

Everything Veteran

Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs



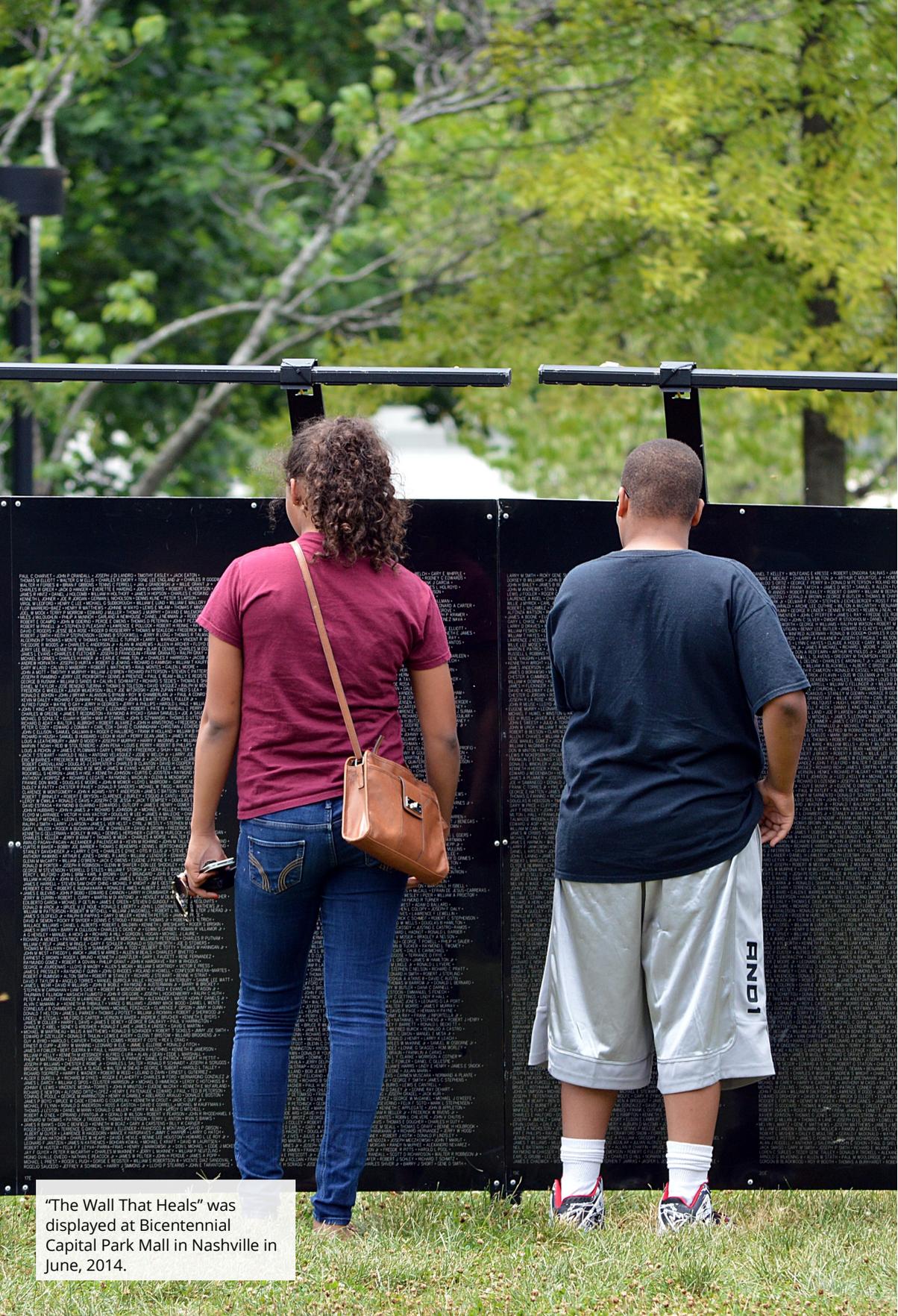
Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2013-2014

Bill Haslam, Governor

Many-Bears Grinder, Commissioner

Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs



“The Wall That Heals” was displayed at Bicentennial Capital Park Mall in Nashville in June, 2014.

