

Granite State Marine Corps League Detachment #542

June 9 , 2026 at 1800

Uniform of the day: MCL cover

Opening Ceremony: Commandant, Sgt-at-Arms, Chaplain

Roll Call of Officers and Appointed Positions:

Commandant :	Eric Anthony	Pr. ☒	Ex. ☐	Abs. ☐
Sr Vice Cmndt :	Jesse Stufflebeam	Pr. ☒	Ex. ☐	Abs. ☐
Jr Vice Cmndt :	Vacant	Pr. ☐	Ex. ☐	Abs. ☐
Judge Advoc :	Chris Peirce	Pr. ☒	Ex. ☐	Abs. ☐
Jr Past Cmndt :	B J Byers	Pr. ☐	Ex. ☒	Abs. ☐
Acting Adjutant:	Jo Zurwell	Pr. ☒	Ex. ☐	Abs. ☐
Chaplain :	Joe Duquette	Pr. ☒	Ex. ☐	Abs. ☐
Paymaster :	Marge Romano	Pr. ☒	Ex. ☐	Abs. ☐
Quartermaster :	Steve White	Pr. ☒	Ex. ☐	Abs. ☐
Sgt at Arms :	Paul Coutu	Pr. ☒	Ex. ☐	Abs. ☐
Webmaster :	Jo Zurwell	Pr. ☒	Ex. ☐	Abs. ☐
Scouting :	Kayley Bass /Sara Steffen	Pr. ☒	Ex. ☐	Abs. ☐
Aide De Camp :	Kevin Brown	Pr. ☒	Ex. ☐	Abs. ☐

We have a quorum.

Other Members attending:

Joey Duquette, Paul Janes

New Members Attending and Sworn-In:

None

Guests attending:

Cody Dumont, Department of NH Commandant

Before the meeting began, everyone in attendance used the labels supplied by *Zurwell* to be put on the flags that are given away at fundraisers so that they were ready to be used at the June Market Basket event.

Approval of previous meeting's minutes:

White made the **MOTION** accept the previous meeting's minutes; *Brown* seconded the motion; **passed unanimously**.

A moment of silence was observed for the memory of Chelly Alberding, the wife of former GSD 542 member Chris Alberding.

Anthony started the meeting with a brief recap of prior discussions on offering Dick Anagnost a lifetime membership to the detachment. Dick has been a member for a long time, and because of his years of service and all that he has done in support of MCL in NH specifically with helping to get the detachment connected with Revo Casino, this gesture is being made. *White* made the motion and *Brown* seconded the motion for the expense of \$400 to cover the lifetime membership for Dick Anagnost; the membership voted, and the motion passed unanimously.

Anthony then announced the new slate of officers for the Department of New Hampshire was elected at the May Department meeting. Commandant is Cody Dumont, SVC is Steve Opett, JVC is Reggie LeClair, and Judge Advocate is Robert McCain.

Anthony then provided an update on the progress of the Marine Corps Ball. There has been \$3500 worth of sponsorships received with a little more funds in the account from both detachments. The sponsorships are a tiered method ranging from \$5000 to \$250 and these funds are collected using the new Zeffy account that does not charge any fees. *White* stated he is still working on getting as much as he can from Verani Reality, and he will be contacting Navy Federal Credit Union to see if they will be a sponsor as well.

Dumont then shared that the Commandant for the Dillion Detachment, Melany Nagy has stepped down as Commandant so she can focus on starting up her new business. The new Commandant will be Greg Thompson who was the SVC of Dillion. *Dumont* stated that anything that required Melany's signature will need to be changed over to Greg and have things resigned where needed.

Anthony stated that he is working on finding favors for the ball and is thinking of items that are under \$10 apiece. Right now, he is looking at pocketknives and trying to find a supplier that can match this pricing. *Stufflebeam* then shared his idea for the centerpiece that he will be presenting at the next committee meeting next week, that is a circle base with the Marine Corps logo and wording around it, made by a 3D printer and then a set of flags, one USA and one Marine Corps to be on a joint base to be placed in the center of this circle seal. Then he suggest that the senior most person at each table would be the winner of the center piece. *Stufflebeam* then stated he is working with a photographer now for pricing of different packages to see what would work best for the event.

The next item on the agenda was the flag labels/stickers. *Anthony* thanked everyone for helping to add the labels to the flag staffs before the meeting for the Market Basket fundraising event later in June. This addition to the flags will help bring community awareness to GSD 542 and MCL in NH. This idea originally came from *Bass* about 6 months ago and was discussed at the Executive meeting this past weekend to be used at the upcoming event and see how it is received.

Anthony then touched upon the sale of challenge coins on the detachment website. A process needs to be created, and a volunteer(s) needs step up to be the one to ship the orders that come in for the coins. Some shipping materials will need to be purchased, such as bubble envelopes, so the coins do not get damaged. These coins will be sold on a Zeffy account that will need to be set up and linked to the bank account. At this point, the Quartermaster *White* will need to get a count of the challenge coins currently in the storage unit so that an inventory can be kept and updated when orders are received and shipped.

