

El Dorado County Veterans Monument
Criteria for Military Honoraria and Civilian Recognition
September 11, 2007

The El Dorado County Veterans Monument is intended to honor the in-service accomplishments of veterans and current members of the armed forces of the United States of America. All eligible veterans will be included proportional to their in-service contributions.

There will be two separate areas of recognition:

1. Recognition of veterans through military honoraria to be located in the veterans monument plaza (hereinafter referred as “plaza”).
2. Recognition of civilian contributors to the monument to the left and right of the Monument’s main (west) entrance adjacent to the parking lot.

As of November 11, 2006, no further integration of veterans honoraria and civilian recognition is permitted in the plaza.

Any issues that arise regarding inclusion, inscription, or location of honoraria in the monument are to be directed to the Veterans Service Officer, who will convene a committee including one representative commander from each of the federally chartered veterans organization in El Dorado County to hear and settle the issue (hereinafter referred as “committee”). The decision rendered by the committee may be appealed to the Board of Supervisors by submitting a request to the Veterans Services Officer, who will place the appeal on the Board’s agenda. All decisions regarding inclusion, inscription, or location of honoraria in the monument will be made in a manner consistent with this policy.

Eligibility for Recognition through Military Honoraria

Eligibility for inclusion in the plaza is based upon discharge from active military service under other than dishonorable conditions.

1. Active service means full-time service, other than active duty for training, as a member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Merchant Marines or Coast Guard. Men and women veterans with similar service will be entitled to the same category of honoraria.
2. Dishonorable and bad conduct discharges issued by general courts-martial may bar inclusion in or cause removal from the plaza.
3. Veterans in prison and parolees must contact the El Dorado County Veterans Service Officer or Friends of the Veterans Monument to determine eligibility. Acceptance will not be provided to any veteran wanted for an outstanding felony warrant.

Those seeking honoraria in the plaza for the first time must complete and submit an application to the El Dorado County Veterans Services Officer that provides the following information:

1. Documentation that demonstrates service dates and type of discharge a copy of their service discharge form, such as DD-214, DD-215, or for WWII veterans, a WD form; or
2. Full name, military service number, and branch and dates of service.

Application forms are available from the Veterans Service Office, The Friends of the Veterans Monument, Inc. (hereinafter referred as “the Friends”), ~~at~~ the Pool Place on Missouri Flat Road, Placerville, or other such places as may be designated by the Chief Administrative Officer.

Types of Military Honoraria

The following types of military honoraria are available for purchase through The Pool Place at prices in effect at the time of purchase:

Special Bronze Plaques honoring events, units, or heroes. For plaques that honor heroes, the honoree must meet the following conditions:

- Heroes are defined as recipients of the Medals of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, Air Force Cross or any person or unit who, while serving with the military, distinguishes himself in action by extraordinary heroism.
- The action must take place under one of three circumstances: while engaged in action against an enemy of the United States; while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force; or, while serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict in which the United States is not a belligerent party.
- The act to be commended must have been performed in the presence of great danger or at great personal risk and must be performed in such a manner as to render the individual highly conspicuous among others of equal grade, rate, experience, or position of responsibility.

Benches. Benches are intended to honor any veteran, unit or action. For benches included in the plaza, the inclusion of civilians in the inscriptions is specifically prohibited.

Bricks. Size 4x8 bricks may be purchased to honor any qualified veterans or current member of the armed forces of the United States. Each brick contains up to three lines and a maximum of 14 characters per line.

Modification and Maintenance of the Monument

The County shall be responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the Monument, including installation of any bricks, plaques and the like that are provided by the Friends.

The County, through the General Services Department, will notify the Friends and the committee in writing of any ~~intended or~~ proposed changes in the design, configuration, or landscaping of the monument. The Friends will have the opportunity to discuss any such changes with representatives of the General Services Department. Private citizens, civic organizations, and military/veterans organizations are encouraged to communicate with the County and the Friends

regarding proposed improvements and additions to the monument that are consistent with this policy.

Any modifications must be consistent with the original purpose of the monument, which is to honor veterans.

The Friends will continue to purchase materials for the monument, such as bricks, tiles, plaques, and benches. The General Services Department is responsible for the installation of the materials within the monument.