

# The SUNSHINE

The Official Publication of The Paralyzed Veterans of America • Florida Chapter



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## ATTENTION FLORIDA CHAPTER WOMEN MEMBERS!

**September 27-29 2025**

Minneapolis, Minnesota

If you have never been before, please think about attending, it's a life-changing event. Anyone interested in going, please let the office know. We will try to send someone who has never been before 1st, and then go down the list. All-expenses-paid.



**Florida Chapter**

### Paralyzed Veterans of America Florida Chapter

3799 North Andrews Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33309

Phone: 954-565-8885 or 800-683-2001

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WEB: [www.pvaf.com](http://www.pvaf.com)

*Have you moved or are you planning a move? If you are reading this Newsletter and it was not mailed to you, please call us or e-mail your updated address and contact information:  
(954) 565-8885 [pvaf@aol.com](mailto:pvaf@aol.com)*

## OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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Vice-President.....	Josue Cordova
Secretary .....	Marcus Murray
Treasurer .....	Tom Wheaton
Director .....	Tammy Jones
Director .....	Anne Robinson

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Healthcare/Miami .....	
Healthcare/West Palm Beach .....	
Membership .....	
Research & Education .....	
Sports .....	
VAVAS, Miami.....	
Volunteer Coordinator .....	Veronica Pereira

## SUNSHINE STAFF

Office Manager .....	Veronica Pereira
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## PVAF FLORIDA CHAPTER SUB OFFICE

### MIAMI VA HEALTH CARE CENTER

1201 North West 16th Street, Room 1C-134  
Miami, Florida 33125  
Telephone/Fax 305-575-3304

### SCI HOTLINE NUMBERS

S.C.I. Outpatient Clinic Practitioner  
Direct: 888-276-1785 ext.14520  
Appt. Only: 888-274-1785  
ext. 13587 or 13588

### PVA SERVICE OFFICE

Raul Acosta, NSO  
Miami VA Health Care Center  
1201 North West 16th Street, Room 1C-139  
Miami, Florida 33125  
305-575-7180 or 800-795-3591  
Fax: 305-575-7181

### PVA SERVICE OFFICE

VA Regional Office  
P.O. Box 1437  
St. Petersburg, Florida 33731-9968  
727-319-7470 or 800-795-3594

# President's Message

David Zurfluh

PVA Past President

Members,

The committee has been working with staff for the last few months to accomplish tasks/goals to put the chapter on a better path when the monitoring requirements are met and consideration to come off monitoring is determined by the PVA National Executive Committee. We are early in what will be a long process, but here are things we have accomplished and will be focusing on in the months ahead:

Reviewed all chapter financials

Passed a budget

Funded events before the end of the year

Submitted 990

Sent out Annual Report

Held a membership meeting

## **THINGS WE ARE FOCUSING ON:**

Drafting and submitting new Chapter Governing documents and standard operating procedures

Committees

Programs

Winter Sports Clinic & National Veteran Wheelchair Games

Website

Newsletter

Membership meetings

The consistency of this newsletter is not lost on us and will hope fully give you the members on opportunity to check the chapters progress and be informed of the opportunities for you and the chapter going on.

PVA Oversight Committee Chair

National Past President

David L Zurfluh

## Calendar of Events 2025

### February 2025

**February 6, 2025**

Pizza Day  
Miami VA Hospital

**February 9, 2025**

Super Bowl  
Miami VA Hospital

**February 17, 2025**

Presidents' Day - Office Closed

**February 20, 2025**

General Membership Meeting  
PVA Florida Chapter Office

### March 2025

**March 06, 2025**

Pizza Day  
Miami VA Hospital

### April 2025

**April 03, 2025**

Pizza Day  
Miami VA Hospital

### May 2025

**May 01, 2025**

Pizza Day  
Miami VA Hospital

**May 26, 2025**

Memorial Day Luncheon  
Miami VA Patio

Visit us on the web @**WWW.PVAFL.ORG**

## Membership Report

As of January 31, 2025 PVA Florida Chapter membership consists of 352 regular Members & 122 Associates Members:

