# Madison County Veteran Service Officer Annual Report to the County Board of Supervisors 2016 -2017



On behalf of the 6, 000+ Veterans, and numerous deceased veterans, widows and their children we thank each of you for your continued support. I also thank you to allowing me to be your Veteran Service Officer for the last 14 years. During the 14 years we have had over 6,500 + veteran contacts. This past year we had a total of 747 veteran/widow contacts. Older Veterans continue to die.... 1,000's a day. However, the number of veterans in our country continues to grow.

The total of VA expenditures for Madison County this past year has not been published however you may remember in 2014 it was \$ 44,401. In 2015 the VA expenditures for Madison County was \$46,952.

I continue to serve on the VA Hospital Management Council. We meet with the center Director, Dr. David Walker and his chief of staff of each department every 3 months. I was fortunate to speak to several Veterans organizations this past year. The city of Ridgeland has accepted my proposal to build a Veterans Memory Park, A rendering is attached to my report.

In addition to being accredited representative of the National Association of Veteran Service Organization, I am

also accredited with the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the organization for Disabled Veterans, the Retires Enlisted Association and the Vietnam Veterans of America for the preparation, presentation, and prosecution of claims before the Department of VA under the laws relating to veteran benefits.

I have enclosed a sample of VSO certification we are required to go to a class and to take a test to receive certification. To be Veteran Service Officer you must be a Veteran or son or daughter of a Veteran.

I continue to be a lobbyist to the MS Legislature representing MS Association of County Veteran Service Officers. There are no new laws affecting Madison County Veterans. However the VA will see great changes in the future.

I have enclosed my job description along with an add we ran in the Madison County Journal and on the canton radio station WMGO.We conducted a Town hall meeting with three VA Regional claims officers who had a one on one session with each veteran, over 40 veterans or spouses attended.

In concluding, please except my request for a Resolution for Memorial Day on May 30, 2017.

## COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS

### Nature of Work

The County Veterans Service Officer advises local veterans and their dependents of their rights and entitlements under various federal and state laws, counsels them, and actively assists them by filling out necessary forms and papers and obtaining documents and affidavits.

Work is generated through inquiries concerning veterans' benefits or through action of the service officer in seeking out those who need and may be entitled to assistance.

The work is complex and exacting due to the numerous state and federal laws involved and the regulations by which they are administered. These laws cover many and varied benefits including compensation, pension, insurance, death benefits, hospitalization and education.

## Illustrative Examples of Work

Interviews local veterans and their dependents, advising them of their rights and benefits under federal and state laws. Guides them in choosing the most advantageous option in matters of insurance, pension, etc.

Selects and prepares proper forms for submission to the VA and other agencies.

Assists persons being served in obtaining legal documents, medical statements and affidavits, and in preparing letters and statements in support of claims.

Assists in gaining admission of eligible veterans to veterans hospitals, including the process of commitment of veterans who are mentally ill.

Assists children of veterans in obtaining educational benefits to which they may be entitled.

Advises and assists service members and their families concerning allotments, financial relief in hardship cases, disability retirement, etc.

# Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

Knowledge of veterans' law, regulations, administrative procedures, and policies.

Working knowledge of the organization and functioning of state and federal governments, especially th U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Knowledge of where and how to obtain certain public documents in this and other states.

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Above-average layman's knowledge of the human anatomy and diseases, in order to properly handle disability claims.

Ability to interpret and apply the various laws, regulations, and directives relating to veterans' benefits, and to explain in simple terms to others.

Ability to deal sympathetically and patiently, but positively and objectively, with veterans and their dependents.

# Attention:

# Military Veterans & Spouses of Veterans

The VA Regional Office and the Madison County Veteran Service office will assist Veterans with new claims check on old claims old claims and answer any questions you may have on Tuesday February 14, 2017 (Valentine's Day)at 10:00 am until noon at The Canton City Chamber of Commerce (on the square)

Madison County Veteran Service Office

Madison County Board of Supervisors

State of Mississippi	
SAMILE.	Y
State Veterans Affairs Board YEAR	
Certification	
Tom Logue, Madison County.	8
has attended the annual training and successfully completed the written examination required by Section 35-3-21 of the Mississippi Code of 1972 and is hereby certified as a County Veterans Service Officer.	
This Certification expires onOctober 31, 2008	
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#### SERVICE ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE

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VA FORM 3192 JUN 2007

COUNSEL DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

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CERTIFYING OFFICER.

