

# Washington veteran-owned brewery receives national entrepreneurship award

**COLD SPRING, Ky.** – DAV (Disabled American Veterans) has awarded the Arthur H. and Mary E. Wilson Award to the disabled veteran-owned Forward Operating Base Brewing Company in DuPont, Washington for superior performance as part of the nationwide Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities Program (EBV).

Army veteran Jared Wharton opened the doors to the Forward Operating Base Brewing Company early this year just outside Joint Base Lewis-McChord. Wharton, who competed in the EBV program through Cornell University, sought to create an inviting, military-themed space to “serve great beer to America’s Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and those who love them.”

The Arthur H. and Mary E. Wilson Award specifically recognizes businesses and non-profits that excel in the EBV program’s business plan competition, awarding a \$10,000 prize in the specialty category “Top Venture Impacting Veterans.”

The award will be formally presented at DAV’s 97th National Convention in Reno on July 15.

“We know how important it is to bridge the ever-widening military-civilian gap, and creating a space that brings those two worlds together is truly something special,” said DAV National Commander Delphine Metcalf-Foster.

“I’m very thankful for the work Mr. Wharton is doing to reach his arms around the military and veteran community, as well as those civilians who give their support for our brave men and women,” Metcalf-Foster added.

## **About DAV**

*DAV empowers veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. It is dedicated to a single purpose: fulfilling our promises to the men and women who served. DAV does this by ensuring that veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them; fighting for the interests of America's injured heroes on Capitol Hill; and educating the public about the great sacrifices and needs of veterans transitioning back to civilian life. DAV, a non-profit organization with more than 1 million members, was founded in 1920 and chartered by the U. S. Congress in 1932.*