PVA Florida Chapter welcomes new member:

**The Sunshine**

**Wants to know what's on Your Mind?**

**Call or e-mail us with Your ideas, suggestions.**

**PVAF@aol.com • 954-565-8885**

## Advertisers in the Issue

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## VA Facilities

### Veterans Health Administration

Toll-Free Hotline (medical care)  
1-877-222-8387

### VA Regional Office, St. Petersburg

PO Box 1437  
St. Petersburg, FL 33731  
1-800-827-1000

### Regional Processing Office

Atlanta, GA (educational claims)  
PO Box 54346  
Atlanta, GA 30308  
1-888-442-4551

### VA Insurance Center

(VA Insurance)  
PO Box 42954  
Philadelphia, PA 19101  
1-800-669-8477

### VA Health Administrative Center:

(CHAMPVA and Spina Bida health care)  
CHAMPVA inquiries:  
PO Box 65023, Denver, CO 80206-5023  
CHAMPVA claims:  
PO Box 65024, Denver, CO 80206-5024  
Spina Bida inquiries and claims:  
PO Box 65025, Denver, CO 80206-5025  
1-800-733-8387

### VA Loan Guaranty Eligibility Center

(Certificates of eligibility)  
PO Box 20729  
Winston Salem, NC 27120  
1-888-244-6711

### National Cemetery Administration

Office of Memorial Programs:  
(Headstones & markers)  
810 Vermont Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20420  
1-800-697-6947  
Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) Unit  
Chicago VA Regional Office  
1-800-829-4833

### Miami VA Health Care Medical Center:

1201 NW 16 Street  
Miami, FL 33125  
1-888-276-1785

### VA Outpatient Clinic

9800 West Commercial Blvd.  
Sunrise, FL 33351  
Phone: (954) 475-5500

### VA Medical Center

7305 N Military Trail  
West Palm Beach, FL 33410-6400  
1-800-972-8262





# On Location

Florida Chapter

## DISABILITY EXPO AT FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA



## VETERANS FAMILY DAY AT SAMUEL DELEVOE PARK, FORT LAUDERDALE, FL





# On Location

Florida Chapter

**VETERANS DAY LUNCHEON AT THE MIAMI VA HOSPITAL**







# On Location

Florida Chapter  
**THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON AT MIAMI VA PATIO**





# On Location

Florida Chapter

**CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON AT THE MIAMI VA PATIO**







## PVA Florida Clubhouse Birthdays

PVAF, Improving the Lives of Those with Spinal Cord Injury and Disease

### February Birthday

Thomas H. Wilson, Jr.	Feb 01
Robert B. Daugherty	Feb 01
Alex B. Rosado	Feb 01
Aaron Combs	Feb 02
Joaquin Cabrera	Feb 02
Jose A. Maldonado	Feb 02
Richard Guerrieri	Feb 03
Thomas G. Neel	Feb 03
David T. Wilson	Feb 04
Frank E. Whitlock, III	Feb 04
Thomas W. Kelly	Feb 05
Alberto Martinez-Arizala	Feb 06
Joaquin Cabera	Feb 09
Luis A. Guerra	Feb 09
Gordon A. Parrish	Feb 10
Martin Weissberg	Feb 10
Darryl J. Carter	Feb 10
Walter F. Herbster	Feb 11
Manuel A. Guzman	Feb 11
Joseph J. Cicero, Jr.	Feb 11
Franklin O. Payne	Feb 11
Basdeo Deosaran	Feb 11
Solomon Nichols	Feb 12
Paul P. Mendiola	Feb 12
Albert F. Carbonari	Feb 13
Luis A. Calderon	Feb 13
Alvin E. Kublin	Feb 14
Robert L. Fown	Feb 14
Charles W. Rivenburgh	Feb 14
Robert Venditti	Feb 15
Christopher M. Gomez	Feb 16
Trevis E. Bromer	Feb 17
Christopher S. Woodford	Feb 17
Beverly G. Muzychko	Feb 18
James H. Trepp	Feb 19
Julia Whiley	Feb 20
Wayne D. McChesney	Feb 21
Avery C. Quinn	Feb 22
Marlin Fletcher	Feb 22
Ernest A. Razzano	Feb 23
Loreen M. Zerby	Feb 25
Claudia P. Massa	Feb 25
Glenn Metzler	Feb 27
Anthony J. Hyzenski	Feb 27
Robert J. Hendrickson	Feb 28
Edward Franqui	Feb 28
George E. Manter	Feb 28
Brenda L. Richardson	Feb 28
Kenneth Roberts	Feb 29