DIRECTORY

Tennessee Department of
Veterans Affairs
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue
13th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243
615-741-2931

Commissioner
Many-Bears Grinder
615-741-1959

Training Division
615-741-1962

Constituent Services
615-770-1907

TDVA Field Offices

West Tennessee

Dickson

250 Beasley Dr. **615-441-6224**

Jackson

225 Dr. M.L. King Dr., Rm 160A **731-423-5614**

Memphis

VA Medical Center
1030 Jefferson Ave., Rm CEG 22 **901-577-7673 ext. 5284**

Fort Campbell

5668 Wickham Ave. **931-431-3784**

Middle Tennessee

Murfreesboro

VA Medical Center, Alvin C. York
Building 7, Rm G-39 **615-225-6930**

Nashville

VA Medical Center
1310 24th Ave. South **615-873-8048**
Rm G116/G118 **615-873-7950**

Chattanooga

540 McCallie Ave., Rm 109 **423-634-7123**

Claims Office (Appeals)

615-695-6385

East Tennessee

Knoxville

601 S. Concord St., Suite 108 **865-594-6158**

Mountain Home

VA Medical Center
Building 69, Rm H115 **423-926-1171 ext 7203**



Middle Tennessee State University
Salute to Veterans

Strategic Plan 2015

- ⇒ Increase the number of Veterans connecting with available jobs
 - *According to the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development the unemployment rate among Tennessee Veterans decreased from 7.3 percent in 2012 to 6.9 percent in 2013.*
- ⇒ Develop statewide Veteran student information resource to help monitor increases or decreases in student Veteran populations and graduation rates
 - *According to the United States Census Bureau, in 2012, 35 percent of Tennessee Veterans have some college or an Associate's Degree while 23 percent have a Bachelor's Degree or higher.*
 - *The number of Tennessee students using Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits increased from 3,034 to 8,960 in 2013.*
- ⇒ Increase efficiency and awareness of the department's claims support services.
 - *The Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs either processed or reviewed a total of 10,588 claims for Tennessee Veterans in 2013-2014.*
- ⇒ Improve customer service and awareness about the State Veterans Cemeteries through technology and additional interment options.
 - *In Fiscal Year 2013-2014, 1,100 Veterans and spouses pre-registered online for burial at the four State Veterans Cemeteries.*
- ⇒ Increase awareness and impact of Veteran Treatment Courts and resources available to help Veterans struggling with mental health or substance abuse issues.
 - *According to the Tennessee Department of Health, the number of suicides by Veterans increased from 197 in 2012 to 214 in 2013.*
 - *According to the Tennessee Department of Correction, 1,489 Veterans were incarcerated in Tennessee prisons and jails in 2013.*



Tennessee State Veterans Cemeteries

The Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs maintains and manages four
State Veterans Cemeteries



East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery

5901 Lyons View Pike
Knoxville, TN 37919
865-577-3228
ETS.V.Cemetery@tn.gov
Established in August 1990

East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery

2200 E. Gov. John Sevier Hwy 168
Knoxville, TN 37920
865-577-3228
ETS.V.Cemetery@tn.gov
Established in August 2011

West Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery

4000 Forest Hill/Irene Road
Memphis, TN 38125
901-543-7005
WTSV.Cemetery@tn.gov
Established January 1992

Middle Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery

7931 McCrory Lane
Nashville, TN 37221
615-532-2238
MTSV.Cemetery@tn.gov
Established January 1993

Peace and Honor

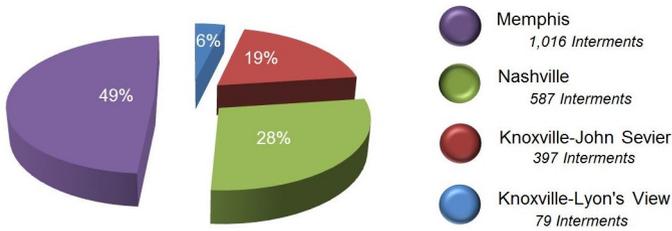


The Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs has established and maintains four Tennessee State Veterans Cemeteries to include one in Nashville, one in Memphis and two in Knoxville.

FY 2014 Interments

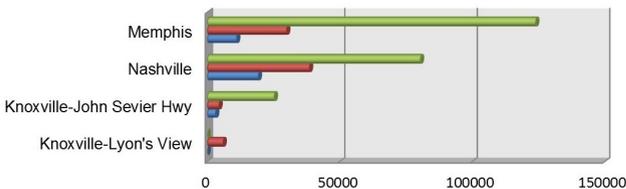
Total = 2,079

July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014



The East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery on Lyons View Pike is at capacity. The remaining State Veterans Cemeteries have room to grow through both undeveloped and available developed land at each cemetery.

