

# National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces

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***For Immediate Release***

## **NCMAF Salutes The American Legion for Unanimously Approving Resolution to Update the Chaplains Monuments at Arlington National Cemetery**

New York, May 25, 2021 – The National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces (NCMAF) is very excited to report that the National Executive Committee of The American Legion has approved with unanimous consent Resolution 17 to update the Chaplains Monuments located in Section 2 on Chaplains Hill at Arlington National Cemetery, an important step forward to gain approval from Arlington officials, the Department of the Army, and Congress to add the names of 26 heroes and other improvements. The American Legion is the world’s largest veterans organization.

The Resolution states in part that “The American Legion supports the project led by the National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces to update the Chaplains Monument at Chaplains Hill with an additional plaque honoring 25 Protestant chaplains who died in military service in Korea, Vietnam, the Cold-War and post 9-11 conflicts, and provide a new granite monument consistent with those placed beside it and that one additional name be added to the Catholic Chaplains Monument and that any future names be added to the appropriate monument and that when necessity arises, at no cost to the United States government, there be designed, developed, and place, a new monument on Chaplains Hill for chaplains of any faith who died in active service.”

“The American Legion is a strong, trusted voice for veterans. For it to pass unanimously this resolution is a ‘difference maker’ in the quest to honor Chaplains who died while in service to our nation through the update to these memorials,” said Bishop Derek Jones, Chairman of the NCMAF Memorial Update Committee and Bishop of the Armed Forces for the Anglican Church in North America.

“We are gaining support in Congress by the day for this important project,” noted John H. Lea III, Executive Director of the NCMAF. “The American Legion’s unanimous support is a significant step in this ongoing process to gain approval. We encourage the public to let us know of any members of Congress you believe will be interested in cosponsoring the legislation. We look forward to the day that family members of the 26 Chaplains can see their loved ones recognized on Chaplains Hill at our country's most sacred resting place.”

The NCMAF has worked on projects at Chaplains Hill for more than a decade, starting with legislation that was unanimously approved by Congress to donate the Jewish Chaplains’ monument which honors 14 Jewish Chaplains who died in service.

**The National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces (NCMAF)** is a professional organization comprised of over 100 religious organizations that seeks to individually sponsor the very best chaplains for service in the military, VA hospitals, and prisons. Our commitment to the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment, and the “free exercise of religion” is our hallmark and our unifying theme. We are the successors of the organization which first placed monuments on Chaplains Hill at Arlington National Cemetery and remain committed to honoring chaplains of all faiths who died in service to our Nation. We welcome your assistance and participation in this uniquely American endeavor. Please contact us through our website: [www.ncmaf.net](http://www.ncmaf.net); or emailing us at [information@ncmaf.com](mailto:information@ncmaf.com).

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