

August 28, 2023



Relief Efforts to Assist Maui Veterans: The VA Pacific Islands Health Care System staff is working to provide care and resources for more than 3,000 Maui veterans impacted by the recent Hawaii wildfires. VA is also accepting <u>online donations</u> to assist these veterans. If you are in need of assistance, please call the VA Honolulu Medical Center at 1-800-214-1306, or visit the <u>resources page</u>.



Make Your Voices Heard on Capitol Hill and in Your Communities: In keeping with the VFW's commitment to student veteran success, every year the VFW partners with Student Veterans of America (SVA) to host the VFW-SVA Legislative Fellowship program, providing exemplary VFW members who are student veterans the opportunity to make their voices heard on Capitol Hill and in their communities. Submit your 2023-2024 VFW-SVA Legislative Fellowship applications BEFORE the Sept. 6 deadline. <u>Apply today</u>.



VA Education Benefits Fraud Alert: As student veterans prepare for the 2023-2024 academic year, the VA Office of Inspector General (VA OIG) is warning about education benefits fraud. Some VAapproved schools engage in fraudulent activity that involves disparities in tuition rates and billing practices for veterans versus civilian students for the same courses. The VA OIG asks that you report any such cases. Learn more about the signs of fraud or submit a complaint.



Pre-Need Eligibility for VA Cemetery Burial: VA

Under Secretary of Memorial Affairs Matthew T. Quinn spoke about pre-need eligibility for burial benefits during a presentation at the 124th VFW National Convention. Over the last five decades, VA has expanded the number of national cemeteries creating more access for urban veterans and jumpstarting an initiative for those in rural areas. However, Quinn revealed that only 16% of veterans will choose a VA national cemetery for their final resting place. <u>Read more</u> about national cemeteries or <u>learn more</u> about VA burial benefits.



MIA Update: The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency has not announced any new identifications or burial updates this past week.

Click here to view this week's edition.

Click here for past editions of the VFW Action Corps Weekly.

Click here to sign up new veterans' advocates.

As always, we want to hear your advocacy stories. To share your stories or photos with us, simply email them directly to <u>vfwac@vfw.org</u>.