### March Birthday

Charles W. Dawson	March 01
James M. Geoghegan	March 01
James Bayonne	March 01
Jack Richman	March 03
John K. Davis	March 03
Zabariel Moss	March 03
Ronnie R. Bell	March 04
Donald K. Brewster	March 09
Francisco A. Abreu	March 09
Frank Bonna	March 10
Daniel B. Evans	March 10
Nicholas D. Berger	March 12
Albert C. Banfe, Jr.	March 13
Ronald McGinnis	March 13
Rosalind S. Russell	March 13
Steven Holloway, Jr.	March 13
Norris A. Daughtry	March 15
James J. Hutson	March 16
Robert H. Goldman	March 16
Arthur Chaykin	March 18
Gena S. Chavis	March 18
Joe P. Buscher	March 21
Eric N. Zimmerman	March 22
Runar G. Polluson	March 22
Dallas F. Lutz	March 25
Frank M. Casey	March 25
Charles Alston	March 28
Philip L. Cohen	March 28
Gregory L. Walsh	March 28
Raymond S. Carroll	March 29
Donald M. McCormack	March 29
Paul R. DeNardis	March 29
Gerardo B. Couzo	March 29
Rhett C. Chalk	March 31

### April Birthday

Noel W. Burns	April 02
Edward Gay	April 03
Eliseo A. DeMorizi	April 04
Leo E. Myzick	April 04
William E. Owens	April 05
Julia A. Torres	April 06
Randall T. Derais	April 07
Rickey W. Johnson	April 08
Henry McDuffie	April 09
Donald R. Thomas	April 09
Thomas J. Franklin	April 12
Francis Wenke	April 12
Walter L. Bembry	April 13
Carl D. Domenici	April 13
Gregory M. Risko	April 15
Jesus M. Sanchez	April 15
Isabel P. Saavedra	April 17
Salvatore Albani	April 18
Morton Binder	April 18
John E. Engel	April 18
Lawrence C. Holland	April 18
George V. Warren	April 18
Benjamin F. Bowers	April 19
Lorene Price	April 19
Edward A. Quinto	April 19
Anthony C. Smith	April 20
Brad W. Cotton	April 21
Lawrence R. Hawkins	April 21
Richard A. Raines	April 21
Harvey T. Horvitz	April 23
Anita Miller	April 23
Jean Augustin	April 26
Robert Bibeau	April 26
Jason Picaro	April 26
Thomas W. Ohlson	April 28
Edward Toro	April 29



# News Round-Up

*Recent news regarding legislation and regulatory actions affecting veterans and people with disabilities.*

*Written and produced by Paralyzed Veterans of America - Government Relations Department*

## **PVA RELEASES 2025 POLICY PRIORITIES**

With a new Congress and a new Administration in Washington, D.C., PVA's priorities for 2025 are focused on ensuring access to the care and benefits PVA members have earned and the civil rights protections they deserve. We look forward to working with our champions to move these priorities forward throughout the year.

Our priorities for 2025 are as follows:

- Protect VA's Specialized Health Care Services
- Increase Access to Long-Term Services and Supports for Veterans with SCI/D
- Improve Veterans' Financial Security
- Enhance Access to Health Care Services for Veterans with SCI/D
- Defend the Freedoms of Veterans with Disabilities

For more details on each of the priorities, please [click here](#).

