

"Robert Westphal Volunteer Service Officer of the Year" Award

Resolution 2007-03 passed at 2007 Department Convention in Yakima, Washington established an annual award to recognize the contributions of volunteer service officers throughout the Department. Their dedication and untiring efforts on behalf of veterans and their families is critical to the success of the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation program.

Each District Commander, with input from the District Service Officer, shall nominate a volunteer service officer known to be active in their districts. These individuals need not be Legionnaires as the network of volunteers is comprised of Legionnaires, Auxiliary members and Sons of The American Legion members.

Your written nomination needs to address the following criteria:

1. Name of Volunteer Service Officer
2. Location of Volunteer Service Officer i.e. Post, Vet Center, VA Med Ctr etc.
3. Training completed
 - a. American Legion Extension Institute
 - b. Service Officer Training
 - i. Level One
 - ii. Level Two
 - iii. Level Three
 - iv. WDVA sponsored annual conference
 - c. NVLSP Correspondence Course
4. Community involvement
 - a. Number of claims submitted for VA Disability Compensation or Pension
 - b. Number of veterans helped with VA Healthcare enrollment
 - c. Assisting Veterans with employment
 - d. Assisting homeless veterans
 - e. Assisting with financial assistance (identify level of assistance i.e. post, county, department)
 - f. Attending County Veteran Advisory Board meetings
 - g. Participation in local Veteran Information events
5. Narrative explaining why this individual is deserving of this prestigious award

Nominations are to be submitted to Department Service Officer no later than **April 15th** each year. All nominations will be reviewed by the DSO and VA&R Chairman. Each nominee should attend the Department Convention where the selected winner will be announced. Each nominee will receive a National Certificate of Appreciation. The Department Service Officer will be responsible for obtaining all certificates and applicable awards.