



NOVEMBER 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

VA S.A.V.E. TRAINING

FOUR WAYS YOU CAN HELP A VETERAN IN CRISIS

VA S.A.V.E. Training Four Ways You Can Help a Veteran in Crisis

About: VA S.A.V.E. is a free, brief course designed to equip you with the knowledge and confidence to recognize the warning signs of suicide in a Veteran and respond with care.

When: December 4, 2025, from 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

Where: Online

To register, visit [VA S.A.V.E. Training](#).



Wreaths Across America

About: Wreaths Across America honors fallen U.S. Veterans. Each December, volunteers across the country lay wreaths on the headstones of Veterans in cemeteries. This annual event aims to remember the sacrifices of those who served and teach future generations about their service.

When: December 13, 2025

Learn more at www.wreathsassamerica.org/

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Social Connection

About: The Veterans Social Connection (VSC) is a monthly gathering where Veterans can socialize in a safe environment and access valuable resources.

When: December 19, 2025, from 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Where: Tibor Rubin VA Medical Center, Patriot Cafe Patio
5901 E. Seventh St., Long Beach, CA 90822

For more information, visit [Veterans Social Connection](#)

Event information is provided for informational purposes only. The County makes no guarantee as to the accuracy of the event content and assumes no responsibility or liability.

NEWS



Honoring Our Veterans!

The OC VSO celebrated Veterans Day by honoring the nation's 250 years of service and the generations of heroes who have worn the uniform. Members of the Orange County Veterans Advisory Council (OCVAC) were in attendance, demonstrating their commitment to strengthening veteran services throughout the county.

This celebration recognized both a historic milestone and the continued unity of our Veteran community.

For assistance with Veteran services, please contact the VSO at (714) 480-6555 or ocvso@occr.ocgov.com.

Reinstated GI Bill Benefits for Veterans Discharged for Refusing COVID Vaccine

In January, President Trump reinstated benefits for service members who were discharged under the military's COVID-19 vaccine mandate. Following this order, Secretary Pete Hegseth directed military departments to facilitate discharge upgrades for individuals involuntarily separated solely for refusing the COVID-19 vaccine, particularly those whose service was rated as less than fully honorable.

Read more about the reinstated GI Bill at news.va.gov.



Pets For Vets Act

Under Senate Bill 245 (also known as the Pets for Vets Act), California Veterans no longer need to pay pet adoption fees at public animal shelters. Veterans are able to adopt a cat or dog and have their adoption fee waived. OC Animal Care will verify Veteran status by using the state's existing "VETERAN" driver's license designation.

Learn more about the Pets for Vets Act by visiting bit.ly/PetsForVetsAct.

DID YOU KNOW



Need help bringing Christmas to life? Explore holiday assistance programs for military families in need! From gifts to festive meals, many organizations are here to support and thank our military families this season. Please confirm program details directly with each organization.

View available programs: bit.ly/VETChristmasSupport.

BY THE NUMBERS MONTHLY

Numbers are based on October 2025 service data.

Veterans Served (includes emails, calls, and appointments):
1,893

Claims Filed:
1,215

Benefits Granted by Veterans Administration:
\$1,344,795.41

College Tuition Savings:
\$227,942

For more information, contact the VSO at (714) 480-6555 or ocvso@occr.ocgov.com.