## **NEW CONGRESS—"FULL RESTART"**

The 119th Congress is officially underway. All unpassed bills from the previous Congress must be reintroduced. We are working with the authors of bills addressing PVA's legislative priorities to make that happen. It's important to remember that bill numbers and titles may change as part of the process.

The House Veterans' Affairs Committee (HVAC) leadership remains the same, but some of its members have changed. For example, the Economic Opportunity Subcommittee's former Ranking Member, Rep. Mike Levin (D-CA), moved to the House Appropriations Committee and will be working on its MILCON/VA Subcommittee. This is the subcommittee that allocates funding for the VA. Another HVAC member, Rep. Frank Mrvan (D-IN) who served as the Ranking Member of the HVAC's Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee, will be joining him. A third Democratic member, Rep. Greg Landsman (D-OH), left the HVAC to serve on the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Three new members, all doctors—Rep. Maxine Dexter (D-OR), Rep. Herb Conaway (D-NJ) and Rep. Kelly Morrison (D-MN), were chosen to replace them. Conaway is a veteran. Reps. Abe Hamadeh (R-AZ), Kimberlyn King-Hinds (R-Northern Mariana Islands), and Tom Barrett (R-MI) are joining the HVAC as new Republican members. Rep. Hamadeh and Rep. Barrett are veterans.

Sen. Jerry Moran (R-KS) is now the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman and Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) has been selected as the new Ranking Member. Joining the committee as members of the majority are Sens. Jim Banks (R-IN) and Tim Sheehy (R-MT). Sen. Banks is currently serving in the U.S. Navy Reserve and Sen. Sheehy is a veteran. On the minority side, Senators Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), Ruben Gallego (D-AZ), and Elissa Slotkin (D-MI) are now members of the committee. Sen. Duckworth and Sen. Gallego are veterans who served in Iraq.

## **PRESIDENT SIGNS VETS SAFE TRAVEL LEGISLATION**

On January 4, President Biden signed an amended version of the VETS Safe Travel Act (H.R. 7365). This bipartisan legislation, introduced by Rep. Paul Gosar (R-AZ) and Sen. Todd Young (R-IN), provides free access to TSA Pre<sup>®</sup> for certain eligible veterans who otherwise meet the requirements of the program. Prior to passage in the House, the bill was amended to limit eligibility to veterans with service-connected disabilities. In order to be eligible, the veteran must meet all of the requirements for TSA Pre<sup>®</sup> and be service connected for limb loss, paralysis, or permanent blindness and as a result use a wheelchair, prosthetic limb, or other assistive device to aid with mobility.

## **THE ELIZABETH DOLE ACT IS NOW LAW!**

On January 2, President Biden signed S. 141, the Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act into law, bringing an end to PVA's long effort to pass this legislation. Now, our focus will shift toward implementing its many provisions which include eliminating the cap on how much VA can pay for home care. The law also expands services to better support caregivers, such as providing them with respite and mental health care to ensure their



# Classified Ads

Spokesman classified section is provided at no cost to PVAF members. Please call Juan Perez by the first of the month prior to publication if you would like to advertise with us: (954) 565-8885.

If you are interested in ensuring quality health care, wheelchair sports, recreation, advocacy, ADA education and helping to improve the lives of those with SCI/D call today to Become a PVAF Associate Member! (954) 565-8885



Florida Chapter

## STAY INFORMED

Email is the fastest way for Paralyzed Veterans to communicate with its members.

### DON'T MISS:

Latest News • Event Calendars • Special Offers • More

**NEW!** Make sure your contact information is current, so you receive the new monthly membership e-newsletter. You'll be the first to hear about events and other updates relevant to our members.

