



# Nomination Packet

# Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame

## *History*

The Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame was created by Governor M. Jodi Rell in 2005 to demonstrate her concern for Connecticut veterans returning home from military duty during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Governor M. Jodi Rell proposed the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame to recognize the post-military achievements of outstanding veterans and realized how such a program would spotlight all veterans' contributions to the civilian workplace. In 2005, an executive selection committee was brought together to discuss the idea of establishing the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame for the purpose of increasing the awareness of the lifetime contributions of veterans after completion of honorable military service.



The Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame is not a military hall of fame. Those selected for the honor of induction are veterans who honorably served their country through military service and who continue to serve and inspire their fellow man with their deeds and accomplishments throughout their lifetime.

The committee will select 10 inductees from applications received from across the state and nation. Our inductees will be leaders in a variety of areas. Most importantly though, they all have made significant impacts on their communities. Inductees into the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame served their country honorably in a branch of military service and continued to serve their communities, state and nation after discharge.

So many of America's veterans continue to give to their communities, state and nation after honorable military service. The Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame seeks to recognize them for their countless contributions to society.



# Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame

## *Ceremony*



The induction Ceremony will honor each new class of inductees to the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame.

The first Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will take place at the State Capitol around Veterans Day 2005. Governor M. Jodi Rell assisted by the Commissioner of the Department of Veterans' Affairs and The Adjutant General of the Connecticut National Guard, will induct 10 members to the Class of 2005 into the Hall of Fame. Each inductee will be presented with a commemorative medallion and a handsomely framed certificate confirming the induction. Also, a bronze plaque will be dedicated to every class memorializing those veterans inducted into the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame.



# Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame

## *The Selection Process*



The Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame will induct 10 Connecticut veterans each year who have honorably served their country through military service and continue to serve and inspire with their accomplishments throughout their lifetime. An Executive Committee was created to select eligible veterans who have ties to Connecticut.

The Executive Committee is comprised of the following individuals: Commissioner of the Department of Veterans' Affairs; Adjutant General of the Connecticut National Guard; a living Medal of Honor recipient from Connecticut; two appointees selected by the Governor; and two appointments from the legislative branch – one from a Senate leader and one from a House leader.

Applications for induction are solicited from all Connecticut citizens and according to the Nomination Guidelines. The guidelines include, but not limited to, the nominee must have been born in Connecticut or have resided in Connecticut for a minimum of five years. The nominator must provide discharge papers, which will verify the honorable military service of the nominee. The nomination packet must contain the nomination form, the discharge papers, and written documentation citing the nominee's service to the community, state, and/or nation. The written documentation should not exceed 10 pages in length, not including the required documents. All nomination packets must be received by June 30 to be considered for that year's class. Nominations received after June 30 will be automatically considered the next year.



# Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame

## *Nomination Guidelines*

2005 NOMINATION PACKET

**DEADLINE - JUNE 30, 2005**

1. The Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame seeks to recognize those Connecticut residents, or former state residents, who have worn the uniform of this Nation's Armed Forces, performed their military duties, and then continued to contribute to community, state and nation in an exemplary manner. These outstanding contributions may, for example, be in the areas of professional, civic, veterans advocacy, political or contributions over the life of the nominee.

2. **Please note: the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame is not intended to be a military hall of fame.**

3. The nominee must meet the following rules:

a. Must have been born in Connecticut or lived in Connecticut for a minimum of five years.

b. Must meet the definition of a "veteran" as defined under Connecticut General Statutes 27-103.

c. Must have received an honorable discharge from the U.S. Armed Forces and/ or the Connecticut National Guard and provide a copy verifying honorable discharge from the U.S. Armed Forces and provide a copy verifying honorable veteran's service discharge papers (e.g. DD 214) with the nomination packet. If unable to retrieve discharge papers for historical figures, please give our office a phone call so we can verify their service (860) 721-5818.

d. Be of good moral character and have no felony convictions.

4. For the submission process to uniformly portray the efforts and contributions of these great Connecticut veterans, it is recommended that the nomination packet be completed in accordance with the following format.

### Section – 1 **Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame Nomination Form:**

Please insure the accuracy of the information on the nominee: including phone numbers and address. This form also requires the signature of the nominator to validate that the information is accurate and follows the nomination guidelines.

### Section – 2 **Verification of Veteran's Status:**

Please attach all copies of official documents verifying veteran's service (e.g. DD 214).

**Section – 3 Summary of Education and Training Accomplishments:**

A simple chronology of education and training accomplishments (List or attach any significant achievements, recognitions, etc.)

**Section – 4 Summary of the Veteran’s Professional or Employment History:**

Please provide a simple chronology of professional and employment history. (You may attach any significant awards, recognition, etc. that may be pertinent to this item.)

