



**National Security Bulletin 8
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Hello to all of my Strategic Planners. Did you know that the DoD POLICY ALLOWS VETERAN AND MILITARY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS GREATER ACCESS Helping servicemembers transition from the military world to civilian life is among the top priorities of The American Legion Family.

The Department of Defense (DoD) has made access to troops and their families easier than ever. At the urging of The American Legion and other organizations, DoD approved two policy memoranda that direct military services to allow veteran and military service organizations (VSOs/MSOs) greater and more standardized access to installations, their troops, and families. The American Legion worked with DoD staff to shape the policy to increase the presence of service officers at installations and to create greater troop and military family awareness of American Legion support programs, such as Operation Comfort Warriors (OCW), transition assistance, career support and more.

American Legion Family departments, districts and posts/units are encouraged to use this publication as a resource for working with military installations to help troops ease the transition from military to civilian life.

Now is the time to submit the American Legion Auxiliary's Salute to Servicemembers Award. This year it is much easier to submit for this award. An ALA member/entity simply makes the nomination, rather than the servicemember, to effectively tell the story of why they feel this person is head and shoulders above their peers and worthy of this award.

A simple narrative of no more than 1000 words, a picture of the servicemember (preferably official Department of Defense photo) and the endorsement from their command group are the only requirements. The deadline is June 1, 2025, but it is better to submit now. The nomination form is live now. Simply click <https://www.legion-aux.org/Salute-to-Servicewomen-Award> with the nomination form at <https://member.legion-aux.org/Salute-to-Servicemembers>.

As we all know, the fires in Southern California have claimed lives and many people have lost their homes and businesses. As of DEC reporting, there were over 100 Legion Family members who lost their homes or businesses. Please continue to donate money and items. Get with your Posts and have a joint fundraiser to raise funds for our Legion Family members.

Have a wonderful Valentine's Day!

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