

## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY • DEPARTMENT OF NORTH DAKOTA

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Auxiliary Members,

The American Legion Auxiliary National Security Program promotes a strong national defense by strengthening and supporting military service members and their families. From fires, flooding to hurricanes, the National Guard is ready to assist.

**DID YOU KNOW**: The National Guard is a key asset in the nation's response to disaster, working alongside first responders to support local, state and federal agencies:

- **EXPERTISE**: The National Guard can provide expertise in areas like debris removal, damage assessment, infrastructure support, logistics, medical assistance and search and rescue.
- **COMMUNICATION**: The National Guard can provide critical communication capabilities to help first responders stay connected and informed.
- FORCE MULTIPLIER: The National Guard can act as force multiplier, with people organized, trained and ready to go.

Reach out to your local recruiters' office, to see how your Unit can help support the families of our National Guard while they are supporting us and don't forget about your local first responders too! Explore the National Guard's website at: <a href="https://nationalguard.com/recruiter">https://nationalguard.com/recruiter</a> Just enter your zip code to find the nearest recruiting office.

**SALATE TO SERVICE MEMBERS AWARD** information. Established in 2003, this award has evolved from honoring women veterans to honoring active-duty women, to honoring all enlisted personnel who are currently serving our country in the Army, Navy, Marine Corp, Air Force, Coast Guard, Space Force and the National Guard/Reserve, E1thru E9 rank can be nominated, no officers. One enlisted servicemember from each branch of service as well as the National Guard/Reserve will be recognized at the American Legion Auxiliary National Convention, Recipients will attend the National Convention as guests of the Auxiliary. The application deadline is June 1 of each calendar year.

As members, please keep on the lookout for any service members that you feel deserves this recognition. And to submit the individual for the "Salute to Servicemember Award". Information can be found at:

- https://www.legion-aux.org/Salute-to-Servicewomen-Award
- Nomination form is located at: https://member.legion-aux.org/Salute-to-Servicemembers-Award-Form

You don't have to wait all year to make a nomination. The form is active NOW! Submit anytime from now until the deadline of June 1, 2025. North Dakota had no nominations last year. Let's aggressively look for someone from each branch. If your unit is close to a recruiter, check with them for a nomination or they are eligible to be nominated too.

If you want to keep up on National Security happenings, please join the National Facebook page: <u>ALA National Security.</u> There are ideas and many questions asked so you can utilize this information.

The **POW-MIA** table should be part of any event the Legion Family is sponsoring. Its presence is important as we cannot forget our veterans. These veterans are not home yet so they are still considered on active duty. If you have any questions about National Security, please contact me.

Gloria Covert, Chairman, Department National Security Program