

Department of Virginia Distinguished Service

Medal Presentation

The American Legion, Department of Virginia, established the Distinguished Service Medal as a tribute to those whose extraordinary leadership, dedication, and sustained contributions have profoundly advanced the cause of veterans, strengthened the Department of Virginia, and enriched the Commonwealth of Virginia.

In its 107-year history, this prestigious award has been bestowed only 24 times. Among its distinguished recipients are **John J. Wicker, Lemuel W. Houston, Dan Daniel (Wilbur Clarence 'Dan' Daniel)** all three early Department leaders, **Senator John Warner, Senator Frank Wolf, General Colin Powell, and Dr. George Blume** - individuals whose legacies of service reflect the highest ideals of our nation and our organization.

At the Department of Virginia 107th Department Convention, we added additional names to this distinguished roll. One of the awardees, George C. Lussier, Jr.

George C. Lussier, Jr., is a 37-year member of The American Legion whose record of service is exemplary, steadfast, and transformative. For nearly four decades, he has demonstrated unwavering commitment to veterans, their families, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and The American Legion at every level of leadership.

His service spans local, District, Department, National, and statewide leadership roles, including:

State Level

- Leadership within the **Potomac Region Veterans Council**
- Service with the **USS Forrest Sherman Foundation**
- **Army, Navy, Air Force Veterans in Canada (ANAVICUS)**
- Membership on the Governor's Advisory Commission for Veterans Affairs
- Military Aide-de-Camp to two Virginia Governors - Mark Warner and Tim Kaine

Within The American Legion, George has served with distinction:

Post Level

Commander, Vice Commander, Sergeant-at-Arms, Adjutant, and numerous committee appointments.

District Level

Commander, Vice Commander, Oratorical Chairman, and leadership across multiple district committees.

Department Level

Commander, Vice Commander, Leadership College, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, Boys State, Internal Affairs, Finance, and served in numerous additional roles advancing the mission of the Department of Virginia.

National Level

National Executive Committeeman, National Sergeant-at-Arms, Finance Commission, IT Oversight, Emergency Fund Trust, Child Well-Being, American Legion Charities and Charities Trust, Marketing Commission, Legislative Council, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, Children & Youth, and Citizens Flag Alliance.

Through every role, George C. Lussier, Jr. has embodied servant leadership, integrity, and an unwavering devotion to those who have worn the uniform of our nation.

It is for this lifetime of distinguished and selfless service that the Department of Virginia proudly awards George C. Lussier, Jr., the Distinguished Service Medal.

The award reads:

**THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE
MEDAL AWARD**

PRESENTED TO

GEORGE C. LUSSIER, JR.

*In recognition of Distinguished Services to the veterans,
their families and the citizens of the Commonwealth of
Virginia and The American Legion Department of Virginia.*

This 12th day of July, 2025

at Herndon, Virginia