After a recent instance of a member being hospitalized, and no specific process in place of who should be or would like to be notified, other than the chaplain, *Anthony* thought this would be important to discuss at the Executive meeting. The process has been that the Chaplain would be notified first and then he could send an email to those that would like to be notified of these hospitalizations. The list

would be created of people that would likely visit the person in the hospital if they are able at that time. (Similar to a prayer chain in a church). *Anthony* stated to *Duquette* that he would like to be added to this list and encouraged anyone else that was interested to be notified when someone was hospitalized and visit those people when possible, to let *Anthony* know. *White* commented that he was very encouraged to have *Eric* and *Pat* came to visit him while he was recently in the hospital. It can be very hard for some members if they do not have much or any family living nearby and the isolation of a hospital stay can be very difficult.

Anthony then discussed what he brought up at the Executive meeting for an idea for a list of other organizations that MCL members belong to that can be reciprocally worked with for the benefit of both organizations and to help get the word out about MCL. The proposed name for this list would be Member Affiliated Community Outreach List. This could look like having a GSD ad in an event program from one of these community groups, to having the GSD do a color guard ceremony for an event and other outreach ideas that people can use to connect MCL to the community and get MCL in front of other groups of people that would not normally see or know about MCL. An example of this in action was recently GSD did a color guard for an Interfaith Choir Patriotic event. From that event, he connected the choir with the VA medical center to have them come in and perform for the residents, and someone at that event asked that the color guard come to one of their veteran events.

White then mentioned that the American Legion and VFW in Raymond have a lot of Marines and should extend an invitation for the MC Ball and to the MCL. *Peirce* said that they may come to the ball, but it is unlikely that they would join another like-minded organization like VFW or the legion. *Peirce* then mentioned that there are now only 88K veterans in NH at this time and going down every year.

Anthony then addressed an item that has been tabled at the April and May meetings, determining if the detachment will utilize special pricing from the Union Leader for ad space. The special pricing that was made available to the detachment back in March has most likely expired. *White* stated he would check with Billy at the Union Leader, who is his contact for his account with them, to see if he can get discounted rates for veteran organizations and he will report back at the next meeting.

The next item is a carry-over from the May meeting as well. The King's Choir/Interfaith Choir Patriotic Event took place on May 26th and MCL did the color guard for them, and then the choir performed at the VAMC. *Anthony* thought it would be a nice idea to give them something for coming to the VAMC. *Stufflebeam* commented that since the detachment did their patriotic event and then they came to the VAMC for a performance it all balances out and no funds should be given. The Betsy Ross flag and flagpole, which belonged to the Choir, were subsequently donated to the Detachment by Cindy LaDew, Choral Director. Based on this discussion no motion was made for funds.

Reports of Officers

Senior Vice Commandant: (Jesse Stufflebeam) –

Stufflebeam passed around the signup sheet for the Market Basket fundraiser for anyone who has not signed up yet for a shift to do so if they are able. This event is on Friday/Saturday June 26th-27th and the Saturday is the same day as the Funday Breakfast.

Stufflebeam also reminded everyone that this week is the Division Conference in Springfield, MA and he advised that he and *Eric Anthony* would be attending.

Paymasters Report: (Marge Romano) – See attached report from Paymaster.

\$26,698.12 balance; \$250 outstanding checks; committed funds \$7990.00, deposits \$552.00, resulting in a balance available of \$18,458.12.

Romano then raised a topic for discussion. The paver in Maurice Labbe's name to be at the Easterseals campus has been on hold for five months now and a decision needs to be made as to whether the detachment will make the donation or find a different way to honor Maurice Labbe. *Peirce* explained to the group for those that were not aware why the donation was on hold. *Anthony* asked if Easterseals had made any headway in addressing the objections that were raised to put the donation on hold. *Peirce* stated that Easterseals is a large company and they are going to do what they want, and they are moving ahead with phase 2 of the project. They have hired a new team lead by a Marine veteran. With that said, *Peirce* stated he would go there and take some pictures of what the pavers look like and bring back for discussion and a decision at the next meeting. All agreed this was a good idea.

Romano then shared information she pulled for all the donations that the detachment made in 2025 which totaled \$23,604.40 and YTD 2026 donations are \$10,813 through May 31, 2026. See the attached report for full details.

Peirce asked to confirm when the fiscal year was so he can align the outbound donations. *Romano* stated July 1st to June 30th.

Stufflebeam then asked *Romano* about a person that passed away a couple of months ago, saying that it was their wish to donate \$500 to GSD, did she know anything about this? She did not, he was going to look back in his records to see who and when that was to follow up next month.

To see the full details of the Paymaster, see the attached report.

FUNday Breakfast Report: Marge Romano and Kevin Brown

- The 50/50 raffle raised \$105. The raffle winner, Maryanne Diekmann donated back her half to the scholarship fund. Current total in the account is \$547 for the Trade School Scholarship.
- *Zurwell* commented that there were no applications for the Trade School Scholarship this year or last year, and if there are none in 2027 then the detachment will need to look at what could be a better use of the funds. Ideas of how to get more people to know about the scholarship opportunity were discussed, such as contacting local trade schools and Manchester Community College.

