug FY 25

Total Claims	940
Intents to File	797
New 21-22s	1,005
Veterans Serviced	8,204

1st Quarter, FY25 Appeals as of Aug FY 25

BVA hearings - 3
 HLR Conferences - 5
 Appeals Retro Awards YTD: **\$631,754.77**

1st Quarter, FY25 Awards as of Aug FY25

Cumulative Awards Monthly brought into the Commonwealth = **\$42.1 Million**

1st Quarter, FY25 KDVA issued 625 KY Tuition Waivers as of Aug FY25 equaling **\$9,547,284.00**

POA (as of June 2024)

Total Veterans in Kentucky July 2024 :	245,036 (-5,625)
Veterans represented as of July 2024:	29,086 (+271)
Beneficiaries represented as of July 2024:	9927 (+26)
Overall Percentage of KY Veterans Represented by KDVA:	15.9% (+.5%)

Cemeteries Division



Cemeteries Division

As of Nov 1, 2024

KVCW, Hopkinsville, Christian County, KY




Opened March 1, 2004	
Interments:	
Veterans	4,757
Dependents	<u>1,925</u>
Total	6,682
Cremated	2,183

KVCC, Radcliff, Hardin County, KY



Opened June 1, 2007	
Interments:	
Veterans	8,011
Dependents	<u>2,255</u>
Total	10,266
Cremated	3,450


KVCN, Williamstown, Grant County, KY

Opened Aug 22, 2008	
Interments:	
Veterans	2,337
Dependents	<u>654</u>
Total	2,991
Cremated	1,280

Total: 22,102

KVCNE, Grayson, Greenup County, KY



Opened October 1, 2010	
Interments:	
Veterans	1,542
Dependents	<u>458</u>
Total	2,000
Cremated	641

KVCSE, Hyden, Leslie County, KY



Opened May 1, 2018	
Interments:	
Veterans	129
Dependents	<u>34</u>
Total	163
Cremated	41

Military Funeral Honors Stipend

Fiscal Year 2025

Funds

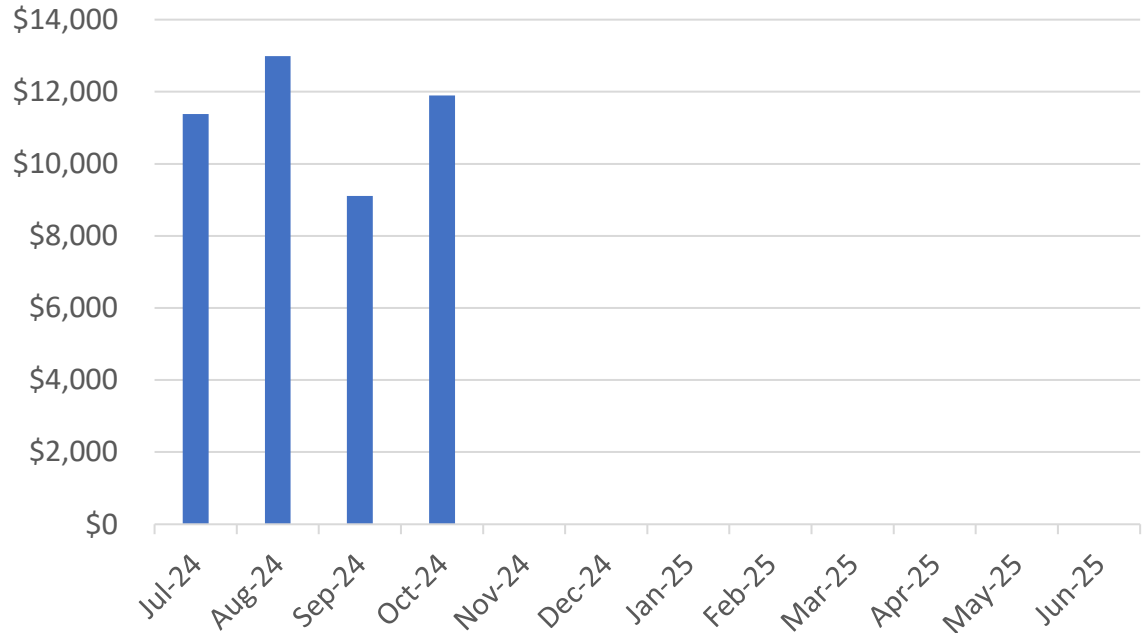
Starting Balance -	\$87,794.42
General Fund Deposit -	<u>\$100,000.00</u>
Revenue	
Total	\$187,794.42

Expenditures

Total	
July 202	\$ 11,380.00
Aug 230	\$ 12,990.00
Sep 164	\$ 9,110.00
Oct 213	\$ 11,900.00

FY: 2025 Balance - \$142,414.42

As of Nov 1, 2024



FY 25 Honors Performed	809
Total Honors Performed	49,949
Total Money Paid out Since 2005	\$2,538,891.00

