Understanding Veterans Service Organizations Roles

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November 19, 2008
VSOs – Who We Are

Common Nicknames...

- Federal Corporation
- Private Membership Club
- IRS 501(c)(4)
- Non-profit
VSOs – Who We Are

U.S. Business Models...

- For Profits = Capitalism
- Government = Legislators, Regulators & the Judiciary
- Not for Profits = Human Change Agents
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Historical Beginnings...

- The DAV was officially formed on September 25, 1920.

- The DAV is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as tax exempt under 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(4).

- Contributions to the DAV are deductible pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 170(c)(3).
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**Congressional Charter...**

- The DAV is a federally incorporated non-profit organization Chartered by an Act of Congress on June 17, 1932.

- The organization’s Congressional Charter can be found at 36 U.S.C. § 50301.

- The DAV’s Annual Report to Congress mandate can be found at 36 U.S.C. § 50308.

- The DAV’s Annual Report to Congress is printed as separate House documents by law under 44 U.S.C. § 1332.
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36 USC, Chartered Org Examples...

- VSOs & MSOs
- Boy & Girl Scouts of America
- Civil Air Patrol
- National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA)
- National Academy of Sciences
- National Safety Council
- US Olympic Committee
- United Service Organizations (USO)
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VA and DoD Recognition...

- 10 U.S.C. §§ 1142 & 1144: DoD Recognition of representatives of VSOs for facilitation of TAP/DTAP.
- 10 U.S.C. § 1553: DoD Recognition of representatives of VSOs for representation before the Board for Review of Discharge or Dismissal.
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What We Do...

- Providing free, professional assistance to veterans and their families in obtaining benefits and services earned through military service and provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other agencies of government.

- Providing outreach concerning its program services to the American people generally, and to disabled veterans and their families specifically.

- Representing the interests of disabled veterans, their families, their widowed spouses and their orphans before Congress, the White House, and the Judicial Branch, as well as state and local government.

- Extending the DAV’s mission of hope into the communities where these veterans and their families live through a network of state-level departments and local chapters.

- Providing a structure through which disabled veterans can express their compassion for their fellow veterans through a variety of volunteer programs.
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Service Programs...
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*Legislative & Oversight Programs...*
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Volunteer Programs...

- DAV Transportation Network
- VAVS Program
- National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic
- Jesse Brown Memorial Youth Scholarship Program
- Celebrity Entertainment Program
- Hospital Service Coordinators
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Communication & Outreach Excellence...

- Magazine
- Harley’s Heroes
- National Football League
- Major League Baseball
- Air Shows
- Golden Corral
- Public Service Announcements
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Q & A