**Section – 5 Summary of Veteran’s Advocacy Contributions:**

Summarize the contributions and recognition of the nominee in relation to veterans’ advocacy or veterans’ support programs or initiatives.

(Examples may include the nominee’s active involvement with veterans’ organizations.)

**Section – 6 Summary of Civic Activities, and Contributions:**

Summarize the nominee’s civic affiliations and contributions (e.g. Rotary, Kiwanis, schools, political, fraternal, etc.)

**Section – 7 List any awards or honors:**

(e.g. Presidential awards, Who’s Who, Citizen of the Year, etc.)

**Section – 8 Give a simple narrative as to why you feel this individual should be considered for the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame:**

In this last section you tell the Selection Committee why your nominee should be recognized (e.g., civic contributions, veterans advocacy, exemplary professional contributions, etc.)

5. The nomination packet is not to exceed ten (10) 8½” x 11” pages excluding the nomination form and proof of service. Multiple nominations of the same individual are discouraged.

6. Posthumous nominations are accepted

7. Nomination packets and attachments become the property of the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame and will not be returned.

8. Nominations will be reviewed by the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame Executive Committee. Recommendations for induction are submitted for approval to the Governor of the State of Connecticut.

9. Employees of the Governor’s staff, all state elected officials and members of the General Assembly, the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame Executive Committee, and members of any County Veterans Service Commission are ineligible for induction into the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame until two years after they have left their position. The Executive Committee may waive the two-year requirement for nominees over the age of seventy.

**PLEASE NOTE: Only the nominator will be notified if the nominee is NOT selected.**

**Nomination packets must be received no later than June 30, 2005**

**Mail Nomination packet to:**

**Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame**

**Linda Schwartz, Commissioner**

**287 West Street Rocky Hill, CT 06067**

**Any questions or concerns please call (860) 721-5818 or email [Linda.Schwartz@po.state.ct.us](mailto:Linda.Schwartz@po.state.ct.us)**

**You may also call Adam Jeamel, Director of Public Affairs for Governor M. Jodi Rell, at:**

**(860) 524-7351 or by email at [Adam.Jeamel@po.state.ct.us](mailto:Adam.Jeamel@po.state.ct.us)**

**Please view our link at the Governor's website at:**

**[www.ct.gov/GovernorRell](http://www.ct.gov/GovernorRell)**

# Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame Nomination Form

**Be sure to read the Nomination Guidelines prior to completing this form.**

**All nominations must be received no later than June 30th.**

Full Name of Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Years & Location of CT Residency \_\_\_\_\_

Did Nominee Receive an Honorable Discharge? (attach verification) \_\_\_\_\_

Is Nominee Deceased? \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach the typed summary of the nominee's achievements and contributions in the recommended format along with this nomination form. The nomination packet must not exceed ten (10) pages on 8-1/2" x 11" single-sided paper, excluding discharge papers and required nomination form. Letters simply recommending your nominee for inclusion will not be considered. Multiple nominations for a single individual are discouraged and will be condensed into a single ten-page nominating packet for consideration by the committee.

I hereby affirm the information contained herein is accurate to the best of my knowledge and understanding, and in conformance with the Nomination Guidelines. I agree to provide additional information if requested by the CT Veterans Hall of Fame.

Nominator's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Nominator (REQUIRED) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE: Only the nominator will be notified if this nomination is NOT selected.**

Mail this form and completed packet to:

Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame  
Linda Schwartz, Commissioner  
287 West St. Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Any questions or concerns please call: (860) 721-5818 or email [Linda.Schwartz@po.state.ct.us](mailto:Linda.Schwartz@po.state.ct.us)

Or Adam Jeamel, Director of Public Affairs for Governor M. Jodi Rell, at:

(860) 524-7351 or by email at [Adam.Jeamel@po.state.ct.us](mailto:Adam.Jeamel@po.state.ct.us)

Please visit our link at the Governor's website at: [www.ct.gov/GovernorRell](http://www.ct.gov/GovernorRell)

# Section 1

## Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame

### Nomination Form

Be sure to read the Nomination Guidelines prior to completing this form.

All nominations must be received no later than June 30th.

Full Name of Nominee Ms. Michelle Smith

Home Address 1234 Any Street Anytown, CT 01234

Home Telephone No. 203-123-4567 Work Phone No. 860-123-4567

Years & Location of CT Residency 24 years 1234 Any Street Anytown, CT 01234

Did Nominee Receive an Honorable Discharge? (attach verification) Yes, DD214 attached

Is Nominee Deceased? No.

