



National Service & Legislative Headquarters
807 Maine Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20024-2410
tel 202-554-3501
fax 202-554-3581

TO: National Officers
Department Commanders and Adjutants
Department Benefits Protection Team Leaders
Interim Legislative Committee

FROM: Joy J. Ilem, National Legislative Director

DATE: February 6, 2023

SUBJECT: Reminder—DAV 2023 Mid-Winter Conference

In anticipation of a successful mid-winter conference, we look forward to seeing department delegations in person from Feb. 26 to March 1 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Virginia.

A [tentative agenda](#) for the DAV 2023 Mid-Winter Conference has been posted on the DAV website under “Events,” and you are urged to start making your plans to attend this important event. Conference preparations are underway, and the national legislative team will be on-site to brief you on our 2023 Critical Policy Goals and legislation affecting veterans benefits and health care.

One of the most effective forms of lobbying is a personal visit with your elected officials. COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted and members of Congress are scheduling in-person meetings with constituents. We encourage you to take advantage of free time on Feb. 27 and the afternoon of Feb. 28 to visit with your members of Congress and their staffs. We also urge those who cannot attend the conference to schedule meetings with lawmakers before or after the event. When you are making appointments with your elected representatives, they may ask what topics or issues you would like to discuss during the meeting. You can forward DAV’s 2023 Critical Policy Goals, which can be found [here](#).

We have limited space at the hotel to support scheduled Zoom calls or meetings with lawmakers. If a member’s office is only scheduling virtual meetings during the week of our conference, we encourage you to utilize that option to share DAV’s legislative agenda. DAV will provide a room, laptop, camera, monitor and technical assistance for these calls on a first-come, first-served basis.

Once you make your appointments with your elected officials for an in-person or virtual meeting, we request that the following information be provided to the legislative department no later than **Wednesday, Feb. 15**, via email to LegislativePublic@davmail.org.

1. The names and titles of DAV/DAV Auxiliary members attending the conference.
2. Dates, times and room numbers of any in-person congressional appointments, either member or staff appointments.
3. If a virtual meeting is scheduled, the congressional office you are meeting with—along with the date, time and a link for the meeting. We will provide you the room location to conduct the call.
4. A list of any other planned activities with members of Congress.

DAV 2023 Mid-Winter Conference


Page 2

February 6, 2023

The national commander has been invited to testify before a joint session of the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committees on **Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 10 a.m.** DAV members will be permitted to attend the hearing in person, but we also plan to have the event livestreamed at the hotel for those with mobility challenges.

The commander's reception will be held **Feb. 28, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.**, at the Crystal Gateway Marriott. Please invite your elected officials and their staff to attend.

Stay tuned for additional updates as information becomes available. We look forward to seeing each of you this month at DAV's 2023 Mid-Winter Conference!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joy J. Ilem". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Joy J. Ilem
National Legislative Director

JJI:lmb