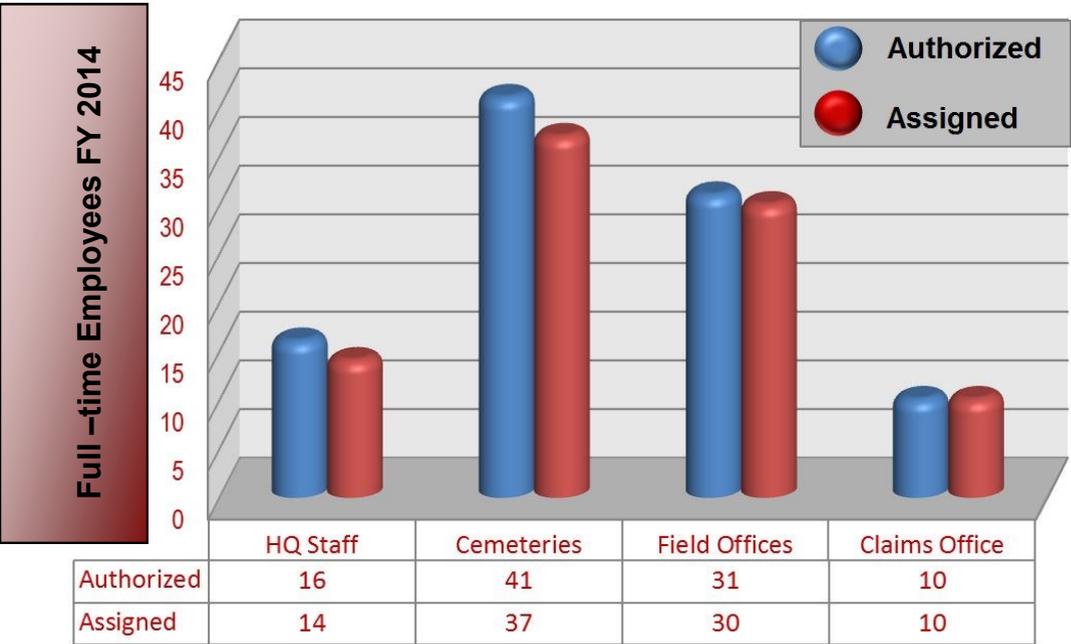
Available Plots 2014



	Knoxville-Lyon's View	Knoxville-John Sevier Hwy	Nashville	Memphis
Undeveloped	0	25,325	80,500	124,000
Capacity/Developed	6,000	4,475	38,616	30,000
Available	0	3,189	19,308	11,129



Department Staffing



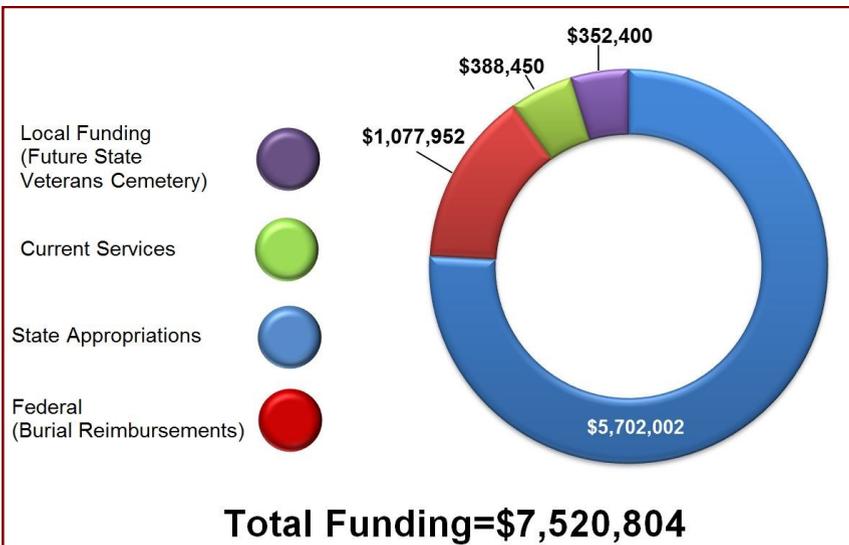
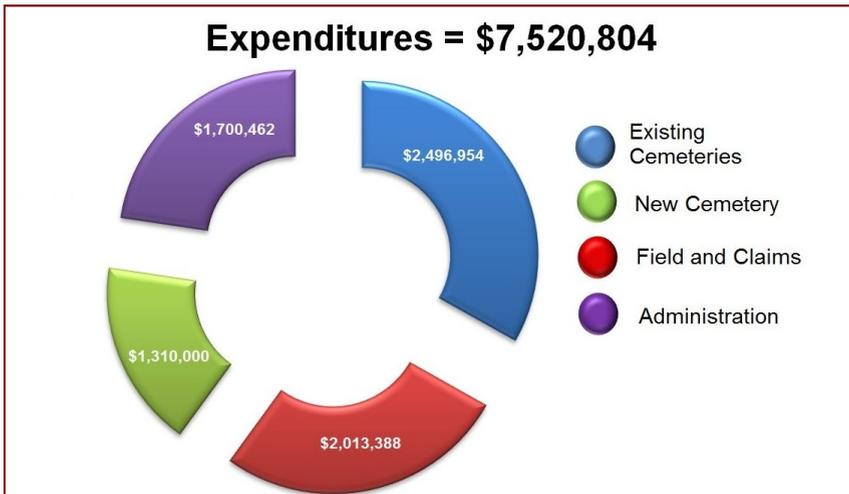
Department employees
Army Veteran Reginald
Sims and Navy Veteran
Tara Goodell