Please attach the typed summary of the nominee's achievements and contributions in the recommended format along with this nomination form. The nomination packet must not exceed ten (10) pages on 8-1/2" x 11" single-sided paper, excluding discharge papers and required nomination form. Letters simply recommending your nominee for inclusion will not be considered. Multiple nominations for a single individual are discouraged and will be condensed into a single ten-page nominating packet for consideration by the committee.

I hereby affirm the information contained herein is accurate to the best of my knowledge and understanding in conformance with the Nomination Guidelines. I agree to provide additional information if requested by the CT Veterans Hall of Fame.

Nominator's Name Bobby Richards Telephone 203-123-4321

Address 4321 Main St. Anytown, CT 01234

Signature of Nominator (REQUIRED) Bobby Richards

Date Jan. 15, 2005

PLEASE NOTE: Only the nominator will be notified if this nomination is NOT selected.

Mail this form and completed packet to:

Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame

Linda Schwartz, Commissioner

287 West St. Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Any questions or concerns please call: (860) 721-5818 or email [Linda.Schwartz@po.state.ct.us](mailto:Linda.Schwartz@po.state.ct.us)

Or Adam Jeamel, Director of Public Affairs for Governor M. Jodi Rell, at:

(860) 524-7351 or by email at [Adam.Jeamel@po.state.ct.us](mailto:Adam.Jeamel@po.state.ct.us)

Please visit our link at the Governor's website at: [www.ct.gov/GovernorRell](http://www.ct.gov/GovernorRell)

**Section – 2 Verification of Veteran’s Status:**

**Please attach all copies of official documents verifying veteran’s service (e.g. DD 214).**

### **Section 3 Summary of Education and Training Accomplishments:**

A simple chronology of education and training accomplishments (List or attach any significant achievements, recognition's, etc.)

#### **EDUCATION**

- 1998** Doctor of Public Health, Yale University School of Medicine, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health
- 1984** Master of Science in Nursing, Yale University School of Nursing
- 1978** Bachelor of Science (Cum Laude) University of Maryland
- 1971** Flight Nurse Course, School of Aerospace Medicine, Brooks Air Force Base, TX
- 1966** Diploma in Nursing, Saint Thomas Hospital, Akron, Ohio

#### **TRAINING**

- 1971** Honor Graduate for Flight Nurse Course, Andrews Air Force Base, VA

Sample

#### **Section- 4 Summary of Veteran's Professional or Employment History:**

Please provide a simple chronology of professional and employment history. (You may attach any significant awards, recognition, etc. that may be pertinent to this item.)

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

- 1998** Doctor of Public Health, Yale University School of Medicine, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health
- 1984** Master of Science in Nursing, Yale University School of Nursing
- 1978** Bachelor of Science (Cum Laude) University of Maryland
- 1971** Flight Nurse Course, School of Aerospace Medicine, Brooks Air Force Base, TX
- 1966** Diploma in Nursing, Saint Thomas Hospital, Akron, Ohio

#### **EXPERIENCE**

- 2003-Present** Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Veterans' Affairs, State of Connecticut, Rocky Hill, Connecticut
- 1999-Present** Associate Research Scientist/Scholar, Yale University School of Nursing, New Haven, Connecticut
- 1994-2003** President, Project Partnership Inc.
- 1986-1993** Adjunct Professor of Nursing, Mohegan Community College, Norwich, Connecticut
- 1992- Spring** Clinical Professor, Public Health Nursing

#### **VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES**

- 1995-2000** Chair and Member, Advisory Committee on Women Veterans US Dept. of Veterans Affairs
- 1999-Present** Consultant, Veterans Health Care, Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.

**Section – 5 Summary of Veteran’s Advocacy Contributions:**

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

- 2003** Smith, M., “Birth Defects in Vietnam Veterans – Dioxin 2003”
- 1995** Smith, M., “Women in the military -> women veterans”, National Center for Posttraumatic Stress Clinical Quarterly, US Department of Veterans Affairs, Palo Alto, CA
- 1990** Smith, M. “Our unknown veterans emerge from the shadows”, Yale Medicine

**Congressional Testimony**

**Services to Women Veterans before House Veterans Affairs Committee 107<sup>th</sup> Congress 2<sup>nd</sup> Session 2002**

**The VA’s Emergency Preparedness Future and Related Issues: Hearing before House Veterans Affairs Committee on Health 107<sup>th</sup> Congress Session 1 2001**

**GAO Report Agent Orange – Actions Needed to Improve Communications of Air Force Ranch Hand Study and Data Hearing before Committee on National Security, Veterans Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations, House of Representatives 106<sup>th</sup> Congress 2<sup>nd</sup> Session 2000**

