**Meeting Agenda**

**HCCVMF Commission Meeting**

**9830 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia**

**04 September 2025**

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| **Sean Keller, Chair** | **Paul Rivers, Vice Chair** |
| **Greg Jolissaint, Past Chair** | **Lisa Steptoe, Secretary** |
| **Lisa Terry, Administrator** |  |
| **Michale Griggs** | **Vernon ‘CJ’ Parks** |
| **Jai Salters** | **Lorinzo Foxworth** |
| **Sean Thomas** | **Gabriel Zaldazar** |
| **Xavier Bruce** | **Paul Turlington** |

**Special Guest(s):**

Rohini Gupta, HC Library Systems

**Others in Attendance:**

1. **Call to Order (Chair)**
   1. Establish Quorum
   2. Pledge of Allegiance (Commission Vice Chair)
2. **Consideration of June 2025 Minutes (Secretary)**
3. **Special Presentations**
   1. Rohini Gupta, HC Library Systems. Veteran Advisory committee discussion.
   2. Greg Jolissaint, Veteran Re-entry Simulation
4. **Opening Comments by Commission Chair and Introduction of Special Guests**
5. **Recurring Business:**
6. Veterans Support Group (Rivers)
7. Mental Health Council (Rivers/Turlington)
8. Update on commission vacancies
9. **Old Business**
   1. VALOR Program (Keller)
   2. Missing banner
10. **New Business from Commissioners** (Keller, Terry)
    1. Veterans Day Parade, [grand marshal nominations](https://www.howardcountyveterans.org/marshal/) (deadline Sept 5)
    2. Veterans Day events (schools, assisted living)
    3. Veteran Owned Small Biz Expo and Fall Fest (Terry) [Event page with vendors and details (updated weekly)](https://www.howardcountymd.gov/VetSmallBizEXPO25)
    4. 250th Anniversary Veteran Event (Turlington)
    5. Seeking attendants for Veteran Re-Entry Event, Oct 17 (Terry)
    6. Seeking attendants for Lincoln Tech 65th Anniversary Celebration, Sept 6 (Terry)
    7. Seeking Veterans Day school presenters (St. Johns ES and Veterans Day ES on 11/11)
    8. Blues for the Braves, 6pm on 9/11 at Reckless Shepherd Brewery

1. **New Business from VSOs** (VSO Reps)
   1. Other items of interest (VSO Reps)
   2. AL Post 156 - Isolated Veteran home visit team. Seeking volunteers to visit every couple months and bring a MBBQ meal from 7-8pm. Orientation meeting at Columbia Crossing Mission BBQ, Sept 6, 1-2:30 pm.
2. **Additional Dates of Significance for Veterans and Military Families:** The Chair will remind meeting attendees of the following dates and their military significance, if any:

**September - Back to School**

**LINK -**[***Coloring page for military children***](https://www.operationwearehere.com/ColoringPagesandBooks.html)

**September - National Service Dog Month**

**September is National Service Dog month.**[**Learn more...**](https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/national-service-dog-awareness-month-brings-spotlight-to-military-veterans-and-canine-heroes-300912163.html)

**LINK -**[***Organizations that provide service and therapy dogs to military veterans***](https://www.operationwearehere.com/MilitaryServiceDogs.html)

**September 2, 2025 - VJ (Victory over Japan) Day**

**September 1, 2025 - Labor Day**

**September 11, 2025 - Patriot Day**

**Patriot Day is an annual observance on September 11 to remember those who were**

**injured or died during the terrorist attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001.**

[**Learn more...**](http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/us/patriot-day)

**LINK -**[***9/11 Day, organizers of September 11 National Day of Service and Remembrance***](http://911day.org/)

**September 18, 2025 - Air Force Birthday**

**September 19, 2025 - POW/MIA Recognition Day**

**A time set aside to remember those who were prisoners of war (POW) and those**

**who are missing in action (MIA), as well as their families.**[**Learn more...**](https://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/us/pow-mia-recognition-day)

**September 28, 2025 - Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day**

**A day set aside to honor the mothers and families of our nation's fallen service members.**[**Learn more...**](https://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/us/gold-star-mothers-day)

**LINK*-***[***Organizations that support Gold Star Families***](https://www.operationwearehere.com/FallenWarriors.html)

1. **Next Commission Meeting Dates**
   1. 02 October
   2. 06 November
2. **Adjournment**