

- [Home](#)
- /
- [Government](#)
- /
- Veterans Service

Veterans Service



Donald Morris

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Contact Information

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Hours of Operation

M-F 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Closed For Lunch From 12 - 1

Duties of the Department

The County Veterans Service Office 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, 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.

Goals and Objectives

Lawrence County has over 3,500 veterans. The goal is to know these veterans and assist them and their families with claims.

The Service Officer stays heavily involved in community events and is a member of the Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce.

Links of Interest

- www.va.gov - This site will explain VA benefits, give access to forms and VA fact sheets
- www.tnvso.com - This site will explain what is happening in the veteran service officer community. It allows you to see VA money coming to each county and it gives access to all training the service officer has received.
- <https://www.archives.gov/veterans> - This site will assist you in ordering a discharge document, replacement medals or personnel records.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the office hours?

Answer: We are here Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. We close for lunch from 12-1.

What benefits may I be entitled to?

Answer: There are many VA benefits. The most common ones we deal with are VA Health Care, VA Pension and VA Compensation. Both Health Care and Pension are income based benefits. We will ask you about your net worth and your annual income. VA Compensation is for an injury that happened in service that you are still suffering from.

How do I get my DD-214?

Answer: If you entered or left service in Tennessee, your discharge document may be in Nashville. We can order it for you. If not, you can send to St. Louis either at our office or using the internet.

Can I get assistance for my elderly parent?

Answer: If the veteran served during a period of war, has net worth less than \$80,000 (do not count primary residence) and is below the income limit, there are benefits for the veteran or the surviving spouse. Aid and Attendance attaches to the pension benefit if there is need for daily care.

Is there a veteran's transportation program?

Yes, this is a county run program for Lawrence County veterans. Volunteer drivers drive veterans to their appointments to Nashville on M-W-F and to Murfreesboro on T-T. There is no charge to ride; however, riders are not entitled to VA travel pay because they do not incur any costs. The van runs from the Veterans Service Office and returns there. The van leaves two hours before the earliest appointment. Veterans must have appointments before 2 PM. Please call 766-1583 or 766-4123 a week ahead of your appointment time.

Are there veteran's causes I can get involved in?

Yes, we have four service organizations that offer veterans assistance in the community. The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1618, The American Legion Post 146, the DAV Chapter 20 and the Vietnam Veterans of America are all very active. They would love to have more members to get involved helping veterans. The money they raise mostly stays local.

What are the veteran's events that happen every year?

Each year, the Veterans Service Office gets involved or attends the following regularly scheduled events:

- **May:** Memorial Day parade and ceremonies Placing flags on Veterans graves in Lawrence County
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- **September 11th:** 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony
- **October:** Operation Stand Down for Homeless Veterans
- **November:** Lawrence County Veterans Day Parade