Deputy Assistant

. GENERAL COUNSEL

VA FORM 3192 MAR 1994 DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

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Disabled American Veteraus

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CERTIFYING OFFICER SERVICE ORGANIZATION

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GENERAL COUNSEL DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS SERVICE ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN RE: ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION HONORING THE VETERANS ON MEMORIAL DAY

#### **RESOLUTION**

Ronnie Lott Chancery Clerk

WHEREAS, in 1971, Congress designated the last Monday in May "Memorial Day" to recognize every military person who died in service to our nation, and

WHEREAS, Memorial Day is our most solemn day of remembrance, and

WHEREAS, today we honor the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect the ideals they died for so their sacrifice will not be in vain, and

WHEREAS, we, the Board of Supervisors of Madison County, by virtue of the authority vested in us, do hereby proclaim May 30, 2016 as Memorial Day in Madison County.

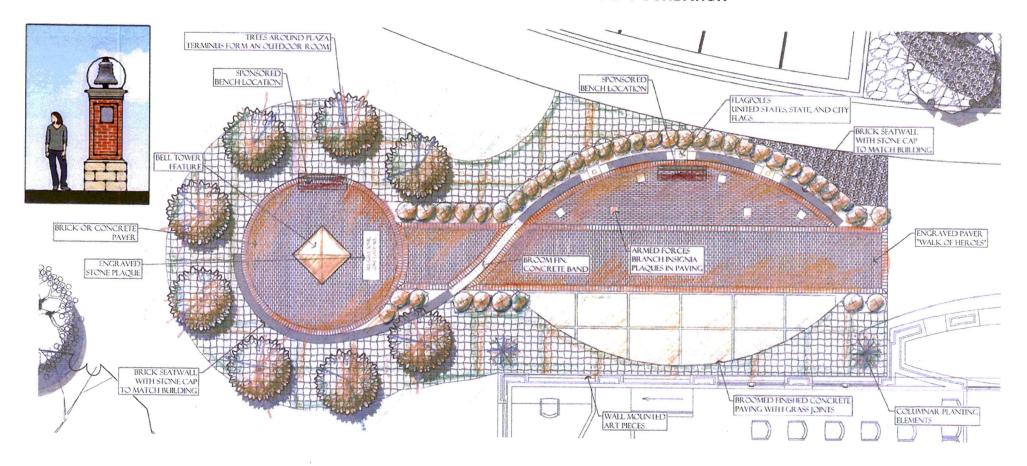
NOW, THERFORE, BE IT RESOVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI THAT:

- 1. The Board of supervisors of Madison County does hereby, on behalf of the citizens of Madison County, express sincere appreciation to all the military service men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country and to those men and women who are serving our country, and
- 2. This Resolution be spread upon the minutes of this Board and thereby forever preserved as a permanent tribute to our military men and women, and
- 3. The Clerk of this Board post a true, correct, and certified copy hereof at the entrances to the Chancery and Administrative building and the Madison County Circuit Courthouse, there to remain for a period of thirty days from the date hereof, and

	d offer and Mresolution. The vote on the matter being	
Supervisor Shelia Jones ( Supervisor Trey Baxter (E Supervisor Gerald Steen Supervisor David Bishop Supervisor Paul Griffin (E The motion carried unanimously SO ORDERED this the	District 2) (District 3) (District 4) District 5)  and said Resolution was and is herby ado	pted.
Trey Baxter, President Madison County Board of Superv	isors	

# VETERANS MEMORY PARK IN RIDGELAND, MS

# VETERANS MEMORY PARK IN RIDGELAND FOUNDATION















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