

# Statement on Dr. Stone

Following the announcement that Dr. Richard Stone will be departing his role as Acting Undersecretary for Health at the Veterans Health Administration, DAV would like to extend our gratitude and appreciation for his many years of exemplary public service, both in the U.S. Army and at the VA. During his time leading VHA, Dr. Stone has been a champion for a strong VA system and has helped guide the department through numerous challenges including the implementation of the MISSION Act, the veterans suicide crisis and emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Stone has maintained transparency in his approach to management, and has kept an open line of communication with veterans service organizations throughout his tenure. We wish him the best in his future endeavors, and thank him for his leadership and the many contributions he has made over the years to better the health and lives of America's veterans.