



# *Understanding Veterans Service Organizations Roles*

*by  
Edward R. Reese, Jr.  
National Service Director*

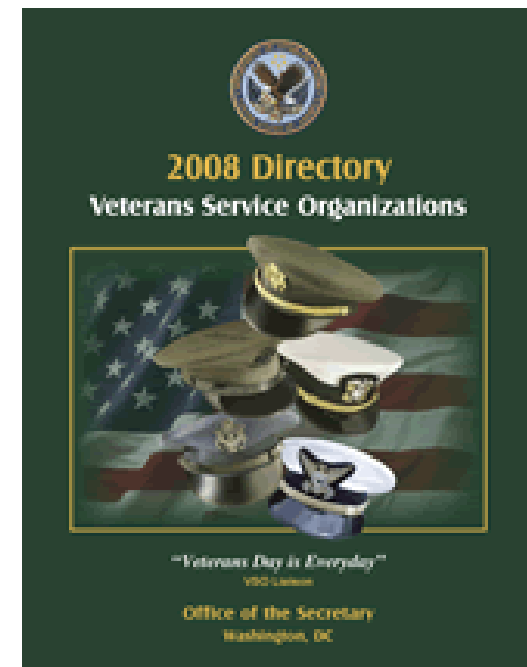
*November 19, 2008*

# VSOs – Who We Are



## *Common Nicknames...*

- ❖ Federal Corporation
- ❖ Private Membership Club
- ❖ IRS 501(c)(4)
- ❖ Non-profit

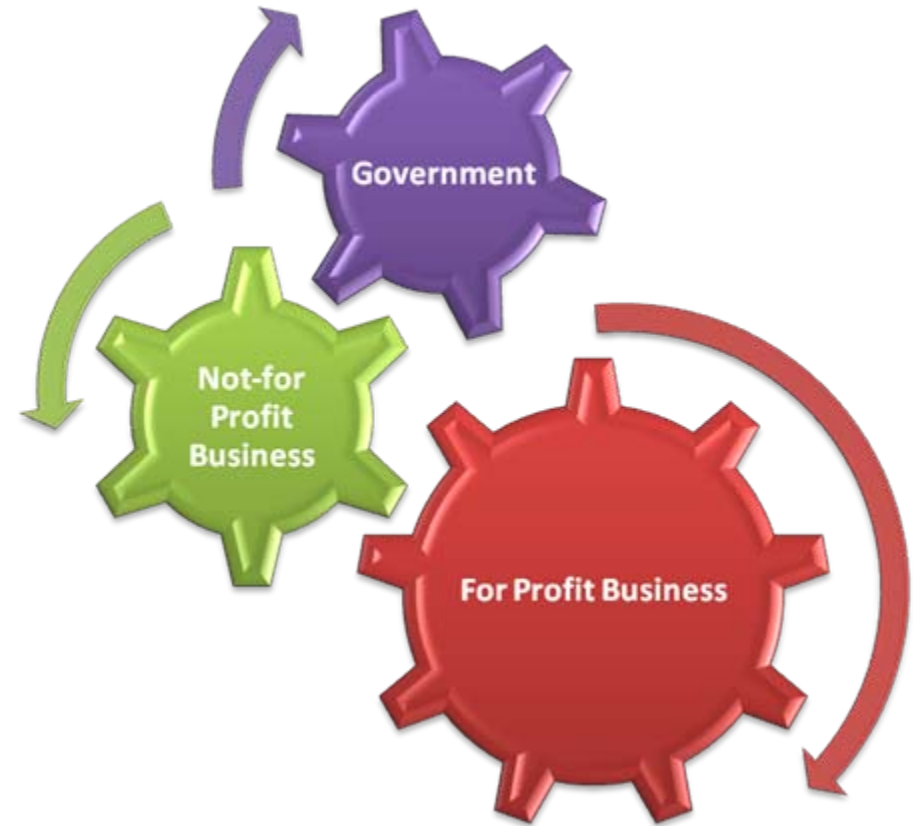


# VSOs – Who We Are



## *U.S. Business Models...*

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



# VSOs – Who We Are



## *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).



# VSOs – Who We Are



## *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.



# VSOs – Who We Are



## *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)

# VSOs – Who We Are



## *VA and DoD Recognition...*

- ❖ 38 U.S.C. §§ 5901 – 5905 & 38 C.F.R. §§ 14.626 - 14.635: VA Recognition of representatives of VSOs for representation before the Department.
- ❖ 10 U.S.C. §§ 1142 & 1144: DoD Recognition of representatives of VSOs for facilitation of TAP/DTAP.
- ❖ 10 U.S.C. § 1552: DoD Recognition of representatives of VSOs for representation before the Board for Correction of Military Records.
- ❖ 10 U.S.C. § 1553: DoD Recognition of representatives of VSOs for representation before the Board for Review of Discharge or Dismissal.



