

## **Steve Murray**



Steve Murray is Communications and External Affairs Director of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs in Tallahassee, Fla. The retired Air Force lieutenant colonel provides oversight and direction of the department's public affairs program of community outreach, media relations, social media engagement, branding and employee communications linking Florida's more than 1.4 million veterans, their families, and survivors to earned services, benefits and support. He also serves as the department's emergency manager. An Operation Iraqi Freedom veteran, he assumed his current duties in 2006.

During his Air Force career, he served as Director of Public Affairs with the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI), Faculty Head of the Public Affairs Department at the Defense Information School (DOD), and Director of Public Affairs at Headquarters Air Force Recruiting Service.

He received a Bachelor of Science degree with honors in broadcast journalism from the University of Southern Mississippi and has a Master of Science degree in Administration from Central Michigan University.

He is an inductee into the University of Southern Mississippi School of Mass Communication and Journalism Hall of Fame and is a recipient of the Diamond Leadership Award from the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs, the state agency's highest honor. The department's outreach and branding campaign was a recipient of the Florida Public Relations Association's Dick Pope All Florida Grand Golden Image Award, the industry's top annual honor. In addition, the campaign received the Abraham Lincoln Pillar of Excellence Award from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The National Association of Government Communicators recognized FDVA in 2023 with its highest honor for its new Mobile Application, which connects Veterans with centralized federal and state resources.

He serves on the Board of Directors for Honor Flight Tallahassee, the Florida Health Care Association's Public Relations Committee and the Florida Council of Chapters for the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). He is an associate member of the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs (NASDVA), where he is chair of the State Veterans Homes Committee.

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