

## Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office

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### Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office Earns National Achievement Award for Virtual Veterans Service Office

Martinez, CA (May 25, 2021) – Contra Costa County has been recognized with an Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo). The award honors innovative, effective county government programs that strengthen services for residents.

NACo recognized the virtual Veterans Service Office for its innovativeness in extending claims representation to Veterans and their families. The virtual office is accessible from the County's Veterans Service Office website at [www.contracosta.ca.gov/vets](http://www.contracosta.ca.gov/vets). In the virtual office, Veterans can receive assistance from an accredited Veterans Service Representative with filing for VA benefits. In addition, a representative from the Department of Veterans Affairs is available Tuesday to assist Veterans with direct deposit, address updates, and MST claims. The virtual office is open Mondays thru Thursdays 9am – 12pm & 1pm – 6pm, and Fridays 9am – 12pm.

Nathan Johnson, County Veterans Service Officer, encourages all Veterans to utilize the virtual office when it is more convenient for them to do so. "The virtual Veterans Service Office has become a more accessible way for Veterans and their families to receive assistance. I am very proud of our team for their innovativeness, and I thank them for their hard work in building this platform," Johnson said.

NACo President Gary Moore said, "Over the past year, county officials and frontline employees have demonstrated bold, inspirational leadership. This year's Achievement Award winning programs illustrate the innovative ways counties build healthy, safe and vibrant communities across America."

Nationally, awards are given in 18 different categories that reflect the vast, comprehensive services counties provide. The categories include children and youth, criminal justice and public safety, county administration, information technology, health, civic engagement and many more. Started in 1970, NACo's annual Achievement Awards program is designed to recognize county government innovations. Each nominee is judged on its own merits and not against other applications received.

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