To Update Your Information:  
800-424-5200, ext. 775 or 776  
memberupdate@pva.org

For Information:  
Orinell Hillman  
202-410-7776  
chillid@pva.org

ParalyzePVA.org  
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# News Round-Up

*Recent news regarding legislation and regulatory actions affecting veterans and people with disabilities.  
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well-being and that of their families. Other provisions require the VA to develop a plan that allows for same-day appointment scheduling and create a pilot program that enables veterans with chronic health conditions to access dental care. It also enhances stipends for some of VA's education programs and tightens oversight of educational providers serving veterans. Additionally, it broadens eligibility for burial allowances and revises definitions for certain surviving spouses.

PVA is extremely grateful to Congress for passing this important legislation supporting the families and caregivers of our nation's veterans, especially those with catastrophic injuries and diseases, like MS and ALS. Their bipartisan effort reflects a shared commitment to honoring the sacrifices of those who have served by ensuring they and their caregivers receive the vital supports they desperately need.

## **PRESIDENT SIGNS EXPLORE ACT INTO LAW**

On January 4, President Biden signed the Expanding Public Lands Outdoor Recreation Experiences (EXPLORE) Act (H.R. 6492) into law. The EXPLORE Act improves access and increases outdoor recreation opportunities for various groups, including people with disabilities and veterans. The law directs the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a comprehensive assessment of outdoor recreation facilities on federal recreational lands and waters and high-priority trails to determine the accessibility of the facilities and trails. The Secretary must also select locations to develop new accessible trails and make modifications to transform existing trails into accessible trails. Additionally, maps and signage for new trails must be consistent with federal laws and accessibility guidelines. The law also mandates the selection of locations for the creation of new accessible recreational opportunities (biking, rock climbing, water activities, etc.) that comply with federal laws.

A different section of the law directs the Interior Secretary to seek partnerships with the VA and the Department of Defense to develop educational and public awareness materials. These materials should include information on free opportunities for members of the Armed Forces and veterans to access federal recreational lands. The law also strongly encourages hiring veterans in all positions related to the management of federal recreational lands and waters.

## **VETERANS BENEFITS IMPROVEMENT ACT SIGNED INTO LAW**

On December 23, 2024, President Biden signed the Veterans Benefits Improvement Act into law. This legislation was originally introduced in the Senate on July 26, 2023, as S. 2513 by Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT). The Veterans Benefits Improvement Act intends to improve the VA's claims and appeals process by temporarily adding three judges to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, establishing an internship program at the Board of Veterans' Appeals to recruit law school students, improve and modernize the VA's Disability Benefits Questionnaires, and allow VA examination contractors to contact the veteran's accredited representative (in addition to the veteran) when scheduling appointments amongst other issues. To read more about the new law's provisions, [click here](#).

## **VA PUBLISHES PROPOSED CAREGIVER RULE**

On December 6, 2024, the VA published its much-anticipated proposed rulemaking which would improve the department's Caregiver Programs. The overwhelming majority of their proposed changes would affect the department's current Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC), such as eliminating the onerous requirement that a veteran require assistance with an activity of daily living each time it is performed in order to qualify for the program. Another proposed change expands PCAFC eligibility criteria to include more veterans who have a serious injury or who meet the standards of individual unemployability (IU). Additionally, eligibility for the program would be reassessed every two years, rather than every year, allowing participants to continue receiving services for a longer period of time. Another proposed change would allow VA to conduct home visits via telehealth during any emergency declared by a federal, state, or local authority involving certain safety or public health risk.

VA welcomes your feedback to help them shape the final version of these changes. The public has until February 4 to submit their comments to the proposed rule, which you can find [here](#). PVA has worked with VA over the past few years to develop some of these proposed changes and will submit comments to the department.

# News Round-Up

*Recent news regarding legislation and regulatory actions affecting veterans and people with disabilities.  
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## **DOT ISSUES FINAL RULE ON PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY GUIDELINES**

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) published a final rule on accessibility standards under the Americans with Disabilities Act for transit stops in public rights-of-way. The rule adopts the Access Board's Public Rights-of-Way Guidelines (PROWAG). The Access Board published the standards in August 2023, but the standards could not be enforced until adopted by DOT and the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). Notably, DOT's enforcement authority covers transit facilities and services. DOJ must also adopt the standards to fully enforce the guidelines in all public rights-of-way.