Chaplain Report: (Joe Duquette)

Sick, Injured, Hospitalized Members: *Duquette* stated everyone seems to be in good spirits.

Members / spouses recently passed away:

Updates from VA Hospital: There will not be any BINGO this month.

Judge Advocate: Chris Peirce – *Peirce* advised that there will be a Navy veteran, with no next of kin, ceremony at the NH Veteran Cemetery in Boscawen on Thursday and all are invited to attend if they are able. There will also be a special ceremony for a WWII veteran, U.S. Marine Corps Pfc. Edgar R. Norcross, who was identified as killed in action and his remains unrecoverable. His remains have recently been recovered, see the attached press release for full details. Norcross will be buried in Boscawen, New Hampshire, on July 7, 2026. *Dumont* suggested using the Google Workspace calendar and email options to send out email blast to

all members. He then asked if they need a rifle detail for the ceremony. *Peirce* was not sure but would ask.

Peirce then shared a flyer, see attached, for NH First for Veterans Initiative. NH First for Veterans initiative is a public / private partnership, a collaboration across organizations including NH executive branch agencies, non-profits, educational institutions, veteran friendly businesses, and others, all united by the common goal of honoring and recognizing the service and sacrifice of SMVF by enabling transitioning service members and veterans relocating to the granite state.

Peirce then shared another flyer, see attached, this for New Hampshire Veterans Resources from the NH Department of Military Affairs & Veterans Services. This lists the total number of veterans in NH as 81,535, health, housing, and economic wellbeing of these veterans. There is also available housing options for veterans, employment transitioning support, health and wellness support, legal services resources, and mental health and substance abuse support.

Junior Vice Commandant: (position open at present) – NTR

Quartermaster: (Steve White) – *White* has counted out the flags for the upcoming Market Basket event. He also reported that there are assorted flags from other branches of military and these will not be reordered. He did not get a count on these but can in the future. *White* has taken pictures of the front and back of the challenge coins and emailed those to *Zurwell* and *Stufflebeam* for the website.

Webmasters Report: (Jo Zurwell) –

Zurwell reported from her written report, see attached, the status of the website and the activity for the site. She also mentioned that there was a discussion during the recent executive meeting for ways to improve or update the website to bring in more people to the site. She shared these ideas as updating the home page to be more concise and provide quick links to other pages without all the wording on the home page. Update the “Those We Serve” page to be more inline with the organization the detachment has donated to in the last year and a half as what is there is from prior to 2023. *Anthony* suggested adding a video or slideshow of images of check presentations for those donated to and have the Marine hymn running in the background. *Dumont* advised that the Google account has an app to be able to make this video. *Zurwell* then continued to let the group know that the resources page will be updated and revised as well as the gallery page. *Romano* made a motion to accept the webmaster report, *White* seconded the motion, vote passed unanimously.

Scouting Report: (Kayley Bass/Sara Steffen) –

Bass advised that the Boy Scouts have purchased and registered the canoe trailer and used it last weekend to transport their canoes, and it worked great. They plan to use it when they take their canoes to a lake with an island for a camping trip. They purchased it for \$2000, just over the budget from Facebook marketplace. She has emailed the bill of sale to *Romano* and *Anthony* for a check to be issued for the agreed upon amount of just over \$1900. There was a check presentation from *Anthony* to *Bass* for the canoe trailer; she will have pictures taken with the troop director and the troop when she presents the check to them.

There was an Eagle Scout presentation that *Anthony* participated in on May 23rd for Arjun Puninchittaya with Scout troop 414.

Correspondence: (Commandant, Paymaster, et al) Eric Anthony reporting

Anthony read off a thank you card received from the Interfaith Choir for the color guard for their performances. *Anthony* also read off an email about the CHAOS FIRST robotics team for their trip to nationals and how they did there.

Aide De Camp : (Kevin Brown)

Brown stated that it was asked of him at the Executive Meeting to look into how to get a tent space at the Cruising Downtown Manchester car show on labor day weekend. He then stated that he thought contacting Hannaford for doing fundraising might be a good option as they are the only other major grocery store in the area. *Peirce* mentioned that he believes Hannaford does gift cards for donations if they are asked but is not sure if they allow table fundraisers; he suggested contacting Walmart to have us do table fundraisers. *Brown* suggested contacting Tuckers to have a table fundraiser at their place on July 4th. A lot of people stated they would not be around on that day, so it might be hard to find people to cover the table. Lastly, *Brown* said that he is in continued communication with Alex Ray to invite him to a meeting or breakfast to discuss how the detachment could help in one of his NH fundraising efforts.

Romano then mentioned that member Sara Steffen has her family group Steffen Family Foundation, to support spouses and children of military, veterans and first responders to assist and support them while navigating grief. She will give this information to *Peirce* for consideration in the distribution of donation in the coming year.

