



California Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans News

Contact: J.P. Tremblay
Jerry Jones
Jaime Arteaga
Legislation and Public Affairs
916-653-2192
Fax 916-653-2611
October 8, 2008

NEWS FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

VETFUND VETERANS DAY GOLF TOURNAMENT PROCEEDS TO FUND GOLD STAR LICENSE PLATES



The California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) today launched VetFund - Project: Gold Star in an effort to raise the necessary funds to cover the costs of producing Gold Star Family License Plates at no cost to the state's General Fund. Project: Gold Star will be operated through CalVet's VetFund with the goal of collecting the \$300,000 it will take to get the program underway. SB 1455 (Cogdill), signed by the Governor in September, authorizes CalVet to sponsor Gold Star Family License Plates and solicit private donations to cover the costs of producing them.

"Gold Star families have endured a most painful sacrifice for the sake of our country; and CalVet would like to show them our gratitude and support by initiating this program without delay," said Tom Johnson, Secretary of Veterans Affairs. "We know that the public will generously offer their support and gratitude."

VetFund will jump-start Project: Gold Star by donating half of the proceeds from its Annual VetFund Veterans Day Golf Tournament to the project. The VetFund Tournament is a Veterans Day event and will be held on Friday, November 7th, 2008, at Mather Golf Club, located at Mather Air Field in Sacramento.

The Tournament will begin with registration at 9:00 a.m., a putting contest at 9:15 a.m., and a shotgun tee off at 10:00 a.m. Lunch and an awards ceremony will follow. The \$150 entry fee includes 18 holes of golf, a cart, brunch and a day of fun. Everyone is invited to participate.

VetFund was launched by Secretary Tom Johnson to provide funding for special projects. This year's proceeds from the golf tournament will support Project: Gold Star and the 20th Anniversary of the California Vietnam Veterans Memorial during "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Week," December 10-14, 2008.

Those wishing to support Project: Gold Star and/or the 20th Anniversary of the [California](#) Vietnam Veterans Memorial can contact VetFund at 916-503-8094. For details regarding sponsorship packages or registration for the golf tournament, contact Roz Jaurequi at 916-503-8095 or go to our website at www.cdva.ca.gov/vetfund. For more information on how to get involved in the VetFund fundraising program, contact Ron Brand at 916-503-8094.

Note to editors: This News for Veterans and previous CDVA news for veterans, news releases, and advisories are available on our website at www.cdva.ca.gov and via e-mail from jaime.arteaga@cdva.ca.gov.