



Veterans Service Organizations Guidelines for Receiving Funeral Honors Ribbon or Certificate

Effective May 7th 2013, House Bill 1387 was signed into law establishing the Funeral Honors Ribbon for Veteran Service Organizations that are trained and certified to provide honorable and distinguished service in performance of military funerals within Indiana.

Department of Defense (DoD) establishes guidelines and defines the requirements for Veteran Service Organizations (VSO) to become trained and certified. <http://www.mfhcmdrs.osd.mil/> It also acknowledges the significant contribution that the VSO has made in augmentation of the Military Service's funeral honors details.

The following criteria are established to further recognize those VSO which have paid tribute to our State's veterans who, in times of war and peace, have dedicated their loyal services to the United States of America:

- VSO's can request the award of the funeral honors certificate for the post by submitting a written request to the Indiana National Guard Funeral Honors office, 711 N. Pennsylvania, Indianapolis, IN 46204. The request should include a copy of their most current DoD Certificate (normally within 2yrs) and the number of funerals conducted by the organization since January 2012. The name of the Post, the current Honor Guard Commander's name, phone number and the Post's complete address.
- VSO's who are not currently trained or certified can request training and certification by contacting the Indiana National Guard Funeral Honors office at 317-247-3300 ext 85468.
- VSO's who cannot locate their DoD certificate can also contact the above mentioned number and we will be happy to check our records for verification and we will provide you with a copy the DoD Certificate.
- VSO's who have participated with a Military Funeral Honors details and who are trained and certified can request the award of the funeral honors certificate for the Post and a ribbon for each detail member who has participated in 50 or more services in a two year period dating back to January 1, 2012. Requests should include a copy of their most current DoD Certificate (normally within 2yrs) and the number of funerals conducted by the organization and a list of the participants identifying the number of services they participated in since January 2012. The name of the Post, the current Honor Guard Commander's name, phone number and the Post's complete address.
- VSO's who have participated with the Indiana Army National Guard Funeral Honors detail and who are trained and certified can simply call their area representative to confirm the number of services conducted and to schedule a date and time for presentation of the funeral honors certificate to the Post and ribbons to their honor guard members.

Thank you for your important contributions in honoring those who served.