

KANSAS VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
CHAPLAINS PROGRAM 2025-2026

PURPOSE: To promote the Mission of VFW by involvement of our Chaplains in their Communities.

1. To encourage our District & Post Chaplains to be involved

- a. Giving purpose
- b. Providing Direction

2. To equip our District & Post Chaplains

- a. By conducting Chaplain's Workshops
 - i. Department School of Instruction
 - ii. Area workshops hosted by local VFW Posts (Looking for VFW Posts to host a workshop and providing a place to meet)
 - iii. Workshops to be focused on questions from attendees. Open forum to discuss relevant issues Chaplains are faced with in every day situations.
- b. By being available to advise and/or assist
 - i. To help utilize resources gained from Chaplains workshop.
 - ii. Working with our District Chaplains
 - iii. To help Post Chaplains as needed
- c. Chaplain Resources
- d. **Chaplain Peter Hook's Chaplain Resources:** https://lotcs.org/vfw_chaplain.html
 - i. **Missouri State Chaplain – Deb Halter**
<https://movfw.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=76106> , then click on the “About” tab and look for “Chaplain’s Corner
 - ii. **Chaplains Handbook** - Use the Drop Box Link provided here: [Chaplain's Handbook](#) If this doesn't work or you don't have a Drop Box account, use the Missouri State Chaplain link above under the “i” notation. If that won't work, call me and I will mail you a Chaplain's Handbook.

3. RECOGNITION: To award a “Chaplain of the Year” to a Kansas VFW Chaplain. The Chaplain of the Year will be submitted to National for consideration for National Chaplain of the Year. Kansas Chaplain of the Year prior to 2019-2020 can be nominated again.

4. To Recognize for activities of Involvement that can include:

- a. Performance of duties:
 - i. One who reaches out to the local Veterans in their homes, retirement center, nursing home, assisted care facility or Veterans home.
 - ii. Visit the sick Veteran or their family at home or in the hospital
 - iii. Send cards to Veterans and to their Families for various occasions
 - iv. Conducts, supports and/or takes part in funerals and memorials for Veterans and their families
 - v. Take part in special ceremonies of their Post and in the Community on behalf of their Post
 - vi. How their involvement in the community has promoted the VFW image
- b. Exemplary character and conduct: e.g., A person of utmost integrity, professional execution of their duties, dependability, punctuality, and timely submission of reports, etc.

- c. Exemplary performance above and beyond the normal expectations of the position and duties.
 - d. Personal attitude which is positive and professional in all contacts with others, and which represents the VFW and the Department in the best possible way.
 - e. Commitment to the ministry and duties of the Chaplain, as reflected by service to comrades and their families and responsiveness to needs.
 - f. A member of the VFW in good standing with the Post, district, and Department.
5. Nominations to be submitted by someone in the Post or District.
- a. State Chaplain's name, Post #, Address phone #, and email.
 - b. In a letter, give a summary statement of their activities. Chaplain's Monthly Reports and any Public Media are very helpful.
 - c. State how your Chaplain has fulfilled the requirements listed above, in point 4: a-g
 - d. The more information you can provide, the better
 - e. **Nomination to be sent to the Department Chaplain and a copy to your District Chaplain by March 15th.**
 - f. Last year's Chaplains of the Year may be called upon to assist the Department Chaplain in selecting the current year's Kansas Chaplain of the Year.
6. Department Chaplain of the Year will be recognized at the Department Convention
- a. Recognition Certificate
 - b. Check for \$50
7. April 1, the Department Chaplain of the Year, will be submitted for consideration for the National Chaplain of the Year.

John Linstra / State Chaplain 2025-2026

Department of Kansas Veterans of Foreign Wars

Cell: 913-780-4647

jlinstra@vfw.org

*Note - Chaplain Peter Hook's web Page is an excellent source for Chaplain Resources. *

****Note – Some of the links go to the Missouri Department Web Site. The reason for that is because they have good information and print outs that we in Kansas don't have. If you have a question or can't find what you are looking for just drop me an email, text, or call. ****