Donations inbound: (Paymaster, Commandant): NTR

Donation Review Committee:

Peirce stated that the committee will meet after the Revo Casino funds are known and they will discuss the organizations to donate to in the coming year. He has done some preliminary work and stated that the funding would remain the same or similar to last year for Liberty House, Meals on Wheels, and the VA BINGO. They are looking at \$13K for total donations, plus \$5K to a slush fund for groups that are not known at the time of making the initial planning, \$5K slush fund for individuals in need. He stated that the detachment should know about June 15th how much will be received from the 10 days at Revo Casino. Once that information is known a final determination can be made for the year by the committee.

Peirce thanked the Honor Detail for their work at the Memorial Day ceremony at the NH Veterans Cemetery.

Awards: (Commandant, et al) – NTR

Honor Details: (vacant) – NTR

Scholarship committee: (Jo Zurwell) -

Zurwell advised that the two scholarships for 2026 have been awarded to Arwen Feng and Rachel Otto. She said some work will need to be done with regard to the trade school scholarship for the coming year. This was the second year it was offered and the second year there were no applicants for it. She does not think that the guidance offices are informing the students that it is available, and or the students that are thinking of going to a trade school do not think that there would be any scholarships available and do not even look for any. Going to the trade schools in the area could be a good start or to the Manchester Community College to go at it from the other side of the education spectrum.

Continuing Business:

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Dumont announced that GSD 542 will be hosting the Q3 Department meeting on a date in September, typically a Saturday/Sunday, and host lunch before the meeting.

Romano mentioned a group called the Military Suicide Loss Memorial who are working to create a memorial for military suicide loss to be added to the Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen as part of the Walk of Honor. *Romano* will be inviting Gerry Duncan, of this organization, to come to the July meeting to share information and status of the project; they are looking for donations.

Because of the timing of upcoming events, there are two donations that will be included in the donation committee recommendations that need to be voted on sooner than normal. *Peirce* made a motion to donate \$2,000 to Building Dreams for Marines, this was seconded by *White*, voted passed unanimously. *Romano* mentioned she and her daughter will be at the money hole again this year, *Stufflebeam* and *Coutu* both stated they would like to help as well; this rounded out the four that were needed.

Peirce then made a motion to donate \$1000 to Hidden Battles, this was seconded by *White*, vote passed unanimously.

For the Good of the Order

- No Bingo is this month.
- *Dumont* passed out Department MCL t-shirts with a QR code on the back to all in attendance. He also had an officer colored shirt for the department chaplain and gave that to him. These shirts are from a local supplier, so if anyone wants more later, to let him know and more can be ordered.
- *Dumont* then shared that a new member to the Lakes Region Detachment is the lead organizer for a large golf tournament for Marines vs Army on July 19th and the Department will have a booth. The event is due to have about 600 veterans in attendance. Once he has the details he will share on the website and in email.
- *Romano* reported that from the April meeting check presentation to the NH Troopers Association, John Janocz, who received the check, has joined GSD 542 with Sara Steffen helping with the recruiting process.
- *Anthony* asked the Department of NH to be a sponsor of the Marine Corps Ball. *Dumont* replied that he will add it to the agenda for the next meeting in September.

Closing Ceremony:

(Commandant, Sgt-at-Arms, Senior VC, Chaplain)

Meeting Adjourned at 1943.

Next meeting dates:

- The next FUNday breakfast will be on **June 27, 2026** (Sat.) at the Airport Diner, 08:00
- The next official meeting will be on Tuesday, **July 14, 2026**, at 1800 hours.

--- Jo Zurwell, Acting Adjutant

Granite State Marine Corps League
Detachment #542
Agenda – June 9, 2026

1. Opening Ceremony
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes May 12, 2026
4. Commandant
 - a. Life membership for Dick Anagnost – vote for expense of \$400
 - b. New Department of NH officers elected in May
 - c. MC Ball – Joint event w Dillion Detachment – Update
 - d. Flag labels/stickers
 - e. Challenge Coin sales – need volunteer to ship orders
 - f. Hospital visitation list – who wants to be on notification list
 - g. Member Affiliated Community Outreach List - Eric
 - h. Union Leader – special pricing for ad space – tabled from April, do we want to invest in ad space or do local event program ads?
 - i. King's Choir/Interfaith Choir Patriotic Event motion made at May meeting to discuss a gift contribution to this group in June
5. Officer Reports
 - a. SVC – Jesse Stufflebeam
 - b. Paymaster – Marge Romano
 - c. Chaplain – Joe Duquette
 - d. Judge Advocate – Chris Peirce
 - e. Jr Vice – vacant
 - f. Quartermaster –Steve White –
 - g. Webmaster – Jo Zurwell
 - h. Scouting -Kaylee Bass and Sara Steffen
 - Eagle Scout presentation for Arjun Puninchittaya with Scout Troop 414 on Saturday, May 23 at 2:30pm
 - i. Correspondence -Eric Anthony
 - Interfaith Choir thank you card, Betsy Ross Flag
 - CHAOS email from competition
 - Canoe trailer purchase email - Kayley
 - j. Aide de Camp – Kevin Brown
 - k. Donations Inbound – Eric Anthony