# VSOs – Who We Are



## *What We Do...*

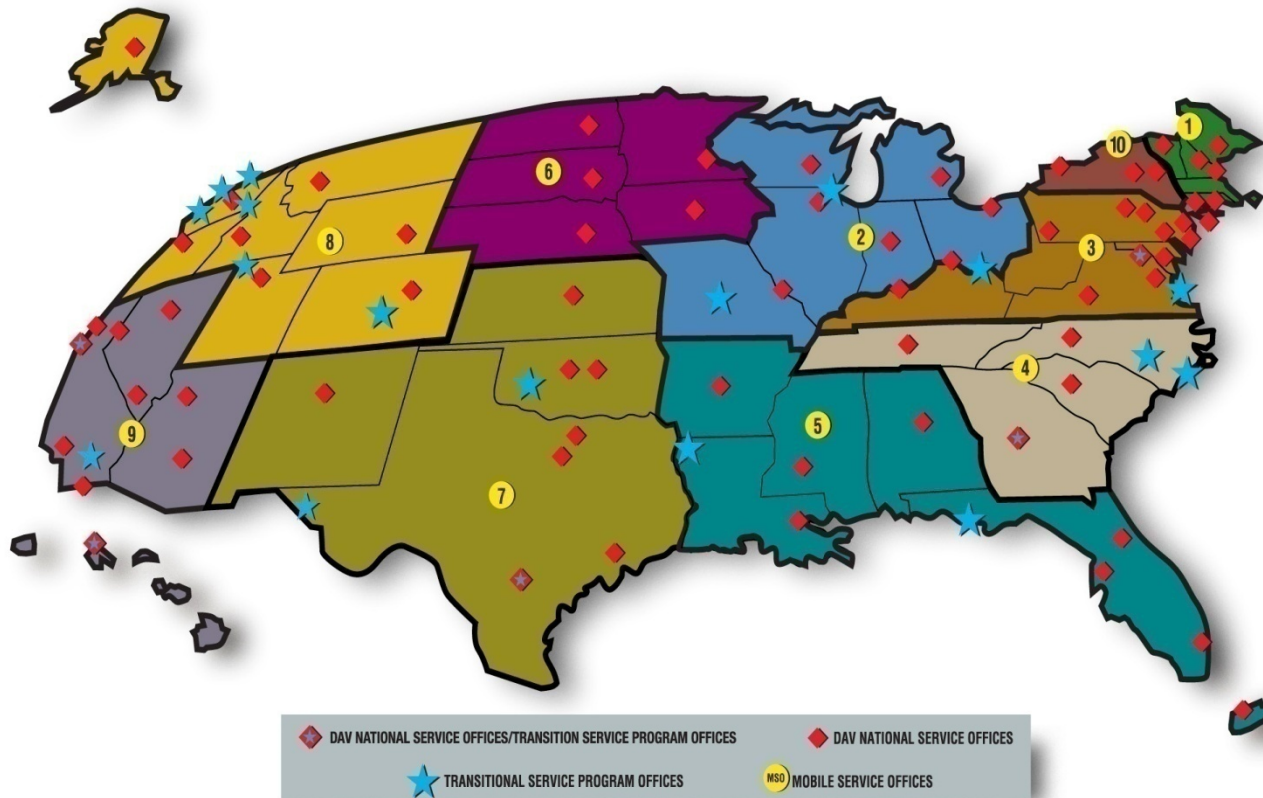
- ❖ Providing ***free***, professional assistance to veterans and their families in obtaining benefits and services earned through military service and provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other agencies of government
- ❖ Providing outreach concerning its program services to the American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



# VSOs – Who We Are



## Service Programs...



# VSOs – Who We Are



*Legislative & Oversight Programs...*



# VSOs – Who We Are



## *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

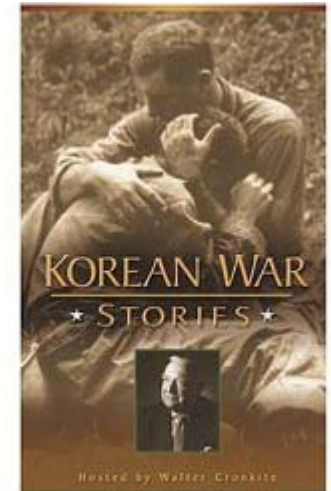


# VSOs – Who We Are



## Communication & Outreach Excellence...

- ❖ Magazine
- ❖ Harley's Heroes
- ❖ National Football League
- ❖ Major League Baseball
- ❖ Air Shows
- ❖ Golden Corral
- ❖ Public Service Announcements



# VSOs – Who We Are



## Q & A