- ⇒ The Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs is authorized to have 98 employees.
- ⇒ 91 of those positions are filled
- ⇒ 41% of TDVA employees maintain four State Veterans Cemeteries
- ⇒ 33% in 14 field offices to serve Veterans and dependents in 95 counties
- ⇒ 11% review claims in the Claims Division
- ⇒ 15% are located at TDVA Headquarters in Nashville including the department's executive staff



Veterans First

The Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs approved budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 was 6.7 million dollars, but due to the land acquisition for the future Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery at Parkers Crossroads, the Department's final budget was 7.5 million dollars. The department continues to preserve the interests of taxpayers while serving more than 500,000 Veterans and 1.5 million family members at 14 field offices across the state and four State Veterans Cemeteries. Although the department is the smallest in the state, TDVA employees are resourceful and committed to offering high-quality and knowledgeable customer service.



Fiscal Year 2014

Accomplishments

- Hosted the Joint National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs (NASDVA) and National Association of State Veterans' Homes (NASVH) Summer Conference in Nashville August 30 to September 4, 2013.
- Joint press conference with the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security announcing the new Veteran designated driver license in September, 2013.
- TDVA Commissioner Grinder appointed to the VA Advisory Committee for Minorities by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary in September, 2013.
- Hosted 63rd Annual Service Officer Training Session in Nashville for more than 60 employees and County Service Officer partners from October 1 to October 4, 2013.
- TDVA Commissioner Grinder named Chair of the Governor's Veterans Education Task Force in November, 2013. The Department organized five monthly meetings between January to May 2014 which resulted in three recommendations to the Governor.
- In March, 2014, chosen as one of three "All Star Vet States" by the United States Chamber of Commerce which resulted in inclusion in the national web-portal <http://www.allvetstates.com/state/tennessee>.
- More than 100 women Veterans attended the Third Annual Women Veterans Summit in April, 2014.
- TDVA partnered with the West Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery Steering Committee to acquire the land for the future Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery at Parkers Crossroads in June, 2014 and formally announced the news in July.
- Since 2011, TDVA has met with 95 county mayors and as a result 11 additional County Service Officers have been added to the state for a total of 90 County Service Offices.
- Reviewed 10,588 claims; 95% were Fully Developed Claims (FDC) which better serves Veterans without adding to the backlog.
- Online pre-registration for burial form launched in July, 2013. 1,100 pre-registrations for burial at three State Veterans Cemeteries were received between July 2013 and June 2014.
- Responded to 5,428 constituent inquiries from July 2013 to June 2014.

Future Site of The Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery at Parkers Crossroads

Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs
615-741-2931
www.tn.gov/veteran

In June, 2014, the Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs in partnership with Governor Bill Haslam, State Representative Steve McDaniel and the West Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery Steering Committee purchased the land for the future Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery at Parkers Crossroads. The formal announcement was made on July 24, 2014. Federal funding for construction of the new cemetery is pending.



Members of the West Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery Steering Committee were recognized for their efforts to raise local funding.

- ⇒ The State of Tennessee purchased 132 acres for the future project for \$1.3 million. The property is located at 693 Wildersville Road, Parkers Crossroads in Henderson County.
- ⇒ The funding for the land acquisition included state appropriations from Governor Bill Haslam, funding from the Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs and local funding raised by the West Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery Steering Committee.
- ⇒ The Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs applied for a federal funding construction grant from the National Cemetery Administration (NCA) in August, 2014. The federal funding was not granted in 2014, but will be reconsidered in 2015.
- ⇒ The construction cost of the new cemetery is estimated at \$6 million.
- ⇒ The proposed cemetery will serve more than 45,000 Veterans in 17 counties.

CASUALTIES

Fallen Heroes July 2013-June 2014

***Stephen M. New**
Staff Sergeant
United States Army
KIA July 28, 2013

Howard V. Andre, Jr.
Major
United States Air Force
MIA July 8, 1969
Laid to rest
September 23, 2013

***Daniel T. Lee**
Staff Sergeant
United States Army
KIA January 15, 2014

Lawrence Woods
Staff Sergeant
United States Army
MIA October 24, 1964
Laid to rest
March 21, 2014

