



August 5, 2025

Post Commanders, National Deputy Chiefs of Staff, and Members

Subject: 2025 VFW Fall Conference

State Commander James MacArthur, Department of New York, Veterans of Foreign Wars cordially invites you to attend the 2025 VFW Fall Conference on October 10th and 11th, 2025 at the Albany Marriott, 189 Wolf Road, Albany, New York 12205.

There will be a Council of Administration Meeting on Friday, October 10, 2025 at 6:00 PM with the General Meeting Session beginning at 1:00 PM on Saturday, October 11, 2025. There will also be Committee Meetings on Saturday morning along with a Membership Seminar at 10:15 AM presented by Department Membership Chairman Jeff Molitor. State Commander MacArthur highly encourages you to attend this seminar to learn innovative strategies and best practices for attracting new members to our organization.

On Saturday, October 11, 2025, at 3:30 PM there will be a Stop-22 Walk-A-Thon at the Albany Marriott to increase public awareness of veterans committing suicide and bring attention to the mental health needs of our country's veterans.

For room reservations please call the Albany Marriott directly at (518) 458-8444 and state that you are attending the VFW Fall Conference. Rooms are available at the discounted rate of \$134.00 per night. **The cut-off date for reservations is Monday, September 15, 2025.**

Included in this packet is a Fall Conference schedule of events.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Robert J. Mitchell". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Robert J. Mitchell, State Adjutant
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Department of New York

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

69 Sand Creek Road
Albany, New York 12205-1823



TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
2025 VFW FALL CONFERENCE

**Albany Marriott, 189 Wolf Road,
Albany, New York 12205**

Friday, October 10, 2025

State Steering Committee Meeting ** Invitation Only	3:00 PM
Council of Administration Dinner ** Invitation Only	5:00 PM
Council of Administration Meeting	6:00 PM

Saturday, October 11, 2025

Legislative Committee Meeting	8:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Membership Committee Meeting	8:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Membership Seminar	10:15 AM - 11:30 AM
General Session	1:00 PM - 3:30 PM
Stop-22 Program	3:30 PM - 5:00 PM
Church Service	Following Stop-22 Program

Meeting Rooms will be listed on the Hotel Marquee

“HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME”

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

69 Sand Creek Road
Albany, New York 12205-1823



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN
WARS
OF THE UNITED STATES
AND
VFW AUXILIARIES
*THEY MARCHED FOR US...WE
WALK FOR THEM!***

In Support of Veteran Suicide Awareness

\$1.00 Registration fee going to Commander's Special Projects
to Assist in Suicide Prevention and Post Awards



STOP 22 WALK-A-THON

*at the Department of NY Fall Conference
Albany Marriott, 189 Wolf Rd., Albany, NY
Saturday, October 11, 2025 – 3:30 PM*

Department of New York VFW's STOP 22 Initiative
In Partnership with New York's Local VFW's

Department of NY Awareness event will occur at:
Department of NY Fall Conference 10-11 October 2025

Together, we're increasing awareness and support for our Veterans contemplating suicide

Information and Rules

STOP 22 is a noble effort to increase public awareness of Veterans committing suicide, 22 each day. It has to STOP!

Local Post or Auxiliary can select any activity. A walk, run, dance or any activity lasting 22 minutes.

Everyone is welcome to participate and is open to the public and public organizations to participate. The more participants, the better in helping increase awareness for the cause.

Event date: Fall Conference - Saturday, October 11, 2025.

Event date: Posts & Auxiliaries as scheduled

Three prizes will be awarded to a Post or Auxiliary as an incentive to promote awareness in the community to veteran suicide. The Criteria used by the State Commander to determine who will receive the First, Second and Third prize will include but not limited to the type of event to promote awareness (run, walk, a show, etc.), number of participants, local news coverage in TV or newspaper, special events held to promote the awareness of suicide prevention, documentation with newspaper articles/photographs are some of the criteria to determine the three selectees.

1st Prize: \$500 2nd Prize: \$250 3rd Prize: \$100

Participating posts must hold their event between August and October 2025 and **must submit to Dept of NY HQ, 69 Sand Creek Rd, Albany, NY 12205 participant registration sheets, money collected & photos no later than November 14, 2025 to be considered for a prize award.**

There is a \$1 registration fee for each participant.

VFW POST# _____

VFW AUX # _____

EVENT DATE: _____

Participant's Name	Participant's Signature	\$1 donation Fee

August 4, 2025



SERVICE OFFICERS RAFFLE DONATION LETTER REQUEST

I have been asked by our State Commander James MacArthur to chair the annual Department of New York VFW Servicemen's Raffle to support our Department of New York Veteran Service Officers. As we once again prepare for the annual raffle, we are asking those who have generously donated prizes in the past to once again step up and support this essential project. We must continue our support for our Service Officers every year. Their work has helped so many veterans receive their disability benefits and in some cases pensions. Every year that I was asked to Chair this program you have been extremely generous, and I thank you so much.

Would you consider donating one of the \$100.00 prizes this year? As you know, our Veterans Service Officers are funded by the Department of New York and supplemented by the proceeds from our Raffle and Journal Ad book sales. Without the support of the patrons like yourself, we would be unable to raise the additional funds needed to continue the service provided by our Servicemen's Officers who are essential in continuing the Veteran counseling service so desperately needed by our Veterans.

This year, like last year, you can either donate by check or credit card. Please send your prize donations to Department Headquarters, ATTN: Service Officers Raffle Prize, 69 Sand Creek Road, Albany, NY 12205. Raffle prizes must be at Headquarters by November 14, 2025, to ensure we have sufficient time to prepare and mail out the raffle tickets to our Posts and Auxiliaries. If you are paying by credit card, you may email the form to JTreadway@vfwny.com.

Along with your check, please let us know how you would like your raffle prize donation announced, some examples are:

- \$ 100.00 in Memory of Name – Your Name and Wife's Name
- \$ 100.00 in Memory of John Doe, USN – Jim and Susan Doe
- \$ 100.00 in Memory of Albert Doe, USA -- James Doe

The Raffle drawing will be held at the Department's Spring Conference dinner on Saturday March 28, 2025, at The Raddison Hotel in Corning, NY.

I would like to Thank You for all the past support and hope you will continue your financial support for this indispensable program.

Yours in Comradeship

Ronald Sorrentino

Ronald Sorrentino
District 10 Commander
Veterans Service Officer Journal & Raffle Chairman
Department of New York, Veterans of Foreign Wars
69 Sand Creek Road
Albany, NY 12205

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

SERVICE OFFICER RAFFLE DONATION FORM

Donation Amount: \$ _____

In Memory of: _____

Donated by: _____

PAYMENT IS EITHER BY CHECK OR CREDIT CARD

If paying by credit card please fill out all fields:

Name on Card _____

Email address _____ Phone _____

Credit Card Number _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Expiration Date: __ / ____

CRV Code on Back _ _ _ _ Last 3 Numbers on back of card ,for AMEX, 4 numbers on the front

Please return form and payment by November 14, 2025

If paying by credit card you may email completed form to: JTreadway@vfwny.com

If paying by check please make checks payable to Department of New York VFW and mail with completed form to:

Department of New York VFW, Attn: Service Officer Raffle, 69 Sand Creek Road, Albany, NY 12205