

**2025-2026 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
National Security**

Department National Security Chairman

Patricia Rama

1528 6th St.

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Purpose: The purpose of the National Security Committee is to promote a strong national defense.

The ALA National Security program maintains and promotes a strong national defense by strengthening and supporting military servicemembers and their families.

- Support active-duty military families by working with an installation Family Readiness Group (FRG). Contact the Family Readiness Center at your nearby military installation for more information.
- First, let's demystify the lingo. FRG stands for "Family Readiness Group," and it is the focal point of family readiness in the U.S. Navy
- The U.S. Army FRG is now known as the Soldier and Family Readiness Group, or SFRG
- In the U.S. Air Force, it's known as the Key Spouse Program
- The U.S. Marine Corps has the Family Readiness Program
- The Coast Guard has the Work-Life Program
- Collaborate with other like-minded organizations that also support servicemembers and their families:

Armed Services YMCA

Donate to or volunteer at local Armed Services YMCA food pantries which support servicemembers and their families.

Blue Star Families

Blue Star Welcome Week — Supporters

USO

Volunteer with your local USO.

Quilts of Valor Foundation

Award a Quilt of Valor — quilts = comfort and healing

Taking Care of Our People (defense.gov)

Raise awareness of POW/MIAs and the work being performed by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) in the search for missing personnel.

- <https://www.defense.gov/Multimedia/Experience/POW-MIA/>
- Host events in honor of National POW/MIA Recognition Day on the third Friday in September.
- <https://dpaa-mil.sites.crmforce.mil/dpaaFamWebPosters>
- Post a POW/MIA flag at every meeting or event.
- If you or someone you know is related to a servicemember classified as Missing in Action, please consider donating mitochondrial DNA to assist identification processes. For more information, visit <https://www.health.mil/Military-Health-Topics/Health-Readiness/AFMES?type=Articles>

Remember to support those families whose servicemembers made the ultimate sacrifice.

- Work with like-minded organizations to support the families of servicemembers who died during service to our country:
- American Gold Star Mothers

- American Gold Star Families
- Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors
- Utilize Military OneSource resources to assist those you know in need.
- Deadlines/Important Dates

DEPARTMENT NATIONAL SECURITY AWARDS

Department Award Rules

- Entries must be typed, double spaced, not to exceed 1,000 words.
- Word count in lower left corner of cover sheet unless otherwise noted under award instructions.
- Entries must be in narrative form and placed in a folder.
- Pictures, newspaper clippings and other materials and/or documents may be included.
- All entries must include a cover sheet with the name of the award entry, name of the Unit/County/District, name, and address of the Unit/County/Chairman.
- Entries must be received by the Department Chairman no later than MAY 1st unless a different date is specified.

Department President's Award – to the unit that submits the best program for Civil preparedness including blood drives, volunteer emergency preparedness, including Salute to Servicemembers. Award entry to be mailed to the Department President no later than May 1st to her home address.

THE SUSAN M. BRITTON AWARD: To the Unit and County National Security Chairman submitting the most outstanding report of overall National Security activities.

2025-2026 NATIONAL SECURITY AWARDS

Deadlines and Submission Requirements

All award submissions must include a narrative (either a PDF or Microsoft Word document) explaining why the department or unit you're nominating should receive the award. You may also upload other supporting documentation that will give the committee a full picture of the important mission work your department, or unit has accomplished this year. These files can be photos (JPG, JPEG or TIFs -- no larger than 14MB) or PDF documents. If you have more than three supporting files, please email the committee email address listed in the form.

National Awards Form Link: <https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Awards-Form>

Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit National Security Program (per division)

All unit entries must be submitted via [electronic form](#) by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.

Note: You will receive confirmation when your award is submitted.

Department Award: Dorothy Pearl Best Department National Security Award (per division)

All department entries must be submitted via [electronic form](#) by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.

Note: You will receive confirmation when your award is submitted.

Salute to Servicemembers Award

Deadline: June 1

Established in 2003, this award honors all enlisted personnel who are currently serving our country in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Space Force, and the National Guard/Reserve. One enlisted servicemember from each branch of service as well as the National Guard/Reserve will be recognized at the American Legion Auxiliary National Convention. Recipients will attend the National Convention as guests of the Auxiliary. Photos (in a high-resolution format) that show unit mission National Security Committee activities accompany these reports



National Security Committee
SALUTE TO SERVICEMEMBERS
AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Established in 2003, this award has evolved from honoring women veterans to now honoring men and women who are currently serving our country in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard – including the National Guard and Reserve components of each branch.

One servicemember from each branch of service will be recognized at the American Legion Auxiliary National Convention. Recipients attend the National Convention as guests of the Auxiliary.

Nomination Criteria:

- A man or woman currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces (includes National Guard/Reserve).
- A written narrative or YouTube video that demonstrates exemplary service both in and out of uniform, making his/her the face of men/women in the military.
- Servicemember must be willing to be a guest of the Auxiliary and speak to the general assembly of the American Legion Auxiliary National Convention.
- All nomination forms must be submitted by May 1, 2026.

Next Steps:

- The nominating person or the servicemember writes a narrative (750 words or less) or creates a YouTube video (3 minutes or less) that shows the nominated servicemember demonstrating exemplary service both in and out of uniform, making him/her the face of men/women in the military.
- The following form must be completed and submitted by May 1, 2026, to the Department Chairman. Written narratives should be attached. YouTube video links should be pasted in the box provided on the following form.