Indigent Veterans Burial Program

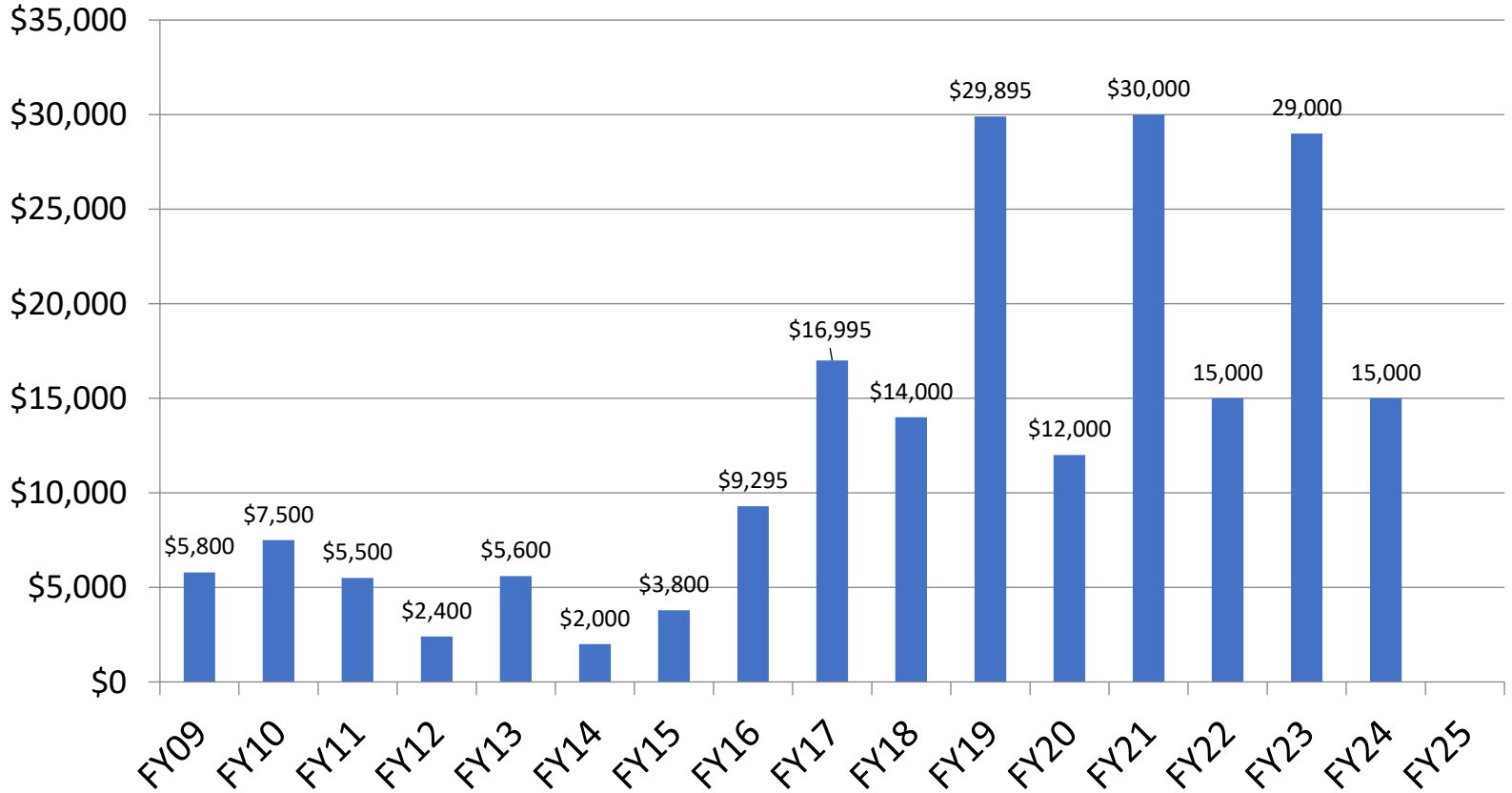
FY25 Balance:
\$3,355.54

Fiscal Year 2009 - 2025

VPTF \$25,000

Total \$28,355.54

End Balance
\$28,355.54



Activities, Initiatives and Programs

- Veterans Program Trust Fund
- Governor Advisory Board
- Women Veterans Coordinating Committee
- Support Veterans Service Organizations Activities and Events
- Represent the Governor at Veterans-related activities and events
- “I Support Kentucky Veterans License Plate”
- Eliminating Borders Initiative
- Corporate Veterans Ambassador
- Nurse Loan Repayment Program
- Competitive wages at Veterans Centers (Locality Premium)
- Bowling Green Construction
- Attracting Veteran Talent to Kentucky

Examples of KDVA Involvements with KY VSOs



Memorial Day Ceremony at KDVA's Cemetery



Veteran Program Trust Fund Check Presentation VFW State Conference



Veteran Leaders at KET Forum



Senator Paul's Veteran Outreach Event



Military Honors Ceremony for WWII Veteran



New KDVA Office Grand Opening Ceremony Pulaski County Government Building