

NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE PRE-CONVENTION - ZOOM MEETING

A Message from National Chairman, Norma Tramm



Are you anxious to find out the Department and Unit winners of each division? We will share that information and more when you attend the pre-convention Zoom meeting!

Put August 19, 2026, on your calendar. That evening, we will have our final Zoom pre-convention meeting.

The meeting will be held at 8:00 PM EST, so please change the time for your time zone. Use the link below to register.

<https://member.legion-aux.org/Virtual-Pre-Con-Meetings>

Registration is very easy, and you can register for all the programs you wish to attend at the same time.

I would like to thank everyone for all the work that you accomplished this year for the mission of the National Security Committee. Reading your reports and entries for awards was heartwarming. When there is a need, you show up and help out. I am so proud of the American Legion Auxiliary and all that you do for our Servicemembers and their families.

We look forward to your attendance at the pre-convention Zoom meeting.

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National National Security Chair 25-26/
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2025-2026 NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE

Norma Tramm

National Chairman
Dept of Minnesota

Jammie R. Phillips

National Vice Chairman
Dept of Arkansas

April Kollmorgen

Central Division Chairman
Dept of Wisconsin

Lisa A. Boyer

Eastern Division Chairman
Dept of Pennsylvania

Jane M. McKnight

Southern Division Chairman
Dept of Kentucky

Debra A. Albers

Northwestern Division Chairman
Dept of Nebraska

Pam Seelye

Western Division Chairman
Dept of Oregon

MISSION DRIVEN. FAMILY FOCUSED.

AUGUST
NATIONAL SECURITY CALENDAR
HONOR ★ SERVICE ★ SACRIFICE
CELEBRATING OUR NATIONAL SECURITY AND THOSE WHO SERVE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4 COAST GUARD BIRTHDAY	5	6	7 PURPLE HEART DAY	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 MARINE CORPS RESERVE BIRTHDAY	30
31						

★ THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SERVE AND SUPPORT OUR NATION. ★

Resources

- **National Security Committee Page on the ALA National Website:**
<https://www.legion-aux.org/member/committees/national-security>
- **Program Engagement Plan (PEP):**
<https://member.legion-aux.org/Member/Committees/National-Security/Get-Involved-National-Security>
- **Facebook:**
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/915563745139663/>
- **National Security email address:** nationalsecurity@ALAforVeterans.org

POW/MIA Recognition Day

September 18, 2026

Submitted by Southern Division Chairman

Jane McKnight

National POW/MIA Recognition Day will be on Friday, September 18, 2026. This day is observed on the third Friday in September and honors our heroes who were prisoners of war (POWs) and those who are still missing in action (MIA'S). Per *Wikipedia*, the day is most associated with those who were POWs during the Vietnam War.

The POW/MIA flag was first recognized on August 10, 1990, by the One Hundred First Congress of the United States.

The original flag was created by commercial artist Newton Foust Heisley, born in Williamsport, PA, who was a pilot during WW II in the USAF. The image he designed used the black and white images of the silhouette of a man's profile with his head bowed in the background with a guard tower and barbed wire behind him. Heisley used a picture of his son Jeffrey, a 24-year-old who was serving in the USMC, who had just returned from basic training where he was preparing to be shipped to Vietnam. The words "You Are Not Forgotten" that appear on the bottom of the flag were a reflection of Heisley's military experience as a pilot flying long missions over the South Pacific, with the thought coming to his mind that he could end up "being taken prisoner and being...forgotten".

In 1988, the POW/MIA flag flew over the White House for the first time and it was placed on permanent display in the rotunda of the US Capitol in 1989. In 1990, Congress designated the flag as "the symbol of our nation's concern" for soldiers still unaccounted for in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War, specifying six days each year: Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, National POW/MIA Recognition Day and Veterans Day – when it is mandated to fly the flag at all military installations and federal buildings.

Each year, TAL along with several VSO's hold ceremonies in their communities to honor and pay respects to those who have not returned home. **YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN**

Resources:

pow-miafamilies.org

National League of POW/MIA Families



Save the Date!

NATIONAL SECURITY

★ PRECONVENTION MEETING ★



WEDNESDAY
AUGUST 19, 2026

JOIN US VIRTUALLY!
See a recap of the 2025-2026 Year & Find out what Departments and Units will be awarded for their National Security Program.



MEETING TIMES – ALL U.S. TIME ZONES

2:00 PM	HAWAII-ALEUTIAN TIME (HAT)
4:00 PM	ALASKA TIME (AKDT)
5:00 PM	PACIFIC TIME (PT)
6:00 PM	MOUNTAIN TIME (MT)
7:00 PM	CENTRAL TIME (CT)
8:00 PM	EASTERN TIME (ET)

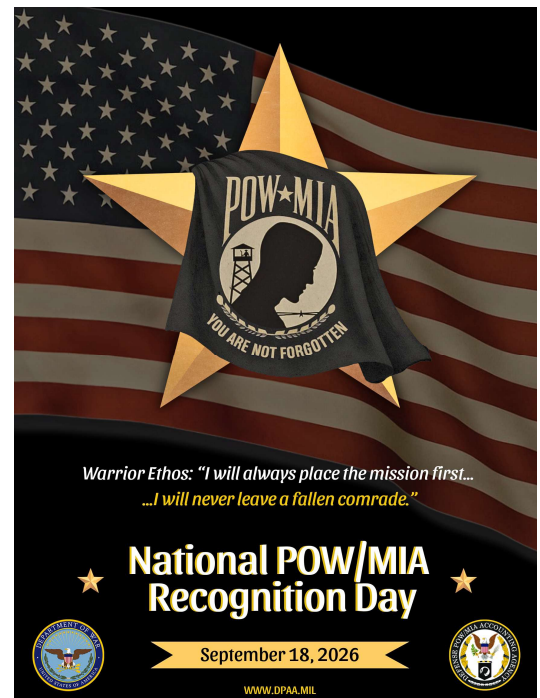


REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

REGISTER HERE:
<https://member.legion-aux.org/Virtual-Pre-Con-Meetings>

Service. Not Self. ★

AI-Generated



You can order your 2026 National POW/MIA Recognition Day poster from the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) here:
<https://dpaa-mil.sites.crmforce.mil/dpaaFamWebPosters>