YouTube Video Checklist

If you choose to submit a video, please be sure to check that your video:

- does not contain any copyrighted music, video, images, or text (not legally owned)
- is not set to "private;" your video must be public.
- is under 2GB in size
- is in .AVI, .MOV, .WMV, or .MPG file formats
- is 3 minutes or less in length

Return completed nomination form to Department National Security Chairman.

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National Security Committee
SALUTE TO SERVICEMEMBER
AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Servicemember's Name:	
Servicemember's Email:	
Servicemember's Phone Number:	
Servicemember's Branch of Service:	
Servicemember's Rank:	
Servicemember's Date of Enlistment:	
Servicemember's Awards and Decorations, <i>if any</i> :	
Name of Person Making this Nomination, <i>if not the nominee</i> :	
Email of Person Making this Nomination, <i>if not the nominee</i> :	
Phone Number of Person Making this Nomination, <i>if not the nominee</i> :	
Is the servicemember able to attend National Convention?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the servicemember comfortable with public speaking?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Written Narrative: 1) please attach separate document to this form. 2) or type narrative directly into the box to the right.	
YouTube Video: copy and paste your video link in the box to the right.	

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2025-2026 UNIT NATIONAL SECURITY REPORT FORM

Reporting dates: November 1, 2025 March 1, 2026 May 1, 2026

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Unit: _____ County: _____ District _____

Unit does not have a National Security Chairman

Check the activities or programs that the Unit worked on and describe them on the back of this form.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Operation Comfort Warriors
<input type="checkbox"/> Honor welcome home events
<input type="checkbox"/> How many Blue/Gold Star banners presented
<input type="checkbox"/> National Military Appreciation Month
<input type="checkbox"/> #Families POW/MIA Notified of remains
<input type="checkbox"/> Total # of members volunteered
<input type="checkbox"/> Total miles driven in providing ALA service | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Readiness Groups
<input type="checkbox"/> Family to Family Support
<input type="checkbox"/> Citizen corps in Community
<input type="checkbox"/> ROTC/JROTC
<input type="checkbox"/> #Active-Duty Females served
<input type="checkbox"/> Total # of Volunteer hour's
<input type="checkbox"/> Total # Veterans/Military assisted |
|---|--|
1. Total hours members volunteered _____ multiply X \$34.79 hour \$ _____
 2. \$ _____ Value of goods and material used.
 3. \$ _____ Total value

Our service for active-duty military

Include shopping for and preparing care packages, writing letters, helping with U.S. Military or National Guard send-off and welcome home events. (Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program)

Our service for military families

Examples include organizing and delivering Hero Packs, helping with service projects, build or help a neighbor build emergency preparedness kit and plan (CERT)

Please use the reverse side of this form to tell us more about what you do. Feel free to send photos, newspapers, announcements and more.

******* YOU MUST FILL IN THIS INFORMATION FOR IMPACT REPORTS *******

1. Our ALA Service for Veterans/Active-Duty/Reserve Military

Impact Report Line#	Service for Veterans / Military	Member/ Unit Totals
Line 1	Total hours members volunteered	
Line 2	Total dollars spent	\$
Line 3	Total number of veterans/military assisted	
Line 4	Total number of "Veterans in Community Schools" presentations facilitated	
Line 5	Value of in-kind donations received*	\$

2. Our ALA Service for Military Families

Impact Report Line#	Service for Military Families	Member/ Unit Totals
Line 8	Total hours members volunteered	
Line 9	Total dollars spent	\$
Line 10	Number of military families served	

**Send this report to your County National Security Chairman.
Keep a copy for your records.**

2025-2026 COUNTY NATIONAL SECURITY REPORT FORM

Reporting dates: November 10,2025 March 10,2026 May 10,2026

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

County: _____ District: _____

_____ **County does not have a National Security Chairman**

Check the activities or programs your Units worked on and describe on the back of this form.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Operation Comfort Warriors
<input type="checkbox"/> Honor welcome home events
<input type="checkbox"/> How many Blue/Gold Star banners presented
<input type="checkbox"/> National Military Appreciation Month
<input type="checkbox"/> #Families POW/MIA Notified of remains
<input type="checkbox"/> Total # of Volunteers
<input type="checkbox"/> Total miles driven in providing ALA service
1. Total hours members volunteered _____ multiply X \$34.79 hour \$ _____
2. \$ _____ Value of goods and material used.
3. \$ _____ Total value | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Readiness Groups
<input type="checkbox"/> Family to Family Support
<input type="checkbox"/> Citizen corps in Community
<input type="checkbox"/> ROTC/JROTC
<input type="checkbox"/> #Active-Duty Females served
<input type="checkbox"/> Total # of People served
<input type="checkbox"/> Total # Veterans/Military assisted |
|---|---|

Our service for active-duty military

Include shopping for and preparing care packages, writing letters, helping with U.S. Military or National Guard send-off and welcome home events. (Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program)

Our service for military families

Examples include organizing and delivering Hero Packs, helping with service projects, build or help a neighbor build emergency preparedness kit and plan (CERT)

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1. Our ALA Service for Veterans/Active-Duty/Reserve Military

Impact Report	Service for Veterans / Military	Member/ Unit Totals
Line 1	Total hours members volunteered	
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2. Our ALA Service for Military Families

Impact Report	Service for Military Families	Member/ Unit Totals
Line 8	Total hours members volunteered	
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