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(South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs)

### **Zimmerman Named NASDVA Midwest District Vice President**

**PIERRE, S.D.** – Larry Zimmerman, secretary of the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs has been named the Midwest District Vice President of the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs (NASDVA). Officers and committee members for 2018-2019 were elected during their conference in Boston August 12-15.

As Midwest District Vice President, Zimmerman will represent Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin, while also serving on the NASDVA Executive Committee.

The NASDVA members represent all fifty states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. They are united by a common goal to make a difference in the lives of our veterans. These leaders are tasked by their respective Governors, State Boards and/or Commissions with the responsibility to address the needs of veterans regardless of age, gender, era of service, military branch of service. They are connected by the bonds of honorable service and united by their common goal to make a positive difference in the lives of our veterans.

Topics addressed during their conference included: opioid epidemic, addiction services, housing units for military veterans program, homes for veterans, fair housing for veterans, transition, suicide prevention services, healthcare, substance use and mental health disorders, concussion research, hyperbaric oxygen therapy, Home Base, National Wounded Vet Run, Engagement Approach by Team Red, White and Blue, Vet Center programs, memorial affairs, and family caregivers.

“NASDVA meets twice a year representing the nation and territories,” said Secretary Zimmerman. “It is rewarding to be a part of a national organization with a voice that influences VA and congressional leaders.”