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TO: National Executive Committee

Department and Chapter Adjutants and Commanders

All Employees

FROM: Barry A. Jesinoski, National Adjutant

**DATE:** February 27, 2024

**SUBJECT:** New DAV women veterans report goes live

I am proud to announce DAV's latest report, <u>Women Veterans: The Journey to Mental Wellness</u>. Between 2020 and 2021, the suicide rate among women veterans jumped nearly 25%. Our comprehensive assessment of the unique factors contributing to the staggering rate of suicide and other negative mental health outcomes among this population is a must-read for all veterans advocates.

Along with the latest in research and data, the report includes veterans' personal stories and more than 50 policy and legislative recommendations aimed at sparking urgent change that can save lives. The report, which marks the third of its kind from DAV in the past decade, was released during an event on Capitol Hill this afternoon. Learn more and read the full report at <a href="womenveterans.org">womenveterans.org</a>.

On <u>Monday, March 11, at 8 p.m. ET</u>, DAV will broadcast a special roundtable discussion inspired by the report. The event will feature three DAV members and their personal stories with mental health, including:

- Naomi Mathis, DAV Assistant National Legislative Director and Air Force veteran
- Juliet Taylor, DAV Interim Women Veterans Advisory Committee member and Army veteran
- Kim Hubers, 2023 DAV Disabled American Veteran of the Year and South Dakota Army National Guard veteran

I encourage you to tune into this important and illuminating discussion about the unique challenges facing women veterans and how we can better serve our sisters-in-arms. **Set a reminder for yourself to tune in on YouTube** and share the link with your networks. In addition to YouTube, the roundtable will be streamed on DAV's <u>Facebook</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u> accounts.

I also encourage you to use the report and other resources at <u>womenveterans.org</u> in your outreach to veterans in your community. For those interested in procuring hard copies of the report, please contact <u>legislative@dav.org</u>. Alternatively, you can download a copy from the website.

Sincerely,

Barry A. Jesinoski National Adjutant