****Received the
Tennessee Fallen
Heroes Medal***

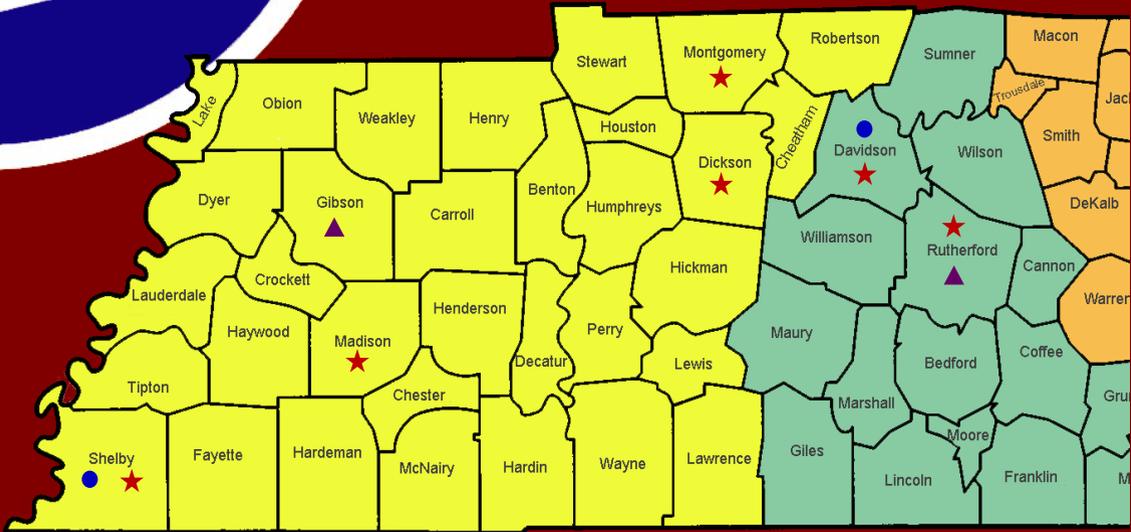
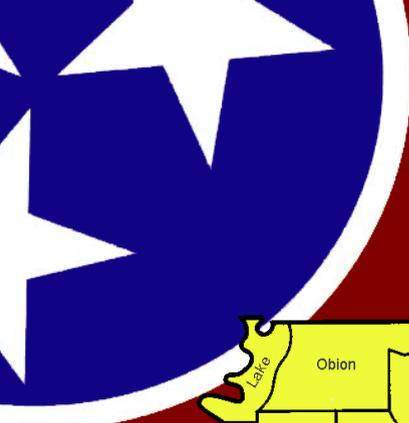
In 2012, TDVA developed a standard operating procedure for casualty assistance and notifications.

The new policy allows TDVA to assist casualty officers, surviving family members and other state agencies in our response to honor and remember Tennessee service members killed in combat.

- TDVA also ensures surviving family members are aware of the services available at the Tennessee State Veterans Cemeteries as well as other federal and state survivor benefits.
- TDVA has presented ten Tennessee Fallen Heroes Medals since the law designating the new honor went into effect in July 2011.
- Since the implementation of the new policy, the department has assisted 17 families of service members with the return home of their loved one to include two soldiers Missing in Action for several decades.
- Governor Bill Haslam declared May 23, 2014 as Gold Star Family Day and presented the proclamation to Gold Star Mom Joyce Mount at the Governor's Memorial Day event that same day. United States Army Warrant Officer One Judson Mount was critically injured on November 8, 2008 by an improvised explosive device in Baghdad, Iraq. The 37-year old Memphis native died five months later.



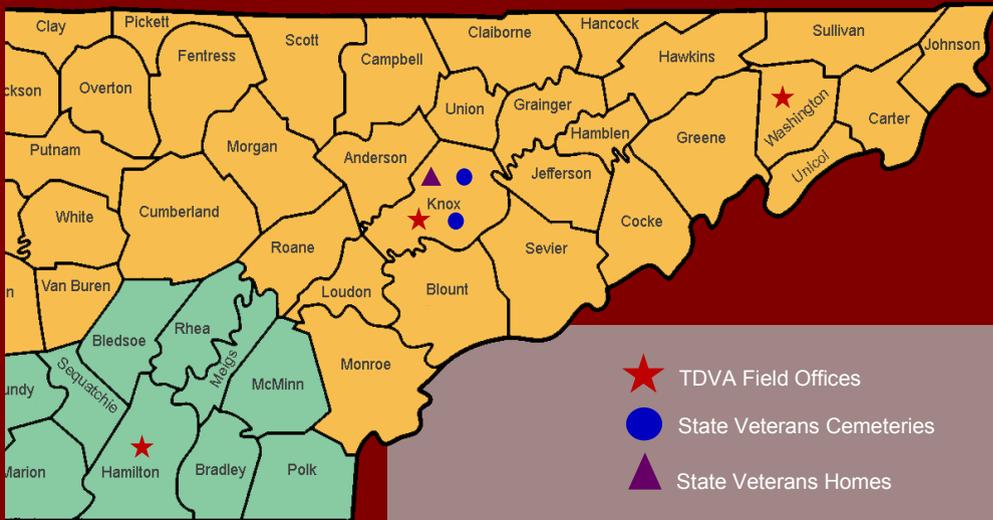
Gold Star Mom Joyce Mount received the Gold Star Family Day Proclamation