- l. Donation Evaluation Committee– Chris Peirce -discuss charities selected to support in 2026 and in what way.
 - m. Awards
 - n. Honor Detail
 - o. Scholarship – Jo Zurwell / George Robinson /Steve White
6. Continuing Business
 - a. Old Business
 - b. New Business
7. For the Good of the Order – anyone have anything to share
8. Closing Ceremony
9. Next breakfast is June 27, 2026. Next Member meeting July 14th

[illegible]

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE	OUTSTANDING CHECKS	AMOUNT
\$ 26,698.12	Webmaster Maintenance	\$ 250.00
Total Outstanding Checks		\$ 250.00
AVAILABLE FUNDS TO DATE		\$ 18,458.12
Deposits made after Last Meeting thru June 9, 2026		
FUNDAY Breakfast April 2026		\$ 105.00
Table at Revo Casino Lebanon NH 5/13/26		\$ 63.00
Table at Revo Casino Lebanon NH 5/15/26		\$ 74.00
Table at Revo Casino Lebanon NH 5/16/26		\$ 310.00
Total Deposits to Date		\$ 552.00

<i>FUNday Breakfast Raffle Donations 2026 for Commandant Trade School Scholarship</i>		
<i>FOR 2027</i>		
January	\$ 37.00	
February	\$ 70.00	
March	\$ 265.00	
April	\$ 70.00	Raffle Winner Paul Coutu donated back to Scholarship fund
May	\$ 105.00	Raffle Winner Maryanne Diekman donated back to Scholarship fund
June		
July		
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		
TOTAL	\$ 547.00	



NEWS RELEASE

Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency
Washington, D.C. 20301-2300



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Phone: (703) 699-1420/1193

Fulfilling Our Nation's Promise Marine Accounted For From World War II

May 8, 2026

WASHINGTON—The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced today that U.S. Marine Corps Pfc. Edgar R. Norcross, 18, of Manchester, New Hampshire, killed during World War II, was accounted for on June 12, 2025.

Norcross's family recently received their full briefing on his identification, therefore, additional details on his identification can be shared.

In the spring of 1945, Norcross was assigned to Marine Torpedo Bombing Squadron, 232 Marine Air Group 45, 4th Marine Air Wing, Air Defense Command on Ulithi in the Caroline Islands of the western Pacific Ocean. On March 16, he was the radio gunner on a TBM-3 Avenger aircraft. During a glide bombing attack on Yap Airfield, the aircraft crashed on Yap Island in what is the modern-day Federated States of Micronesia. The crew, including Norcross, did not survive the crash. The Marine Corps reported him killed in action and his remains were declared non-recoverable.

On Jan. 13, 1946, Commander Task Unit 94.3.3 from the U.S. Navy located an Avenger crash site where two crew members had been buried in a shallow grave by the Japanese. The two were exhumed, reburied in deeper graves, and marked with white crosses inscribed with "Unknown American Flier, Died in the service of his country."

American Graves Registration Service personnel returned to Yap in February 1947 for further search and recovery operations. They recovered 10 sets of remains from various locations on the island and consolidated near the town of Colonia where they were reburied. The two sets of remains from the Avenger crash were buried together in Grave 7. In May 1947, they were exhumed and sent to the AGRS Mausoleum in Manila, Philippines. One set of remains was identified. The other was designated Unknown X-398 and buried at what is now Manila American Cemetery and Memorial.

In 2011, an investigation team from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, a DPAA predecessor, spent 21 days on Yap investigating leads. They were shown a piece of an TBM Avenger wing by locals, but were not permitted to access the location where the wing was originally found. Because the original crash site was never accessible, DPAA instead reviewed the records of Unknowns from Yap and determined X-398 could possibly be Norcross. X-398 was disinterred from MACM on Dec. 11, 2020, and transferred to the DPAA Laboratory for scientific analysis.

To identify Norcross's remains, scientists from DPAA used anthropological and radio isotope analysis, as well as circumstantial evidence. Additionally, scientists from the [Armed Forces](#)

[Medical Examiner System](#) used mitochondrial DNA and mitochondrial genome sequencing data analysis.

Norcross's name is recorded in the Tablets of the Missing at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial, along with the others who are missing from WWII. A rosette will be placed next to his name to indicate he has been accounted for.

Norcross will be buried in Boscawen, New Hampshire, on July 7, 2026.

