

**VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
Eighteenth National Convention
New Orleans, Louisiana
August 8 – 12, 2017**

DRAFT # 1

(M) – Marriott Hotel (S) – Sheraton Hotel

TUESDAY, August 8, 2017

8:00am – 5:00pm	Situation Room opens (meeting planner)	Bonaparte (M)
8:00am – 5:00pm	VVA/Media office open	Regent (M)
9:00am – 4:00pm	AVVA office open	Bacchus (M)
9:00am – 5:00pm	Elections Committee office open	Iberville (M)
9:00am – 5:00pm	THE VETERANS MALL open	Rhythms & Waterbury (S)
9:00am – 9:00pm	Convention floor available for rehearsal & Set up (must coordinate this with Wes Guidry, to get in)	Grand Ballroom (S)
12:00pm – 7:00pm	Credentials Office opens	Studio 10 (M)
9:00am – 1:00pm	Convention registration open (Pre-registered delegates only)	Preservation Hall Booth (M)
2:30pm	Wreath laying	TBD
2:00pm – 7:00pm	Convention registration open (Pre-registered and on-site)	Preservation Hall Booth (M)
4:00pm – 5:00pm	New Delegates briefing	Studio 2 (M)
4:00pm	National Board of Directors meeting	Galerie 2 (M)
6:00pm – 7:00pm	AA meeting	Studio 1 (M)

WEDNESDAY, August 9, 2017

7:00am – 5:00pm	Situation Room opens (meeting planner)	Bonaparte (M)
7:30am – 8:00am	New Delegates briefing	Studio 2 (M)
8:00am – 5:00pm	VVA/Media office open	Regent (M)
1:45pm – 4:00pm	AVVA office open	Bacchus (M)
9:00am – 5:00pm	Elections Committee office open	Iberville (M)
8:00am – 4:30pm	Convention registration	Preservation Hall Booth (M)
8:15am	Convention floor open for delegates	Grand Ballroom (S)
11:00am - 5:00pm	THE VETERANS MALL open	Rhythms & Waterbury (S)
8:00am – 4:30pm	Credentials Office open	Studio 10 (M)

(Note: Registration, VVA Office, Credentials Office, Media Office will be closed during Opening Ceremony)

9:00am – 12:00pm	<p>Convention opening session</p> <p>Presentation of Colors – National Anthem – Pledge of Allegiance – Hotels, Convention Center employees (Veterans) Introduction of Officers Welcome – John Rowan Welcome – Sharon Hobbs Welcome – Louisiana State Council representative Keynote Speaker –</p>	Grand Ballroom (S)
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(Five minute break at conclusion of opening ceremony to allow guests to depart hall. Marshals will ensure that only delegates are seated on convention floor)

Credentials Committee – Jim Blount, Chair
Rules Committee – Joe Jennings
Adoption of Agenda
Constitution Committee- Leslie DeLong, Chair
Resolutions Committee- Dick Southern, Chair
Elections Committee- Scott DeArman, Chair
Announcements- Wes Guidry, Director of Meetings

12:00pm – 1:15pm	<p>AVVA luncheon (Advance tickets required)</p>	Riverview (M)
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1:00pm – 2:30pm	<p>Committee hearings on resolutions Agent Orange/Dioxin Committee POW/MIA Committee PTSD and Substance Abuse Committee Veterans Benefits Committee Veterans Incarcerated Committee</p>	<p>Galerie 2 (M) Galerie 1 (M) Galerie 3 (M) Studio 2 (M) Studio 9 (M)</p>
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2:30pm – 4:00pm	<p>Committee hearings on resolutions Membership Affairs Committee Public Affairs Committee Health Care Committee Women Veterans Committee Homeless Veterans Committee</p>	<p>Galerie 2 (M) Galerie 3 (M) Galerie 1 (M) Studio 2 (M) Studio 9 (M)</p>
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4:00pm – 5:30pm	<p>Committee hearings on resolutions Minority Affairs Committee Government Affairs Committee Constitution Committee ETBO</p>	<p>Studio 2 (M) Galerie 2 (M) Galerie 3 (M) Galerie 1 (M)</p>
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6:00pm – 6:30pm	Candidates briefing	Studio 2 (M)
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6:00pm – 7:00pm	AA meeting	Studio 1 (M)
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7:00pm	<p>Regional caucuses Region 1 Region 2 Region 3 Region 4 Region 5 Region 6 Region 7 Region 8 Region 9</p>	<p>Studio 3 (M) Galerie 2 (M) Galerie 3 (M) Galerie 1 (M) Studio 2 (M) Studio 4 (M) Studio 7 (M) Studio 8 (M) Studio 9 (M)</p>
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THURSDAY, August 10, 2017