**Birth Defects in the Children of Women Veterans Who Served in Vietnam: Hearing before Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, US Senate 106<sup>th</sup> Congress 2<sup>nd</sup> Session 2000**

**Clarification and Enhancement of Authorities Relating to the Processing of Claims for Veterans: Hearing before the committee on Veterans Affairs, US Senate 106<sup>th</sup> Congress 2<sup>nd</sup> Session 2000**

**Retention of Health Care Professional in VA Health Care System: Hearing before Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, House of Representatives 101<sup>st</sup> Congress 2<sup>nd</sup> Session 1 1990**

**Section 6 – Summary of Civic Activities, and Contributions:**

Summarize the nominee’s civic affiliations and contributions (e.g Rotary, Kiwanis, schools, political, fraternal, etc.)

**ORGANIZATIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Public Health Association  
American Nursing Association  
Vietnam Veterans of America Inc (Life Member)  
Disabled American Veterans (Life Member)  
The Retired Officers Association Society of Retired Air Force Nurses  
Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society  
Women in Military Service to America Association, Charter Member

Sample

**Section-7 List any awards or honors:**

Presidential awards, Who's Who, Citizen of the Year, etc.)

**AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

- 2000 HUMANITARIAN AWARD, CHAPEL OF THE FOUR CHAPLAINS INC. Cape May, NJ**
- 1999 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA AWARD, YALE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING**
- 1997 EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD, VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, INC.**
- 1996 COMMUNITY HERO OLYMPIC TORCH BEARER, OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games**
- 1993 OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO VETERANS, Connecticut State Council Vietnam Veterans of America**
- 1992 VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, NATIONAL COMMENDATION MEDAL, "For Justice, Integrity and Meaningful Achievement", Vietnam Veterans of America National Board of Directors**
- 1992 VETERAN OF THE YEAR, Norwich Connecticut Veterans Council**
- 1990 OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO WOMEN VETERANS William Joiner Center, University of Massachusetts, Boston**

**Section – 8 Give a simple narrative as to why you feel this individual should be considered for the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame:**

This last section you tell the Selection Committee why your nominee should be recognized (e.g., civic contributions, veterans advocacy, exemplary professional contributions, etc.)

**NAME, RANK, BRANCH OF SERVICE**

**Dr. Smith received her diploma in Nursing from Saint Francis Hospital School of Nursing in Arlington, Connecticut. She earned a Master of Science in Nursing from Yale School of Nursing and received her Doctor of Public Health from Yale School of Medicine, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health. She served 18 years in the United States Air Force both on Active Duty and as a Reservist. In 1996, she retired from the service for injuries sustained in an aircraft accident. Dr. Smith has been involved in health care issues and veterans advocacy war and improving the lives of America's 26 million veterans. Because of her experiences as a scientist, nurse and disabled veteran, she has testified over 25 times before the House and Senate of the US Congress. She has also presented testimony before the US Environmental Protection Environmental Health Sciences Conference on Joint US/Vietnam Research, National Academy of Science and US Department of State Trade Relations Council.**

**Prior to the creation of the Connecticut Department of Veterans' Affairs, she served on Governor William O. Leonard's Advisory Committee on Women Veterans, which was at that time affiliated with the Permanent Commission of the Status of Women. She actively participated in efforts to secure legislation, which created the Department in 1988. Dr. Smith became one of the original Trustees of the Connecticut Department of Veterans' Affairs in 1989 and served continuously until her appointment as Commissioner. As a trustee, she was in the Chairman of the Hill Veterans' Home and Hospital. In 1992, she helped to initiate and plan Connecticut's first state, providing a temporary haven of safety with food, clothing and hygienic facilities and assisting them to access available services and programs which could help them find shelter and stable environment. She was a member of the planning Committee for the Veterans Improvement Program (VIP), which is a continuum of rehabilitative services designed to prepare veterans for return to independent living in the community and Chaired the Committee, which planned a series of "Celebrating Connecticut Women Veterans".**

**Her clinical work includes experiences as an USAF Staff Nurse, Flight Nurse Instructor and Psychiatric Public Health Nurse. She has been a Clinical Professor of Public Health Nursing at Central Connecticut State University and served on the nursing faculties of Mohegan Community College (Three Rivers) and the University of Connecticut. She is a Research Scientist and Scholar at the Yale School of Nursing and funded by the Department of Defense (DOD) TriService Nursing Research Program to conduct the "Vietnam Nurses Health Study".**

**At Yale, she also received a grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Science to conduct a conference, "Long Term Ecological and Health Consequences of the Vietnam War," which brought scientists from eight foreign countries, veterans of the Vietnam War, activists, students, environmentalists and leader policymakers together to explore the lingering problems of war in Southeast Asia.**