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TO: National Executive Committee
Department and Chapter Commanders and Adjutants
National and Washington Headquarters Department Directors
Supervisory National Service Officers

FROM: Barry A. Jesinoski, National Adjutant

DATE: April 14, 2026

SUBJECT: Supporting Local Memorial Day Observances

DAV is committed to ensuring that those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their country are recognized and remembered every Memorial Day. To support your efforts in your local communities this year, we have prepared resources and materials for your use.

DAV has drafted suggested remarks to help keep the memories of our fallen heroes alive. Please feel free to adapt these to your personal voice and practice your delivery to ensure appropriate homage during this solemn occasion. Also, please make every attempt to recognize individuals and entities who may be involved in planning events in which you're taking part.

Additionally, a sample Memorial Day op-ed is available. This is a valuable resource to broaden the message of Memorial Day's significance through local print and online news outlets. When submitting the article to your local news organizations, please be aware that similar placements may occur elsewhere in the country.

Like the speech, the article can be used as is, but you're encouraged to customize it by including names of local veterans. Submission guidelines are typically found on each publication's website. **Please email Brian Buckwalter at bbuckwalter@dav.org with any questions or to share your published op-ed.**

I encourage you to use this opportunity to communicate the sacrifices of our fallen brothers and sisters. Please share your participation in your networks and on social media to further amplify your Memorial Day observation efforts.

Thank you for representing DAV and honoring the brave heroes who gave their lives in service to our nation. Your work ensures their sacrifices are remembered and that the promise is kept to their survivors and fellow veterans.

With appreciation for your efforts,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barry A. Jesinoski', written in a cursive style.

Barry A. Jesinoski
National Adjutant

BAJ:bkb