



Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs  
Office of Communications  
(850) 487-1533  
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## NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Courtney Heidelberg  
(850) 487-1533

### **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION SELECTS FDVA DIRECTOR TO LEAD COMMITTEE**

*~ Collins to spearhead Veteran Service Organization Relations Committee ~*

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** – The National Association of State Departments of Veterans' Affairs recently named Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs Executive Director LeRoy Collins Jr. as Chair of its Committee on Veteran Service Organization Relations. The association also selected Collins to be a member of its Public Affairs and Legislative committees.

"I am pleased and honored to represent Florida and to serve all veterans in this capacity," said Collins, a retired U.S. Navy Reserve Rear Admiral. "I anticipate that my new role with the association will bring exciting partnerships and initiatives as I work with my counterparts from other states to advocate at the federal level."

NASDVA is an organization consisting of each state and territory's top veterans' affairs official. The association provides a medium for the exchange of ideas and information between states so that members can learn from each other and organize responses to issues that face veterans nationwide. NASDVA works to secure uniformity, equality, efficiency and effectiveness in providing services to veterans and their families, especially in regards to claims representation. It is a willing partner with Congress, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the veteran services organizations.

"Florida's more than 1.7 million veterans will benefit – as will veterans nationwide – from the sharing of knowledge and resources by Admiral Collins and other state directors of veterans' affairs," said Florida Governor Charlie Crist. "I am confident that the Admiral will provide strong leadership in his new role."

The Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs is a state agency responsible for assisting, without charge to the claimant, Florida's veterans, their families and survivors in improving their health and economic well-being through quality benefit information, advocacy, education and long-term health services. The department operates five veterans' nursing homes and one assisted living facility through the State Veterans' Homes Program.

For more information on FDVA, visit [www.FloridaVets.org](http://www.FloridaVets.org).

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