



# ACTION CORPUS WEEKLY



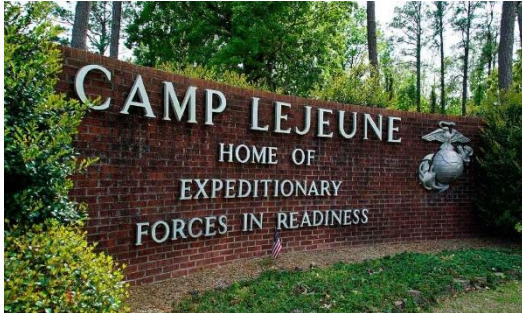
June 12, 2023



**Senate Committee Hearing:** The Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs held a hearing on improving veterans' access to long-term care. Witnesses from VA answered questions on its policies and procedures regarding long-term health care services and on expansion of the Veteran Directed Care program. Chairman Tester explained, "The Veteran Directed Care [VDC] program provides veterans the opportunity to receive long-term care services in their homes by providing them with the budget to hire workers to assist them with certain activities." He then asked for an update on the expansion of VDC to all VA medical centers by the end of next year. [Watch the hearing](#), which begins at the 27:01 mark.



**VFW Speaks at Global Impact Forum:** VFW National Security and Foreign Affairs Director Jeremy Williams participated in the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition's 2023 Global Impact Forum. Williams discussed the vital interplay between U.S. military operations, Veterans Service Organizations, and the nation's diplomacy activities around the world. When asked how the VFW aids overseas U.S. priorities, he stated "The VFW carries the water of American diplomacy abroad." Establishing and sustaining lines of communication and relationships that improve our ability to build diplomatic channels and mitigate conflict enables our organization's on-going commitment to the comprehensive accounting for and recovery of all service members who are listed as missing in action.



**Camp Lejeune Justice Act:** The VFW-championed PACT Act, specifically Section 804 known as the Camp Lejeune Justice Act, authorizes veterans and military families who were exposed to toxic water at Camp Lejeune to file a federal tort claim for harm caused by such exposure. The VFW encourages any veteran to speak to an accredited service officer before considering a lawsuit. If a veteran then determines a Camp Lejeune lawsuit is desired, we encourage that individual to contact a VFW-entrusted law firm that charges no upfront costs and limits attorney fees. [Learn more.](#)



**MIA Update:** The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced two burial updates for service members who have been missing and unaccounted-for from World War II. Returning home for burial with full military honors are:

--**Navy Seaman 1st Class Elmer P. Lawrence, 25**, of Park City, Kentucky, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. He was among the 429 crewmen killed that day. He will be buried on July 22, 2023, in Smiths Grove, Kentucky. [Read about Lawrence.](#)

--**Army Air Forces Technical Sgt. Lawrence E. Reitz, 22**, of Hoopston, Illinois, was assigned to the 343rd Bombardment Squadron, 98th Bombardment Group, 9th Air Force. On Aug. 1, 1943, the B-24 Liberator on which he was radio operator was hit by enemy anti-aircraft fire and crashed during Operation Tidal Wave. He will be buried in Williamsport, Indiana, on a date to be determined. [Read about Reitz.](#)

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