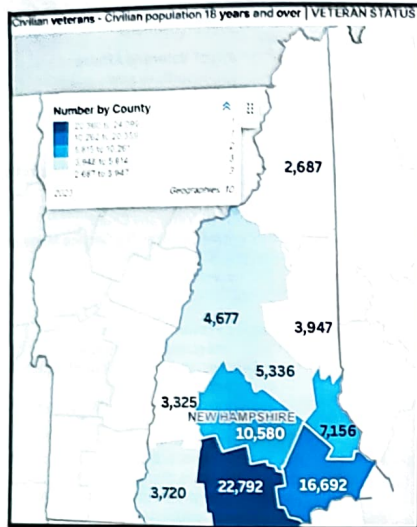
For family and funeral information, contact the U.S. Marine Corps casualty office at 866-210-3421, option 1.

For additional information on the War Department's mission to account for Americans who went missing while serving their country, visit the DPAA website at www.dpaa.mil or on social media at www.facebook.com/dodpaa, <https://www.linkedin.com/company/dodpaa>, <https://www.instagram.com/dodpaa/>, or <https://x.com/dodpaa>.

Norcross's personnel profile can be viewed at <https://dpaa-mil.sites.crmforce.mil/dpaaProfile?id=a0Jt0000000XdnuEAC>.

Read Norcross's initial ID announcement here: <https://www.dpaa.mil/News-Stories/ID-Announcements/Article/4270157/marine-accounted-for-from-world-war-ii-norcross-e/>.

New Hampshire Veteran Resources



**NH Department of
Military Affairs & Veterans Services**
www.nhveterans.nh.gov
(603) 225-1200



Div. of Community Based Military Programs (603)225-1286
Division of Veterans Services (603)624-9230
NH State Veterans Cemetery (603)796-2026
www.nhsvc.com

New Hampshire Veterans Home
www.nh.gov/veterans/
(603)527-4400



81,535 Veterans live in NH

Period of Service	Age Distribution	
World War II	0.3%	75 years and over 32.3%
Korean War	3.6%	65 to 74 years 22.7%
Vietnam War	34.4%	55 to 64 years 18.8%
Gulf War I	20.7%	35 to 54 years 20.4%
(Persian Gulf)		18 to 34 years 5.8%
Gulf War II	23.5%	
(Iraq, Afghanistan)		

Health

46,417 Veterans are enrolled in the VA Healthcare system

26,012 Veterans are receiving disability compensation

Nationally (2024), 17.6 Veteran suicides a day
after accounting for age differences, NH Veteran suicide rate was
not significantly different than national Veteran suicide rate but
was significantly higher than national general population.

A Veteran Suicide reported in NH about every ~2 weeks

Housing Stability

Approximately 80% own their own homes

At any given time about 150 Veterans reported as homeless in NH

173 Veterans permanently housed in 2024 in NH

85% of NH Veterans experiencing homelessness report a
disabling condition

Economic wellbeing

34% of Veterans earn between \$100-199K

27% of Veterans earn between \$50-99K

25% of Veterans earn less than \$50,000 a year

Veterans earn about 14% more than NH median income

5% of NH Veterans live below the poverty level

Housing



Ending Veteran Homelessness in NH
Connect a homeless Veteran to housing services

Clear Path for Veterans New England
Supportive Services for Veteran Families
www.clearpathne.org
(978)362-9757

Easterseals NH Military & Veterans Campus
Housing, Care Coordination, Therapeutic Services
<https://militaryveteranscampusnh.org>
888-285-9248

Harbor Care
Transitional Housing, Supportive Services, Employment
Reintegration, Suicide Prevention, Permanent Housing
<https://harborcarenh.org>
(603)821-7788

NH Housing Finance Authority
Rental and homeownership programs to assist low-and
moderate-income persons with affordable housing
www.nhhfa.org
800-640-7239

VA Housing Assistance
VA home loan benefits, Veteran housing assistance grants
www.va.gov/housing-assistance/



Get Connected. Get Help.
Statewide, Comprehensive,
Information & Referral Service
available 24/7

<https://211nh.org>



National Call Center
for Homeless Veterans
877-424-3838

Connecting homeless & at-risk Veterans
with housing solutions, health care,
employment services & other supports
www.va.gov/homeless

Employment

Transitioning Service Members

Military Skills Transfer, Licensing, & Certification

Training & Education



NH Veteran-Friendly Business Network
in partnership with NHES



NH Department of Employment Security (NHES)

NHES provides priority of service to Veterans & eligible spouses for receipt of employment and training services
www.nhes.nh.gov
1-800-852-3400 or (603)224-3311

NH Department of Administrative Services, Division of Personnel

www.das.nh.gov/jobsearch/veterans.aspx

NH Office of Professional Licensure & Certification

www.oplc.nh.gov
(603)271-2152

US Department of Labor Veterans Employment & Training Service (VETS)

VETS vision: to enable all Veterans, Service Members, and military spouses to reach their full potential in the workplace
www.dol.gov/agencies/vets
1-866-237-0275

US Department of Veterans Affairs Veteran Readiness & Employment (VR&E)

www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/



Live Free and Choose NH
Transition & career resources for
Military/Veterans



State Approving Agency VA GI Bill®

Using your GI Bill® educational benefits for higher learning, non-college degrees, apprenticeships and on the job training

GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the US Department of Veterans Affairs. More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official US Government website
www.benefits.va.gov/gibill

Health & Wellness

"Ask the Question" (ATQ)
"Have you or a family member ever served in the military?"
www.askthequestion.nh.gov



US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

VA Manchester Health Care System
www.va.gov/manchester-health-care/
(603)624-4366

VA White River Junction Health Care System
www.va.gov/white-river-junction-health-care/
(802)295-9363

NH Veterans Freedom to Smile

Access to reduced cost or free dental care for qualified Veterans



Aging and Disability Resource Centers

www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/adult-aging-care/aging-and-disability-resource-centers
1-866-634-9412



Legal Services Resources

Justice Involved Veterans

**US Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Justice Outreach Program**
www.va.gov/homeless/vjo.asp

State of NH Judicial Branch

www.courts.nh.gov
Veterans Courts
<https://www.courts.nh.gov/our-courts/treatment-courts/treatment-court-locations>

603 Legal Aid - Hope for Heroes
Civil legal aid for Veterans
www.603legallaid.org
(603)224-3333

New Hampshire Legal Assistance
www.nhla.org
1-800-562-3174

Veterans Legal Justice
www.vljin.org
(603)397-0650

Mental Health & Substance Abuse

NH Veterans Coalitions
Expanding social connectedness
www.nhveterans.nh.gov/
community-based-military-programs/
nh-veterans-coalitions



US Department of Veterans Affairs
www.mentalhealth.va.gov/

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) NH
www.naminh.org

Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration
www.samhsa.gov

Easterseals NH Veterans Count
Care Coordination/Supportive Services for Service Members, Veterans, & their families
<https://vetscount.org>
(603)315-4354

NH Suicide Prevention Council Military and Veterans Subcommittee

If you're a Veteran in crisis or concerned about one, here are some resources to help.
<https://preventsuicidenh.org/resources-for/military-veterans/>

Strong as Granite

Raising awareness of mental health & substance use support & resources available throughout NH
<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/health-care/behavioral-health/strong-granite>

NH Recovery Friendly Workplace New Hampshire
www.recoveryfriendlyworkplace.com



NH Rapid Response Access Point
immediate, 24/7 access to mental health and/or substance use crisis support via telephone, text, and chat
CALL 1-833-710-6477 or dial/text 988



**Veterans
Crisis Line**
DIAL 988 then PRESS 1

You don't have to be enrolled in VA benefits or health care to connect

24/7, confidential
crisis support
for Veterans and
their loved ones

NH First for Veterans Initiative

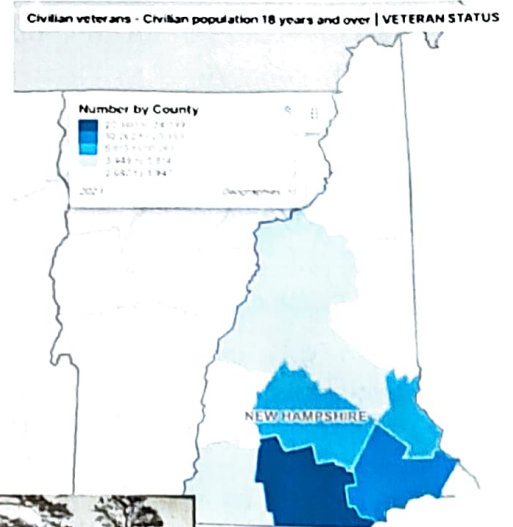


New Hampshire is committed to becoming the best state for transitioning Service Members, Veterans and their Families (SMVF) to live, work, play and stay. Whether native to New Hampshire and looking to come home after serving or assessing the best state to build the next chapter of one's life, the **NH First for Veterans team** is setting conditions to help you find a place to establish a home, start your next career, and connect you to healthcare/wrap around services.

NH First for Veterans initiative is a public / private partnership, a collaboration across organizations including NH Executive Branch Agencies, Non-Profits, Educational Institutions, Veteran-Friendly Businesses and others - all united by the common goal of honoring and recognizing the service and sacrifice of SMVF by enabling transitioning Service Members and Veterans relocating to the Granite State to achieve their goals as they transition from uniformed service to the civilian sector.

NH First for Veterans Initiative Focus:

- Veteran-Friendly advocacy, policy and laws.
- Veteran & Spouse employment support.
- Sharing why New Hampshire is the best choice for transitioning Service Members looking to put down roots and grow their lives "Granite Strong".



NH's military history extends beyond the signing of the Declaration of Independence and establishment of the United States of America as we know it now. From the early 1600, NH citizens have honorably served and defended our state and Nation.



Each year, across the nation and the globe, almost 200,000 Service Members transition from the military to civilian life and about 1,000 Veterans designate New Hampshire as their point of transition - The NHFirst for Veterans Initiative's goal is to significantly increase that number!