DOT's standards will apply to new construction and alterations of transit stops in the public right-of-way. A public right-of-way is public land acquired for, or dedicated to, transportation purposes. Under the final rule, a transit stop is defined as an area designated for passengers to board or alight from buses, rail cars, and other transportation vehicles that operate on a fixed route or scheduled route, including bus stops and boarding platforms. The final rule requires newly constructed and altered transit stops in the public right-of-way to comply with PROWAG. The guidelines are effective January 17.

## **CONGRESS EXTENDS GOVERNMENT FUNDING THROUGH MID-MARCH**

On December 20, 2024, Congress passed a second continuing resolution (CR) to keep the government funded through March 14. It also contained language codifying VA's Veteran Experience Office and providing greater oversight of the department's accounting procedures. The latter provision requires VA leaders to regularly meet with the members of the VA committees for the next three years to provide updates on the agency's finances. Further, it withholds bonuses to senior VA leaders whenever financial shortfalls exist.

Most notably, the CR did not include the \$6.6 billion in additional funding that VA said it needed for veterans health care for the current fiscal year. Congressional leaders are still reviewing VA's request for the extra money and we are hopeful that they will address the shortfall in legislation funding the government beyond March 14.

## **THINK DIFFERENTLY BILLS ENACTED INTO LAW**

Three bipartisan bills introduced by Rep. Marcus Molinaro (R-NY) as part of his Think DIFFERENTLY initiative to remove barriers in key areas of society for individuals with disabilities have been signed into law.

On January 4, President Biden signed the Think Differently Database Act (H.R. 670/S. 4174) into law. This legislation requires the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to establish a publicly available website with information on Medicaid caregiving services and programs. This website must include information on eligibility, points of contact, waitlists, and covered long-term services.

The Think Differently About Building Accessibility Act (H.R. 9313) was included as Section 2308 of the bipartisan Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (S. 4367). This legislation was also signed into law by the President on January 4. Section 2308 requires the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to report on compliance with the Architectural Barriers Act of buildings owned and leased by the General Services Administration.

Finally, in November 2024, the Think Differently About Emergencies Act (H.R. 6249) was signed into law. It requires the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the GAO to conduct a review of assistance and resources provided to individuals with disabilities and their families who are impacted by major disasters. Under this law, FEMA and the GAO must also provide recommendations to Congress on improvements to such assistance and resources.

## **NEWS OF NOTE VETERANS IN THE 119TH CONGRESS**

The 119th Congress began with 100 members who had military experience, which is the largest number of lawmakers who are veterans in eight years. Two of them (Vice President JD Vance and Rep. Michael Waltz) have left to assume their respective roles in the new Administration. The remaining numbers are as follows: 19 are in the Senate and 79 are in the House. Of those, 26 are Democrats and 72 are Republicans. Experts say the increased number of veterans in Congress reflects a shift in political influence from older generations of veterans to the post-9/11 population.



# News Round-Up

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## DAVID CAPOZZI CONFIRMED FOR AMTRAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the end of the 118th Congress, the Senate confirmed David Capozzi as a member of the Amtrak Board of Directors. Capozzi is the former Executive Director of the U.S. Access Board, former National Advocacy Director for PVA, and a wheelchair user. His appointment satisfies a new statutory requirement for Amtrak to have a designated disability advocate on its board.

## PVA PARTICIPATES IN SVA'S NATCON

Early this month, Student Veterans of America (SVA) held their annual conference in Colorado Springs, Colorado. NatCon is the largest gathering of student veterans each year and is attended by several veterans service organizations (VSO).

One of the popular sessions each year is a "Meet Your VSO Panel," which PVA Associate Legislative Director Julie Howell participated in again this year.

PVA also participated in a "Policy Think-Tank" session, assisting student veterans to think critically about issues impacting their communities and how to draft creative solutions.

