



August 8, 2024

Post Commanders, National Deputy Chiefs of Staff, and Members

Subject: 2024 VFW Fall Conference

State Commander Daniel Kell, Department of New York, Veterans of Foreign Wars cordially invites you to attend the 2024 VFW Fall Conference on October 11th and 12th, 2024 at the Albany Marriott, 189 Wolf Road, Albany, New York 12205.

There will be a Council of Administration Meeting on Friday, October 11, 2024 at 6:00 PM with the General Meeting Session beginning at 1:00 PM on Saturday, October 12, 2024. There will also be a Membership Seminar on Saturday, October 12, 2024 at 10:15 AM presented by Department Membership Chairman Michael Burke. State Commander Kell highly encourages you to attend this seminar to learn innovative strategies and best practices for attracting new members to our organization.

On Saturday, October 12, 2024, at 3:30 PM there will be a Stop-22 Walk-A-Thon at the Albany Marriott to increase public awareness of veterans committing suicide and bring attention to the mental health needs of our country's veterans.

For room reservations please call the Albany Marriott directly at (518) 458-8444 and state that you are attending the VFW Fall Conference. Rooms are available at the discounted rate of \$127.00 per night. **The cut-off date for reservations is Monday, September 16, 2024.**

Included in this packet is a Fall Conference schedule of events.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert J. Mitchell". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Robert J. Mitchell, State Adjutant
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Department of New York

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK



TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
2024 VFW FALL CONFERENCE

**Albany Marriott, 189 Wolf Road,
Albany, New York 12205**

Friday, October 11, 2024

State Steering Committee Meeting ** Invitation Only	3:00 PM
Council of Administration Dinner ** Invitation Only	5:00 PM
Council of Administration Meeting	6:00 PM

Saturday, October 12, 2024

Legislative Meeting	8:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Membership Seminar	10:15 AM - 11:30 AM
Flu Shots	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
General Session	1:00 PM - 3:30 PM
Stop-22 Program	3:30 PM - 5:00 PM
Church Service	Following Stop-22 Program

Meeting Rooms will be listed on the Hotel Marquee

“HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME”

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

69 Sand Creek Road
Albany, New York 12205-1825

Saturday, October 12, 2024

Stop 22 is a partnership initiative between the Department of NY Veterans of Foreign Wars and one of the nation's leading health and well-being companies OB ONE INSURANCE to increase awareness of Veterans committing suicide – 22 each day.

On Saturday, October 12, 2024, at the Department of NY Fall Conference and at every Post in the Department and throughout the month of October, VFW and Auxiliary members will take the opportunity for a 22-minute walk/run to increase public awareness on veteran suicide. OB ONE INSURANCE will make a donation as a sponsor to this project.

Each Post and/or Auxiliary that desires to participate will register participants on the enclosed sheet and collect \$1.00 per participant, a portion of which will go to the Commander's Special Projects in support of Homeless Veterans. A monetary award will go to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place Post who best promotes awareness in the community of the tragedy of veteran suicide.

\$500.00 to First Place Post/Auxiliary

\$250.00 to Second Place Post/Auxiliary

\$100.00 to Third Place Post/Auxiliary

Registration sheet, photographs, money collected and other supporting materials must be submitted to Department HQ by November 13, 2024, to be considered for the contest. Each post at the Fall Conference will be considered an individual entrant so bring as many members as you like to boost your Post's chances of winning and increasing the numbers in support of suicide awareness. Participants in the walk will need NOT be VFW or Auxiliary members – the public is invited and encouraged to participate!



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN
WARS
OF THE UNITED STATES
VFW AUXILIARIES
AND**



THEY MARCHED FOR US...WE

WALK FOR THEM!

In Support of Veteran Suicide
Awareness

\$1.00 Registration going to
Commander's Special Projects to
Assist in Suicide Prevention and Post Awards



STOP 22 WALK-A-THON

*at the Department of NY Fall Conference
Albany Marriott, 189 Wolf Rd., Albany, NY
Saturday, October 12, 2024 – 3:30 PM*

OB ONE INSURANCE'S STOP 22 Initiative
In Partnership with New York's Local VFW's

Department of NY Awareness event will occur at:
Department of NY Fall Conference 11-12 October 2024

Together, we're increasing awareness and support for our Veterans contemplating suicide

Information and Rules

STOP 22 is a noble effort to increase public awareness of Veterans committing suicide, 22 each day. It has to STOP!

