

## **Military and Veterans Matters Report 14 Nov 2025**

(Significant items only, and items may be combined/updated as many things are addressed at multiple meetings.)

### **United Veterans Council of Monterey County (UVC): 29 Oct 2025**

#### **Ft Ord Area Retires Soldiers Council: 6 Nov 2025**

### **Monterey County Military and Veterans Affairs Advisory Commission (MVAAC): No Report (meeting postponed until 19 Nov)**

Veterans Transition Center (VTC)/Affordable Housing: No Representative.

CA Central Coast Veterans Cemetery (CCCVC): There was a “Veterans Day Ceremony” at 1100 on 11 Nov 2025 at the cemetery. There was a large number of attendees and special presentations by JROTC from Seaside and Monterey, and the Hartnell College Veterans Resource Center.

The cemetery is seeking an electrician to install heaters in the committal shelter. The cemetery director will assist getting them into the state “service providers” system.

CCCVC Foundation: **The foundation is seeking board members.**

Presidio of Monterey (POM)/Ord Military Community: Limited services due to shutdown, but DLI classes continue.

Retired Soldiers Council: Nothing Significant to Report (NSTR), no issues suggested for the CSA RSC.

Heroes Open Golf Tournament: was held at Black Horse Golf Course on 25 Oct 2025 and raised approximately \$23,000 for the UVC Emergency Fund. This in spite of the fact there were only 88 golfers this year, about 50 less than last year. Thanks to all who donated items for the raffle and silent auction as well as sponsored holes. This is where the majority of the money was raised.

The 2026 tournament will be on 24 Oct 2026 at Bayonet Golf Course.

Veteran of the Year Program: The dinner on 7 Nov 2025 at the Salinas Elks was very well attended. The MVAAC is looking into options for the VoY program, given the difficulty getting nominees from all supervisory districts. The UVC would support reducing the number of awardees to one per district, plus a number TBD “at large.”

Military and Veterans Affairs Office (MVAO): See attached reports. (Thank you, Jack) They are closing their office in the VA Clinic, given the proximity of the MOVA building to the clinic.

VA/DoD Clinic: The clinic continues to have staffing issues. It continues to provide flu shots 0900-1200 and 1300-1500. For COVID vaccine, contact your care team by phone, email or online.

The UVC: The Ft Ord Veterans Foundation (successor to the Ft Ord Retired Enlisted Association) approached the UVC asking if they would be a successor to them. This would involve assuming funds, some of which would be restricted to scholarships. A subcommittee was appointed to coordinate with the foundation and draft a memorandum of agreement.

Ord Commissary: Staffing shortage continues, which may limit the number of open registers. Patronage on Mondays continues to grow. Now at about 400/Monday, compared to an average of 800 on “full service” days. The “Request for Information” window seeking potential privatization of the ConUS Commissaries closed on 5 Nov. (Here is a link with more information on this proposal:  
<https://businessnc.com/defense-asks-grocery-industry-about-taking-military-commissaries-private/>)

AAFES: No Representative

Navy: No Representative

Stand Down/Veterans Resource Fair: Planned for Apr 2026.

For the Good of the Order @ UVC: The Marina Foundation is looking into creating a Veterans Banner program (like in Salinas) or a Wall of Honor to recognize local veterans.

**29 OCT 2025**

**Federal-**

- Primary federal concern is the ongoing government shutdown and efforts to minimize impacts to the VA and servicemembers
- VBA Under Secretary- Karen Brazell withdrew. Position is currently vacant with no nominee announced.
- **OPPOSE** HR 3132 CHOICE for Veterans Act of 2025 which enables unaccredited and unscrupulous claim agents from charging for veteran claims
- Generally protecting benefits from reduction and/or means testing

**State-**

- **SUPPORT** SB-649 now a 2-yr bill being reintroduced in January session. May establish framework for unaccredited, for-pay claim agents to operate in CA. Passed Assembly unopposed, however was held by Senate Judiciary and sent back to Rules Committee.
- CACVSO seeking funding increase from \$11M to \$25M for County VSO operations and services

**County-**

- 04 Nov 10:30 Board of Supervisors Meeting- MVAO and HRD will propose changes to Veteran and Spouse Hiring Preference Policy and Military Leave Policy. Requesting support from military and Veteran community.

**MVAO-**

- Staffing-
  - Currently 10/11 (91%) overall, 6/6 (100%) VSRs, 2/2 Admin (100%), 1/2 (50%) Analysts
  - Management Analyst I recruitment closed, interviews pending.
- Interest/Issues-
  - Jack Murphy (CVSO) nominated to National Association of Counties (NaCo) Military and Veterans Affairs Committee
  - 03-07 NOV- MVAO parking lot and building may(?) have access and water restrictions due to ongoing construction
  - Ft. Ord Veterans Foundation (formerly The Retired Enlisted Association (Ch 55)) will be subsumed into the United Veterans Council NLT 30 NOV.
- Events-
  - 04 NOV 10:30am- Board of Supervisors Veteran Resolution and Veteran policy changes, County Government Center
  - 07 NOV 1:00-3:00pm- Lightfighter Village Ribbon Cutting, Hayes Circle
  - 07 NOV 6:30-9:30pm- Veteran of Year Dinner, Salinas Elks Lodge
  - 10-13 NOV-Hartnell and CSUMB Veterans Appreciation Week
  - 11 NOV Veterans Day Events
    - 11:00am Californian Central Coast Veterans Cemetery observation
    - 11:00am American Legion Post 694 observation, Marina

- 11:00am American Legion Post 512 observation, Devendorf Park, Carmel
  - 11:00am-4:00pm City of Marina / VTC Salute to Veterans Jamboree- VTC, Marina
  - 11:11am Vietnam Veterans Memorial- Salinas
  - 1:11pm American Legion Post 41 observation, Monterey
  - 2:00-3:00pm Greenfield Parade and American Legion Post 635 Open House
  - 4:00-5:00pm Dunes at Marina Heritage Wall unveiling (next to Brass Tap)
  - 12 NOV, 7:30-9:00am - Vietnam Veterans 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Recognition Event- Sect. Panetta, et al., Monterey Conference Center
- Monthly Data Report (**September**)
    - **418 Appointments**- 6-month average is 472
    - **321 Claim Actions**- 6-month average is 448
    - **243 Veterans served**- 6-month average is 313
    - **165 new VA Disability awards**- 6-month average is 179
    - **\$503,878 in retro. FY YTD is \$1,763,241**
    - **\$95,215 in monthly**- 6-month average is \$91,296. **Annualized YTD is \$2,313,454**

# MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICE



## Monthly Activity Report



# October 2025

9

Outreach Events

294

New Contacts



816

Phone Calls

448

Vet Rep

Appointments



385 Claims Actions

249 Unique Veterans

157 Compensation Awards



7

College Fee  
Waivers Granted  
\$61,369

## Disability Compensation Awards

\$598,094

Retroactive Payments

\$82,209

Recurring Monthly Payments



## Compensation Fiscal Year to Date

\$3,275,318