***Counties in red do not have a County Service Officer**

Tennessee Veteran Population by County

Anderson.....	7,922	Crockett.....	1,039	Hamilton.....	27,245
Bedford.....	3,254	Cumberland..	6,900	Hancock.....	523
Benton.....	1,859	Davidson....	39,006	Hardeman....	2,213
Bledsoe	914	Decatur.....	1,105	Hardin.....	2,463
Blount.....	12,283	DeKalb.....	1,432	Hawkins.....	5,641
Bradley.....	8,453	Dickson.....	4,579	Haywood.....	1,115
Campbell....	3,190	Dyer.....	2,968	Henderson...	2,097
Cannon.....	1,049	Fayette	4,001	Henry.....	3,483
Carroll.....	3,190	Fentress.....	1,240	Hickman.....	2,191
Carter.....	5,858	Franklin.....	3,792	Houston.....	939
Cheatham..	3,334	Gibson.....	4,221	Humphreys...	1,911
Chester.....	1,241	Giles.....	2,445	Jackson.....	941
Claiborne...	2,370	Grainger	1,880	Jefferson....	5,109
Clay.....	685	Greene	6,302	Johnson.....	1,712
Cocke.....	3,129	Grundy	994	Knox.....	35,204
Coffee.....	5,046	Hamblen.....	5,514	Lake.....	540



- ★ TDVA Field Offices
- State Veterans Cemeteries
- ▲ State Veterans Homes

Lauderdale.....	1,939	Morgan.....	1,795	Stewart.....	2,007
Lawrence.....	2,837	Obion.....	2,708	Sullivan.....	15,364
Lewis.....	909	Overton.....	1,772	Sumner.....	13,592
Lincoln.....	3,103	Perry.....	734	Tipton.....	6,161
Loudon.....	5,486	Pickett.....	529	Trousdale...	687
Macon.....	1,495	Polk.....	1,507	Unicoi.....	2,063
Madison.....	6,725	Putnam.....	5,452	Union.....	1,357
Marion.....	2,318	Rhea.....	2,764	Van Buren...	548
Marshall.....	2,248	Roane.....	5,613	Warren.....	2,616
Maury.....	7,173	Robertson...	5,548	Washington..	11,927
McMinn.....	4,447	Rutherford...	21,128	Wayne.....	1,391
McNairy.....	2,523	Scott.....	1,546	Weakley.....	2,636
Meigs.....	1,198	Sequatchie...	1,182	White.....	2,237
Monroe.....	3,619	Sevier.....	7,635	Williamson...	11,136
Montgomery...	25,992	Shelby.....	59,516	Wilson.....	9,601
Moore.....	621	Smith.....	1,550		

