



NEWS RELEASE

Nevada Department of Veterans Services
"SERVING NEVADA'S HEROES"

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For Immediate Release

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Robert Edwards of Reno Recognized as Veteran of the Month and Jon Yuspa as Veteran Supporter of the Month for February 2021

(Reno, Nev.) – Governor Steve Sisolak is singling out two outstanding volunteers for their support of veterans and military members by providing special recognition and honor in naming **Robert Edwards of Reno** as Veteran of the Month (VOM) and **Jon Yuspa of Washoe Valley** as Veteran Supporter of the Month (VSM) for the month of February 2021.

Mr. Edwards is a Marine Corps veteran who began supporting the veteran community by joining the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) Chapter 744 in Winnemucca in 2003. While living in Winnemucca, he would often volunteer to serve as relief driver for the van that would transport veterans from Winnemucca to the Reno VA Hospital. This was an activity that lasted eight years. During his time with VVA 744 he was also able to work with the county to negotiate a no charge lease for a permanent veterans' hall in a county owned facility. He later moved to Reno in 2012 where he joined VVA Chapter 989 and Veterans of Foreign Wars 3819 where he has been active with both since. In his new home, he has served in a variety of roles ranging from being his chapter's chair for their Assistance Fund, to serving on the board of directors and vice president of the chapter in 2019. His involvement in the community is not limited to only veterans, as he also has worked to support the National Guard's 422th Signal Battalion's annual family holiday party.

Mr. Yuspa has been an incredibly active veteran supporter since moving to Nevada in 2012. His involvement with the veteran community began in his home of Baltimore, but following his move, noticed an Honor Flight Chapter did not exist in Northern Nevada. As a result, he made it his mission to start one up and has now been able take more than a thousand veterans on all-expenses paid trips to Washington D.C. and Pearl Harbor to visit the memorials for conflicts which many of these veterans have served. As the President of Honor Flight Nevada, he has made this possible by working with community partners and organizing fundraisers. His support for the veteran community however is not limited to his own organization. He partners with other organizations to recognize Gold Star Families and many of other initiatives in support of veterans.

Due to the pandemic, the VOM and VSM ceremonies have been postponed. NDVS will provide information on re-scheduling once this unprecedented health crisis is over.

The VOM is awarded to veterans across Nevada who have gone above and beyond the call of duty, specifically with respect to volunteer work in support of veterans and the military. The VSM award recognizes both organizations and nonveteran Nevada community members who support military members stationed in Nevada, Nevada veterans, and their families. Both programs recognize individuals and organizations that help military members, veterans, and their families.

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Photos available upon request by emailing pio.ndvs@veterans.nv.gov or visit www.veterans.nv.gov/vom-vsm-February

If you would like to nominate a veteran for the VOM award: [click here](#). For VSM nominations [click here](#).

NDVS is dedicated to helping Nevada veterans get the services, benefits and quality of life they have earned through their service and sacrifice. NDVS offers benefits counseling and assistance, including filing VA claims, all at no cost. NDVS also oversees and manages the Northern and Southern Nevada State Veterans Home as well as the Veterans Memorial Cemeteries.

For more information, please visit <https://veterans.nv.gov/>

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