DEPARTMENT OF
Military Affairs and
Veterans Services



NH First for Veterans Initiative

Veteran-Friendly advocacy, policy & laws

- NH House Bill 1415: NH First for Veterans License plate to honor Veterans and establish fund for promoting Veteran wellness.
- NH House Bill 1101: Enable NH State Veterans Council to oversee NH First for Veterans' License Plate Fund.
- Executive Order 2025-07 An order providing for State Government employment opportunities for qualified current, and former members of the United States Armed Forces, the NH National Guard, and their spouses.
- Draft Executive Order supporting NH Executive Agencies use of DoW Skillbridge.



Veteran and Spouse employment

- NH Employment Security (NHES) Case Managers and Local Veteran Employment Representatives (LVER).
- NH Veteran-Friendly Business network – 100 plus strong!
- NHES & NH Business and Economic Affairs Business Outreach teams / Business Service Representatives.
- Community College System of NH – an array of SMVF educational and employment support opportunities.
- NH Office of Professional Licensure and Certification
 - military skills transfer options: troops to trucks, electricians, Medics to LNA's.



Veteran Well-Being

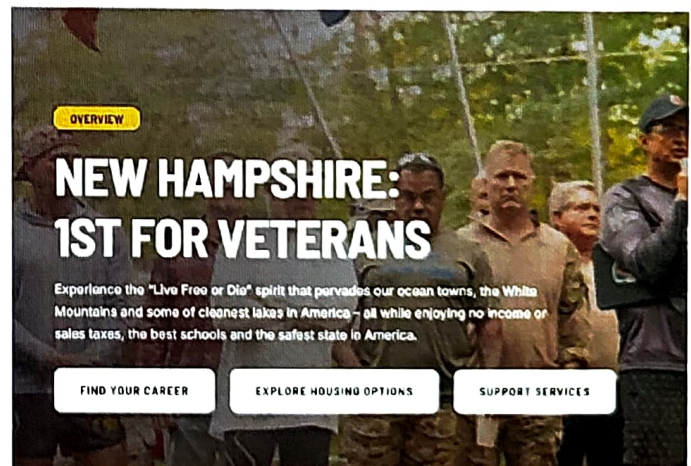
- VA Manchester and White River Junction Healthcare Systems, Medical Center & Clinics.
- NH State Veteran Service Officers and certified nonprofit VA claims submission.
- Numerous Veteran Service Organizations across the State.
- NH *Ask the Question* initiative – "Have you or a family members served in the military?"

Raising Awareness

- Transitioning Service Member and Relocating Veteran Landing Page hosted by SWAM.
- Numerous NH State Executive Agency websites.

NH FIRST
FOR VETERANS

HOUSE NO RESO



Honoring and appreciating our Veterans and attracting skilled Veteran talent to NH to contribute to our Granite State's economic success.

Webmaster and Social Media Manager

Board Report for

June 9, 2026, GSD 542 Meeting

Since the last meeting the following were either done on the website and/or added to social media.

- Created a reminder email in Constant Contact urging people to RSVP to go to the Department quarterly meeting and convention on May 17th.
- Updated plugins,
- Added Interfaith Choir thank you card to blog post of website.
- Created social media post for Memorial Day and scheduled it to post 5/25.
- Uploaded the NE Div June/July Newsletter to the website and made a blog for it.
-
- This is not an all-inclusive list of what I did since the last meeting, but it is what best pertains to the website and social media.
- Reviewed website usage report from Monster Insights

Website: Google Analytics GA4 numbers for May 1 – May 31, 2026

	12/1- 12/31/25	1/1/26 – 1/31/26	2/1/26- 2/28/26	3/1/26- 3/31/26	4/1/26- 4/30/26	5/1/26- 5/31/26
Total Website Users	569	540	550	573	447	879
Direct Find	497	481	487	492	376	821
Organic Search	66	45	39	48	50	50
Referral (link on another site to ours)	6	11	16	31	4	6
Organic Social	0	3	8	2	17	2

The top landing page views were as follows:

	12/1- 12/31/25	1/1/26- 1/31/26	2/1/26- 2/28/26	3/1/26- 3/31/26	4/1/26- 4/30/26	5/1/26- 5/31/26
Main Home page	261	206	191	214	202	186
Contact Us	0	0	0	0	20	0
Detachment Officers	9	0	25	9	0	24
Events	24	43	47	55	62	249

Resources	19	19	29	21	17	0
Semper Fidelis Newsletter	27	15	0	0	0	0
Scholarships	0	0	50	65	28	0
Scholarship Application	0	0	32	21	14	0
Membership	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mobius Mobility		19	0	0	0	0
Monthly Meeting Mins		32	18	0	0	25
NE Div Feb-Mar 2025 Newsletter		16	0	0	0	0
News & Events				34	6	0

Oorah Newsletter Readership

Issue Date	Qty Sent to	Qty Opened	Qty Clicked
March 2025	751	313	17
June 2025	735	274	10
September 2025	731	299	19
December 2025	718	280 (42%)	6 (1%)
March 2026	715	266 (38.7%)	12 (1.8%)

Respectfully Submitted, Jo Zurwell, #238602, Webmaster & Social Media Manager