

**VA**



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

# News Release

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## **Joint Statement from DHS and VA on Continued Collaboration Throughout COVID-19 Pandemic**

In a whole-of-government effort, Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Veterans Affairs have worked very closely together throughout the coronavirus pandemic to bring critical medical supplies to our nation's heroes. While the supply and demand for PPE during this crisis is greater than ever before, the federal government has worked with governmental and private sector partners to secure what the VA needs.

In support of our nation's veterans, FEMA has coordinated shipments of more than 4.3 million various types of respirator masks, 1 million facial/surgical masks, 1.5 million gloves, and 14,000 face shields to VA facilities across the country. An additional 1 million facial/surgical masks are shipping this week.

Additionally, working in close partnership with FEMA, the VA has made 1,500 acute and intensive care hospital beds across the nation available to non-veteran patients, if necessary. VA is helping 38 states, providing support to state Veterans' homes and private nursing homes.