To: Virginia Funeral Directors

Subject: Identification of unclaimed remains of veterans

The Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS) requests the assistance of funeral homes in identifying and interring the unclaimed remains of Virginia’s veterans, in order to provide these veterans the honor, dignity, respect, and remembrance they have earned through service and sacrifice.

To implement the legislation passed by the 2012 General Assembly, DVS stands ready to assist funeral directors in determining if unclaimed remains in their possession are those of a veteran eligible for burial in a veterans cemetery, and, if so, in transferring the remains to a veterans cemetery for an honorable burial.

Funeral directors are asked to send the name and other identifying information to me at:

Susan K. Ulrich
Burial Operations Manager
Albert G. Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery
5310 Milners Rd
Suffolk VA 23434

DVS will determine if the remains are those of a veteran eligible for burial in a veterans cemetery and will notify you as soon as a determination is made.

DVS operates three state veterans cemeteries – in Amelia, Dublin, and Suffolk. For each eligible veterans, we will work with you to arrange transfer of the cremains to one of these cemeteries. Upon transfer, we will schedule and conduct a memorial service with appropriate military honors. Veterans groups such as the Marine Corps League and the Virginia Patriot Guard Riders will participate in the memorial service.

If we may be of assistance in compiling a list of your unclaimed remains, we will be happy to send someone to your facility to help.

If I may provide further information or answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.