## SURVEYS & COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

### SURVEY ON AIRPORT DISABILITY ACCESS

It's been nearly 35 years since the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act. While airports have continued to keep pace with the changing requirements under this law, some airports have exceeded regulatory requirements to make their airports more accessible for all users through various guest experience programs, facility design choices, and amenities. Now, researchers are conducting a survey to identify exemplary airports. The survey is part of an Airport Cooperative Research Project (ACRP) Synthesis project. The ACRP is funded by the Federal Aviation Administration and sponsored by the Transportation Research Board. The survey responses will be compiled and included in a report, but participants will be anonymous. The survey should take about 5 minutes to complete. [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSep-c5CRZ5\\_85Gka4AnXawdxOZg\\_0Patga9EtP13loT5sGY0dQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSep-c5CRZ5_85Gka4AnXawdxOZg_0Patga9EtP13loT5sGY0dQ/viewform)

## VETERANS' COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Please visit the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee webpages for information on previous and upcoming hearings and markups.



Florida Chapter

# On Location

## RECEIVED A DONATION FROM THE CITY OF SUNRISE





# On Location

Florida Chapter

**PVA FLORIDA CHAPTER GOLF TOURNAMENT 2024**





# Advocacy in Action: Your Voice Matters!

By Michael Fidler, Advocacy Director & Government Relations

## PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA - SOUTH FLORIDA CHAPTER

Imagine having the **power to change policies, secure benefits, and improve the lives of paralyzed veterans—without leaving your home.** What if just a **few clicks** could make a real difference in ensuring **better healthcare, transportation, and accessibility for our community?**

Well, it's not just a "what if" scenario. **It's real, and it's happening right now.**

### Join the Fight for Veterans' Rights: PVA Action Force

Advocacy isn't just about big speeches on Capitol Hill—it's about **real people like you and me taking small but powerful actions.** That's where **PVA Action Force** comes in.

This grassroots network, run by **Paralyzed Veterans of America's national office,** allows **YOU** to take a stand on **critical issues affecting veterans with spinal cord injuries, disorders, and disabilities.**

### HOW DOES IT WORK?

- **Stay Informed:** Get legislative alerts on policies that impact paralyzed veterans.
- **Take Action Easily:** With just a click, you can send **pre-written emails** to Congress (**or personalize them with your story!**).
- **Track Key Legislation:** See which bills PVA supports and where they stand in Congress.
- **Find Your Representatives:** Not sure who represents you? Easily look up your elected officials.

### WHAT'S ON THE TABLE RIGHT NOW?

One urgent issue is **the push for additional auto grants for paralyzed veterans.** Right now, many veterans can't afford **adapted vehicles that allow them to drive independently.** A bill currently in Congress aims to **increase access to these grants,** but **it needs support from lawmakers to pass.**

- **Imagine:** What if one email from you could be the deciding factor that gets a lawmaker's attention?

### NOW, HERE'S THE CHALLENGE: WE NEED YOU!

**Advocacy is powerful, but it's even stronger when we stand together.**

**Will you take just 2 minutes to make your voice heard?**

- **Sign up for PVA Action Force alerts**
- **Take action on important legislation**
- **Share this with other members—our voices are stronger together!**

**Ready to get started?** Visit **[PVA Action Force Website]** [www.pvaflorida.org](http://www.pvaflorida.org) and let's make change happen.

Because when we **speak up, Congress listens.** Let's make sure they hear **South Florida loud and clear!**



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# National Veterans Wheelchair Games

REGISTRATION FOR THE NATIONAL VETERANS WHEELCHAIR GAMES IS OPEN!

If you are interested in participating, please get registered and let the Florida Chapter Office know as soon as possible.

44<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

NATIONAL VETERANS  
**WHEELCHAIR  
GAMES**

**3 REASONS TO REGISTER**

- GET ACTIVE
- CRUSH GOALS
- BUILD CONFIDENCE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT: 

CO-PRESENTED BY:



Florida Chapter

**Paralyzed Veterans of America Florida Chapter**  
3799 North Andrews Ave.  
Oakland Park, FL 33309

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