

**Overview of**  
**Office of Secretary of Veterans & Defense Affairs**  
**COVID19 Posture: UPDATE #2 (17APR20)**



**Office of Secretary of Veterans & Defense Affairs:**

- Joined with Governor Northam on a call with Secretary of Defense, Mark Esper, as part of federal outreach to assess states' preparedness and response to COVID-19 and open lines of communication.
- Participated in conference call with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Robert Wilkie, for updates on the Veterans Administration efforts to respond to COVID-19 across various service lines.
- Participated in the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs call for state and local leaders to hear updates on critical infrastructure and industry from the Department of Homeland Security's Director of Cybersecurity and Critical Infrastructure and the Undersecretary of Defense for Sustainment.
- Briefed the Governor and the Virginia Emergency Support Team (VEST) on [Virginia National Guard](#) (VNG) alternate care sites decision framework and options.
- Coordinated the receipt of non-medical masks from the Virginia Department of Corrections for use by Virginia National Guardsmen who are mobilized Title 32 Status.
- Engaged with Association of Defense Communities (ADC) to attend multiple webinars on ways the military, states, and local governments can work together to respond to COVID-19, then conducted follow-on outreach to share best practices with stakeholders.
- Maintained key support role in Virginia Emergency Operations Center.

**Virginia Department of Military Affairs:**

- Mobilized more than 300 Guardsmen to Title 32 Status;
- Planning with state and federal partner agencies for Alternate Care Sites options;
- Fulfilling mission assignments requested through emergency management process, to include logistics support, planning, mobile testing assistance and medical planning.
- Engaging with Virginia Department of Health (VDH) to coordinate logistical support to the Governor's Long Term Care Facility Task Force.

**Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS):**

**COVID Cases and Virginia's Veterans Care Centers:**

- DVS is currently monitoring one resident and four staff members who have tested positive for COVID-19 at Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Care Center (SBVCC), the state veterans nursing home in Richmond;
  - The resident is currently receiving care at a Richmond-area hospital and continues to improve.
  - The four staff members are under the care of their personal health care providers and are under self-quarantine at their homes.
- DVS formed coronavirus task forces at both the SBVCC and the Virginia Veterans Care Center (VVCC) in Roanoke. DVS also serves on the Governor's COVID-19 Long-Term Care Facility Task Force.
- More information is available at <https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/news-room>.

**State Veterans Cemeteries:**

- The three state veterans' cemeteries continue to take preventive measures in line with federal guidance.
- Up to ten vehicles with family members may accompany the funeral home staff with the deceased; however, they must view the interment from the road while staying either inside or outside in the immediate vicinity of their vehicles.

## **STAYING INFORMED**

For a list of all health & safety measures taken by the Commonwealth and a *comprehensive list of state resources*, please visit *Virginia's COVID-19 information page* [here](#); For a list of FAQs for those who are seeking information for unemployment benefits, click [here](#) or call **1-866-832-2363**.

### **STATE:**

#### **Office of the Governor**

State Website: <https://www.governor.virginia.gov/>

News Releases: <https://www.governor.virginia.gov/newsroom/news-releases/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/GovernorVA>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GovernorVA/>

#### **Secretariat of Veterans & Defense Affairs:**

State Website: <https://www.vada.virginia.gov/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/VaSecVADA>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/VaSecVADA/>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/virginia-secretary-of-veterans-defense-affairs>

#### **Virginia Department of Veterans Services**

State Website: <https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/@VaVeteransSvc>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/VirginiaVeteransServices/>

### **FEDERAL:**

#### **U.S. Department of Defense:**

DoD Newsroom, click [here](#);

Military One Source: Coronavirus Resources Information for Military Community, click [here](#).

Coronavirus: Rumor Control, please click [here](#).

#### **U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**

Find a VA Medical Center near you, click [here](#);

Veterans Health Administration's Appointment Procedures, click [here](#);

Veteran's Health Administration's Telehealth resources, click [here](#);

#### **Richmond Veterans Administration Medical Center:**

<https://www.richmond.va.gov/>

<https://www.facebook.com/RichmondVAMC>

<https://twitter.com/RichmondVAMC>

#### **Hampton Veterans Administration Medical Center:**

<https://www.hampton.va.gov/>

<https://twitter.com/hamptonvamc>

<https://www.facebook.com/HamptonVAMC>

#### **Salem Veterans Administration Medical Center:**

<https://www.salem.va.gov/>

<https://twitter.com/VASalem>

<https://www.facebook.com/SalemVAMC>



**For the following offices in the East, the number to call is 757-455-0814**

- Accomac
- Chesapeake
- Hampton and Hampton VAMC
- Norfolk
- Portsmouth
- Williamsburg
- Virginia Beach – Pembroke; Virginia Beach – Oceana

- **For the offices in the North, the number to call is 703-479-7437**

- Fort Belvoir
- Fairfax
- Loudoun
- Manassas
- Pentagon
- Quantico
- Springfield
- Strasburg

- **For the offices in the West, the number to call is 540-982-2463 ext 6547**

- Abingdon
- Big Stone Gap
- Danville
- Lynchburg
- Roanoke
- Salem VAMC
- Staunton
- Tazewell
- Wytheville

- **For the offices in Central Virginia, the number to call is 804-691-4905 or 804 720-8027**

- Charlottesville
- Emporia
- Fort Lee
- Fredericksburg
- Henrico
- McGuire VAMC
- Petersburg
- South Hill