Local Post or Auxiliary can select any activity. A walk, run, dance or any activity lasting 22 minutes.

Everyone is welcome to participate and is open to the public and public organizations to participate. The more participants, the better in helping increase awareness for the cause.

Event date: Fall Conference - Saturday, October 12, 2024.

Event date: Posts & Auxiliaries as scheduled

Three prizes will be awarded to a Post or Auxiliary as an incentive to promote awareness in the community to veteran suicide. The Criteria used by the State Commander to determine who will receive the First, Second and Third prize will include but not limited to the type of event to promote awareness (run, walk, a show, etc.), number of participants, local news coverage in TV or newspaper, special events held to promote the awareness of suicide prevention, documentation with newspaper articles/photographs are some of the criteria to determine the three selectees.

1st Prize: \$500 2nd Prize: \$250 3rd Prize: \$100

Participating posts must hold their event between August and October 2024 and **must submit to Dept of NY HQ, 69 Sand Creek Rd, Albany, NY 12205 participant registration sheets, money collected & photos no later than November 13, 2024 to be considered for a prize award.**

There is a \$1 registration fee for each participant.

VFW POST # _____

VFW AUX # _____

EVENT DATE:

Participant's Name	Participant's Signature	\$1 donation Fee



July 11, 2024

SERVICE OFFICERS RAFFLE DONATION LETTER REQUEST

I have once again been asked by our State Commander Daniel Kell to chair the Annual Department of New York VFW Service Officer Raffle to support our Department of New York Veteran Service Officers. As we once again prepare for the annual raffle, we are asking those who have generously donated prizes in the past to once more step up and support this essential project. If you haven't been able to donate in the past, would you please consider doing so this year?

Please consider donating one of the \$100.00 prizes this year. As you know, our Veterans Service Officers are funded by the Department of New York and supplemented by the proceeds from our raffle and Journal Ad book sales. Without the support of the patrons like yourself, we would be unable to raise the additional funds needed to continue the service provided by our Service Officers who are essential in continuing the Veteran counseling service so desperately needed by our Veterans.

Please fill out the donation form on the back of this letter so we will know how you would like your raffle prize donation announced. Some examples are:

- \$ 100.00 in Memory of John Doe – Your Post's Name
- \$ 100.00 in Memory of John Doe – Your Name and Wife's Name
- \$ 100.00 in Memory of John Doe, USN – Jim and Susan Doe
- \$ 100.00 in Memory of Albert Doe, USA -- James Doe

This year, like last year, you can either donate by check or credit card. Please send your prize donations to Department Headquarters, ATTN: Service Officers Raffle Prize, 69 Sand Creek Road, Albany, NY 12205. Raffle prizes must be at Headquarters by November 20, 2024, to ensure we have sufficient time to prepare and mail out the raffle tickets to our Posts and Auxiliaries. If you are paying by credit card, you may email the form to JTreadway@vfwny.com.

The Raffle drawing will be held at the Department's Spring Conference dinner on Saturday April 12, 2025, at The Raddison Hotel in Corning, NY.

I would like to Thank You for all the past support and hope you will continue your financial support for this indispensable program.

Yours in Comradeship

Ronald Sorrentino

Ronald Sorrentino
Veterans Service officer Journal & Raffle Chairman
Department of New York, Veterans of Foreign Wars
69 Sand Creek Road
Albany, NY 12205

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

SERVICE OFFICER RAFFLE DONATION FORM

Donation Amount: \$ _____

In Memory of: _____

Donated by: _____

PAYMENT IS EITHER BY CHECK OR CREDIT CARD

If paying by credit card please fill out all fields:

Name on Card _____

Email address _____ Phone _____

Credit Card Number _____

Expiration Date: __ / ____

CRV Code on Back _ _ _ Last 3 Numbers on back of card ,for AMEX, 4 numbers on the front

Please return form and payment by November 20, 2024

If paying by credit card you may email completed form to: JTreadway@vfwny.com

If paying by check please make checks payable to Department of New York VFW and mail with completed form to:

Department of New York VFW, Attn: Service Officer Raffle, 69 Sand Creek Road, Albany, NY 12205