



## **PRESS RELEASE**

Vietnam Veterans of America

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**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Vietnam Veterans of America 19th National Convention Opening Event: Wreath Laying at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Spokane**

**(Washington, D.C.)**--The first formal event of Vietnam Veterans of America's biennial 19<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Spokane, Washington, will take place on Tuesday afternoon, July 16, at 2:30 p.m., when VVA's national officers will lay a wreath at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, at 610 W Spokane Falls Blvd. The ceremony is open to the public.

"It's traditional for VVA to honor local war dead before we get on to the business of our National Leadership Conferences and National Conventions," said VVA President John Rowan. "It is something we take very solemnly and seriously. It is our honor to recognize those Americans from the Spokane area who paid the ultimate price in service to our nation. And we will honor our Prisoners of War and those still Missing in Action." Rowan will be joined by Sharon Hobbs, National President of Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America.

The Convention Opening Ceremonies will take place on Wednesday morning, July 17, at 9:00 am, in Ballroom 100ABC of the Spokane Convention Center, at 236 West Spokane Falls Blvd.

More than 700 delegates from VVA local chapters across the nation will join hundreds of other Vietnam War veterans and guests in Spokane for the National Convention. Following the opening ceremonies, the delegates will meet in convention to debate national resolutions and Constitutional Amendments. Later in the week, they will vote for VVA's national leaders—officers and board members—for the upcoming two years. VVA's supporting organization, the Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America, also will be holding its biennial National Convention.