



Department of Arizona  
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June 13, 2026

## Meeting Minutes: Joint Officer Installation

**Organization:** Disabled American Veterans, Department of Arizona

**Meeting:** Department Convention Joint Installation of Officers

**Date/Time:** June 13, 2026; 1000

**Location:** Crowne Plaza Phoenix-Chandler Golf Resort, Chandler, Arizona

**Presiding Officer:** Commander Bruce Nogar

**Recorder:** Adjutant Carl Forkner

### 1. Department Auxiliary Officer Installation

The meeting was called to order for the purpose of installing department officers. Proceedings were turned over to the Department Auxiliary Commander for the installation of Department Auxiliary officers.

National DAVA Senior Vice Commander Kathleen Wenthe was presented as the installing officer for the Auxiliary. The sergeant-at-arms and adjutant were directed to take their places, and the roll of newly elected officers was called.

#### Auxiliary Officers Installed

- Commander: Rhiannon Siegel
- Senior Vice Commander: Shannon Sanders
- Junior Vice Commander: Sue Murphy
- Treasurer: Nancy Hairston
- Judge Advocate: Donna Adams
- 2026–2027 State Executive Committee members and alternates were also called forward.

The installing officer administered the obligation of office. The newly installed officers pledged to faithfully and impartially perform the duties of their offices, obey lawful orders, and surrender organizational property upon the installation of successors.

The newly installed Auxiliary officers were presented to the body. The incoming Commander received the gavel as the symbol of office and thanked the members for their confidence, expressing appreciation for the opportunity to serve during the coming year.

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We are dedicated to a single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. We accomplish 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.

## 2. Department of Arizona Officer Installation

The Department of Arizona proceeded with installation of officers for fiscal year 2026–2027. National IG Ryan Burgos was announced as the installation officer of the day.

### Department Officers Installed

- Commander: Bruce Nogar
- Senior Vice Commander: Rodney Hage
- Junior Vice Commander: Lynn Burnett
- Treasurer: Kevin Karvinen
- Judge Advocate: Glenn Hohman
- Inspector: Irene Bak
- Northern District Liaison: Debbie Roberts
- Southern District Liaison: Lorrie Billy
- Finance Committee: Aunjel Smith, Gerald McKenzie, and Gary Reph
- Department Executive Committee members and alternates were called forward by chapter.

The installation officer administered the oath of office. Officers affirmed their acceptance of their elected or appointed offices, pledged to perform their duties to the best of their ability, to conduct themselves in a manner reflecting the good of the order, and to uphold the Constitution and bylaws of the organization.

## 3. Acceptance Remarks and Officer Recognition

The newly installed Department Commander thanked the members for their confidence and stated that serving as commander for the coming year was an honor and privilege.

The Commander recognized the newly elected and appointed officers, including Senior Vice Commander Rodney Hage, Junior Vice Commander Lynn Burnett, Treasurer Kevin Karvinen, Judge Advocate Glenn Hohman, Finance Committee member Aunjel Smith, Northern District Liaison Debbie Roberts, Southern District Liaison Lorrie Billy, and Inspector Irene Bak. Additional appointed positions were noted, including chaplain duties referenced during the closing proceedings.

## 4. Closing Ceremony and Adjournment

The Commander stated that the purpose of the gathering had been accomplished and reminded members of the organization's guiding principles, including comradeship, friendship, loyalty, and devotion to the cause. Members were encouraged to uphold the principle that if one cannot speak well of a comrade, one should not speak ill of him or her.

A closing prayer was offered, asking for protection, provision, and guidance for members as they departed the meeting and continued the work of the organization.

Following the prayer, the Commander directed that honors be rendered to the flag of the United States. The color guard retrieved the colors and was subsequently dismissed.

The 103rd Annual Convention of the Disabled American Veterans, Department of Arizona, was declared adjourned. Members were informed that the next annual convention would be held at the same hotel in June of the following year. The Commander also announced that convention registration and ticketing were expected to be fully automated online for the next convention.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Carl B. Forkner', written in a cursive style.

Dr. Carl B. Forkner  
AVHOF Class of 2025  
Adjutant & CEO  
Department of Arizona  
Disabled American Veterans