Source: USDVA Sept, 2013

Fiscal Year 2013-14

Monetary Awards by County



County	Population	Monetary Awards	Avg \$	Monetary Awards	Avg \$
Anderson	7,922	\$ 18,631,000.00	\$ 2,351.82	\$ 18,166,000.00	\$2,271.00
Bedford	3,254	\$ 8,833,000.00	\$ 2,714.60	\$ 8,811,000.00	\$2,707.00
Benton	1,859	\$ 6,464,000.00	\$ 3,476.80	\$ 5,597,000.00	\$2,983.00
Bledsoe	914	\$ 2,562,000.00	\$ 2,801.65	\$ 2,334,000.00	\$2,559.00
Blount	12,283	\$ 32,272,000.00	\$ 2,627.45	\$30,175,000.00	\$2,442.00
Bradley	8,453	\$ 20,874,000.00	\$ 2,469.35	\$20,364,000.00	\$2,401.00
Campbell	3,190	\$ 19,628,000.00	\$ 6,153.95	\$19,446,993.52	\$5,672.23
Cannon	1,049	\$ 3,953,000.00	\$ 3,766.75	\$ 3,656,301.35	\$3,352.43
Carroll	2,998	\$ 7,422,000.00	\$ 2,475.53	\$ 6,607,820.24	\$2,829.75
Carter	5,858	\$ 23,023,000.00	\$3,930.39	\$26,353,911.54	\$4,399.28
Cheatham	3,334	\$ 9,449,000.00	\$2,843.49	\$ 9,822,470.92	\$3,273.01
Chester	1,241	\$ 3,087,000.00	\$2,487.87	\$ 3,770,463.67	\$2,681.36
Claiborne	2,370	\$ 12,305,000.00	\$5,191.97	\$11,655,108.47	\$4,793.05
Clay	685	\$ 1,732,000.00	\$2,529.12	\$ 2,422,143.83	\$4,533.34
Cocke	3,129	\$ 14,414,000.00	\$4,606.46	\$12,870,378.59	\$4,107.16
Coffee	5,046	\$ 16,184,000.00	\$3,206.96	\$15,966,497.17	\$3,625.84
Crockett	1,039	\$ 3,271,000.00	\$3,148.33	\$ 3,357,376.59	\$3,128.30
Cumberland	6,900	\$ 17,096,000.00	\$2,477.64	\$18,141,831.74	\$2,771.96
Davidson	39,006	\$107,843,000.00	\$2,764.80	\$103,422,236.64	\$2,848.88
Decatur	1,105	\$ 3,485,000.00	\$3,154.48	\$ 3,553,526.68	\$2,283.05
DeKalb	1,432	\$ 3,521,000.00	\$2,458.61	\$ 3,520,406.13	\$3,201.56
Dickson	4,579	\$14,012,000.00	\$3,059.91	\$13,541,295.20	\$2,833.64
Dyer	2,968	\$ 9,221,000.00	\$3,106.83	\$ 8,933,935.88	\$3,198.43
Fayette	4,001	\$ 5,324,000.00	\$1,330.61	\$ 8,199,622.25	\$2,841.76
Fentress	1,240	\$ 6,369,000.00	\$5,138.23	\$ 5,632,329.26	\$5,607.29
Franklin	3,792	\$ 10,237,000.00	\$2,699.74	\$12,228,756.86	\$3,209.30
Gibson	4,221	\$13,769,000.00	\$3,261.69	\$ 9,620,695.59	\$2,453.60
Giles	2,445	\$ 7,605,000.00	\$3,110.03	\$ 7,805,147.72	\$3,117.71
Grainger	1,880	\$ 6,441,000.00	\$3,426.00	\$ 5,841,939.74	\$2,863.00
Greene	6,302	\$19,987,000.00	\$3,171.46	\$22,720,473.03	\$4,225.28
Grundy	994	\$ 3,533,000.00	\$3,553.82	\$ 2,836,285.03	\$3,663.71
Hamblen	5,514	\$18,379,000.00	\$3,332.88	\$16,687,632.50	\$3,057.54
Hamilton	27,245	\$69,483,000.00	\$2,550.31	\$70,345,855.64	\$2,683.41
Hancock	523	\$ 1,784,000.00	\$3,414.52	\$ 1,741,996.89	\$4,436.28
Hardeman	2,213	\$ 5,216,000.00	\$2,356.69	\$ 5,413,411.92	\$2,196.91
Hardin	2,463	\$ 6,570,000.00	\$2,667.63	\$ 7,079,375.11	\$2,530.24
Hawkins	5,641	\$19,549,000.00	\$3,365.76	\$20,072,860.75	\$4,223.83
Haywood	1,115	\$ 3,038,000.00	\$2,723.50	\$ 3,164,975.56	\$3,364.91
Henderson	2,097	\$ 5,475,000.00	\$2,610.34	\$ 5,181,350.66	\$2,610.31
Henry	3,483	\$12,343,000.00	\$3,544.04	\$11,029,336.44	\$3,570.53
Hickman	2,191	\$ 5,234,000.00	\$2,388.68	\$ 4,452,147.72	\$2,339.79
Houston	939	\$ 3,398,000.00	\$3,618.42	\$ 3,336,968.52	\$4,067.67
Humphreys	1,911	\$ 5,501,000.00	\$2,878.93	\$ 5,269,571.14	\$2,791.74
Jackson	941	\$ 2,186,000.00	\$2,322.88	\$ 2,865,293.77	\$3,307.55
Jefferson	5,109	\$16,433,000.00	\$3,218.53	\$16,600,609.42	\$3,764.04
Johnson	1,712	\$ 7,864,000.00	\$4,593.38	\$ 6,859,157.23	\$3,720.72
Knox	35,204	\$88,500,000.00	\$2,513.90	\$88,668,590.23	\$2,597.04
Lake	540	\$ 1,382,000.00	\$2,561.77	\$ 998,146.69	\$2,405.34