7:00am – 5:00pm	Situation Room opens (meeting planner)	Bonaparte (M)
7:30am – 8:45am	Service Representatives' breakfast (Advance tickets required)	Riverview (M)
8:00am – 5:00pm	VVA/Media office open	Regent (M)
8:00am	AVVA office Closed	Bacchus (M)
9:00am – 5:00pm	Elections Committee office open	Iberville (M)
9:00am – 5:00pm	THE VETERANS MALL open	Rhythms & Waterbury (S)
8:00am – 4:30pm	Convention registration	Preservation Hall Booth (M)
8:00am – 4:30pm	Credentials Office open	Studio 10 (M)
9:00am – 5:00pm	AVVA Convention General Session	Galerie 5/6 (M)
9:00am – 11:45am	Convention General session Guest speakers - TBA Credentials Committee – Jim Blount, Chair Elections Committee – Scott DeArman, Chair Announcements – Wes Guidry, Director of Meetings Announcement of VVA awards Recognitions & Introductions Delegates act on Constitution amendments – Leslie DeLong, Chair Reading and action on Resolutions – Dick Southern, Chair	Grand Ballroom (S)
12:00pm – 1:30pm	Lunch (on your own)	
12:00pm	Registration deadline for voting eligibility	
1:30pm – 3:00pm	Convention General session (continues)	Grand Ballroom (S)
3:00pm – 5:00pm	CSCP question Candidates for Office	Grand Ballroom (S)
6:00pm – 7:00pm	AA meeting	Studio 1 (M)
7:00pm	Regional caucuses Region 1 Region 2 Region 3 Region 4 Region 5 Region 6 Region 7 Region 8 Region 9	Studio 3 (M) Galerie 2 (M) Galerie 3 (M) Galerie 1 (M) Studio 2 (M) Studio 4 (M) Studio 7 (M) Studio 8 (M) Studio 9 (M)

FRIDAY, August 11, 2017

7:00am - 7:30am	POW/MIA Ceremony	TBD
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7:00am – 5:00pm	Situation Room opens (meeting planner)	Bonaparte (M)
8:00am – 5:00pm	VVA/Media office open	Regent (M)
1:00pm – 4:00pm	AVVA office open	Bacchus (M)
9:00am – 5:00pm	THE VETERANS MALL open	Rhythms & Waterbury (S)
12:00pm – 7:00pm	Credentials Office opens	Studio 10 (M)
7:30am – 8:45am	Women Veterans breakfast (Advance tickets required)	Riverview (M)
9:00am - 10:30am	VVA elections/voting	Galerie 1-3 (M)
9:00am – 10:30am	AVVA Candidate forum	Galerie 5/6 (M)
	AVVA Election	Galerie 4 (M)
9:00am – 12:00pm	THE VETERANS MALL opens	Rhythms & Waterbury (S)
10:30am – 12:00pm	AVVA Reconvene (if needed)	Galerie 5/6 (M)
11:00am – 1:00pm	Convention General session Announcements – Wes Guidry, Director of Meetings Announcement of VVA awards Reading and acting on Resolutions – Dick Southern, Chair	Grand Ballroom (S)
1:00pm	Lunch (on your own)	
2:30pm	Convention General session resumes	Grand Ballroom (S)
2:00pm	AVVA Convention reconvene (if needed)	Galerie 5/6 (M)
6:00pm - 7:00pm	AA meeting	Studio 1 (M)

SATURDAY, August 12, 2017

7:00am – 5:00pm	Situation Room opens (meeting planner)	Bonaparte (M)
7:30am – 8:45am	Legislative Coordinator breakfast (Advance tickets required)	Riverview (M)
9:00am – 12:30pm	Elections Committee Office opens	Iberville (M)
9:00am – 12:00pm	THE VETERANS MALL opens	Rhythms & Waterbury (S)
9:00am – 10:30am	VVA run-off election (if needed)	Galerie 1-3 (M)
10:00am	Convention General session Elections Committee – Scott DeArman, Chair Announcements – Wes Guidry, Director of Meetings Announcement of VVA awards Recognitions & Introductions	Grand Ballroom (S)
At conclusion of General Session	National Board of Directors meeting (new board)	Galerie 2 (M)
12:00pm	Lunch (on own)	
4:00pm – 5:00pm	AA meeting	Studio 1 (M)

4:30pm – 5:15pm	Catholic Mass	Galerie 1 (M)
5:30pm – 7:00pm	Pre-banquet reception	Grand Ballroom (S) Foyer
7:00pm	VVA Awards Banquet (Advance tickets required)	Grand Ballroom (S)