

## Michigan Veteran of Year

22 April 2026

To: Commander's, Presidents and Chairs of Veterans Service Organizations of the Commander's Group

Subject: Michigan Veteran of the Year

Once again, we are looking for an individual deserving recognition as the Michigan Veteran of the Year. This year, 2026, it was proposed to review and change the format of the application for the Michigan Veteran of the Year, to make it simpler to review and work with and inclusive. The Nomination Application and Example are attached.

The Michigan Veteran of the Year Award is open to any veteran residing in the State of Michigan. The application can be written and submitted by anyone, but we request the application be reviewed by a local veteran's organization for legitimacy prior to submission.

All applications will be completed via online website application or mailed to MVAA for digitization. Mailing address: MI VOY, PO Box 30140, Lansing, MI 48909. Application questions may be sent to Lexis Jones, via email at [jonesl60@michigan.gov](mailto:jonesl60@michigan.gov). **Cut-off** for nominations to be submitted via mail is **June 15, 2026**, so that the nominations may be voted on, and announcement made. Submission of DD214 is no longer required and will be verified at a later date.

CG Selection Process which uses former winners will remain in place. CG MVOY Chair will administer voting and tallying of a winner. CG MVOY will make the announcement of the winner by 1 July, 2026. Where, when, and how the recognition will take place. The CG Committee will assist the Chairman in this decision.

Chairman of MVOY will coordinate with the Winner to determine local presentation process. In addition, MVOY will be recognized at the MVAA Gala. Chairman will ask for CG Chairperson or 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair to present the MVOY plaque to the winner both locally and at the MVAA Gala along with MVAA Representation.

If there are any questions about the award, eligibility criteria, or selection, please contact Phil Smith – Chairman MVOY Committee via email at [marret94@aol.com](mailto:marret94@aol.com) or phone at 313-720-2712.

Phil Smith  
Commander's Group  
Chair Michigan Veteran of Year Committee  
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