County	Population	Monetary Awards	Avg Award	Monetary Awards	Avg Award
Lauderdale	1,939	\$5,912,000.00	\$3,048.70	\$4,585,845.45	\$2,165.96
Lawrence	2,837	\$12,415,000.00	\$4,376.34	\$9,582,055.88	\$3,627.65
Lewis	909	\$3,254,000.00	\$3,577.60	\$3,002,343.94	\$3,606.78
Lincoln	3,103	\$7,835,000.00	\$2,525.25	\$7,623,798.01	\$2,621.04
Loudon	5,486	\$14,056,000.00	\$2,562.35	\$13,031,079.09	\$2,789.39
Macon	1,495	\$3,793,000.00	\$2,536.51	\$3,954,654.13	\$2,572.85
Madison	6,725	\$21,704,000.00	\$3,227.34	\$18,829,755.64	\$2,642.89
Marion	2,318	\$4,374,000.00	\$1,886.51	\$7,474,933.63	\$3,523.86
Marshall	2,248	\$7,057,000.00	\$3,138.89	\$6,074,714.40	\$3,202.35
Mauzy	7,173	\$18,902,000.00	\$2,635.03	\$14,258,032.06	\$2,184.13
McMinn	4,447	\$14,741,000.00	\$3,314.89	\$14,727,950.21	\$3,662.48
McNairy	2,523	\$8,036,000.00	\$3,184.95	\$7,066,331.94	\$2,963.13
Meigs	1,198	\$4,335,000.00	\$3,618.23	\$3,791,630.58	\$2,736.91
Monroe	3,619	\$13,066,000.00	\$3,610.69	\$12,742,313.99	\$4,061.19
Montgomery	25,992	\$174,816,000.00	\$6,725.81	\$200,814,882.69	\$9,159.71
Moore	621	\$958,000.00	\$1,542.27	\$1,787,389.48	\$3,177.19
Morgan	1,795	\$4,984,000.00	\$2,776.84	\$6,324,228.71	\$3,529.29
Obion	2,708	\$7,465,000.00	\$2,756.96	\$7,705,924.70	\$3,161.39
Overton	1,772	\$5,720,000.00	\$3,227.35	\$6,060,041.16	\$4,426.64
Perry	734	\$2,969,000.00	\$4,044.47	\$2,684,077.35	\$3,611.38
Pickett	529	\$1,813,000.00	\$3,430.26	\$2,140,876.19	\$5,284.66
Polk	1,507	\$4,835,000.00	\$3,208.56	\$4,053,660.21	\$3,275.90
Putnam	5,452	\$19,283,000.00	\$3,536.87	\$16,452,641.60	\$3,315.69
Rhea	2,764	\$9,297,000.00	\$3,363.74	\$8,056,274.24	\$3,076.66
Roane	5,613	\$16,992,000.00	\$3,026.99	\$14,931,732.50	\$3,089.02
Robertson	5,548	\$18,205,000.00	\$3,281.47	\$16,751,095.78	\$3,587.85
Rutherford	21,128	\$55,596,000.00	\$2,631.34	\$66,461,071.83	\$3,735.31
Scott	1,546	\$7,258,000.00	\$4,695.58	\$7,225,751.83	\$5,304.27
Sequatchie	1,182	\$7,038,000.00	\$5,954.24	\$5,367,339.30	\$5,165.53
Sevier	7,635	\$27,962,000.00	\$3,662.31	\$25,789,237.73	\$3,311.10
Shelby	59,516	\$177,218,000.00	\$2,977.67	\$185,369,720.44	\$3,081.01
Smith	1,550	\$3,218,000.00	\$2,076.10	\$3,302,100.06	\$2,136.03
Stewart	2,007	\$10,054,000.00	\$50,08.33	\$10,569,089.72	\$5,196.05
Sullivan	15,364	\$59,561,000.00	\$3,876.76	\$61,894,068.40	\$4,034.62
Sumner	13,592	\$32,889,000.00	\$2,419.62	\$32,156,761.75	\$2,732.53
Tipton	6,161	\$19,451,000.00	\$3,157.18	\$23,319,100.81	\$3,940.46
Trousdale	687	\$1,413,000.00	\$2,057.83	\$2,317,413.42	\$3,602.24
Unicoi	2,063	\$7,970,000.00	\$3,862.21	\$7,466,809.51	\$3,686.79
Union	1,357	\$3,261,000.00	\$2,403.03	\$4,636,324.83	\$3,327.84
Van Buren	548	\$1,079,000.00	\$1,970.20	\$1,896,435.87	\$3,611.22
Warren	2,616	\$9,573,000.00	\$3,659.78	\$8,267,131.05	\$2,959.09
Washington	11,927	\$54,542,000.00	\$4,572.95	\$51,671,329.02	\$4,932.29
Wayne	1,391	\$3,501,000.00	\$2,516.47	\$3,411,754.84	\$2,775.54
Weakley	2,636	\$6,165,000.00	\$2,339.08	\$6,344,695.31	\$2,351.53
White	2,237	\$7,514,000.00	\$3,358.37	\$6,561,837.23	\$3,415.84
Williamson	11,136	\$21,291,000.00	\$1,911.87	\$20,769,133.32	\$1,997.70
Wilson	9,601	\$24,352,000.00	\$2,536.47	\$25,341,892.68	\$2,831.32
Total	521,267	\$1,652,616,000.00		\$1,674,874,876.40	

Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs

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