



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION



Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin and Surviving Spouse Lapel Pin Presentation Recommendations in Consideration of Coronavirus Disease 2019

“... protecting the well-being of our Vietnam veterans and their families, as well as our Commemorative Partners, while thanking and honoring those who served.”

- Commemorative events and activities remain dignified, memorable occasions, showing appreciation for and sensitivity to the solemnity of war, the losses suffered by many and the sacrifices of all who served.
- **Prior to the event, we recommend:**
 - Review [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) guidance](#).
 - Comply with recommendations of local health authorities.
 - Secure hand sanitizer for all participants.
 - If chairs are used, spread them out as space allows.
 - Whenever possible, leave lapel pins in their hinged plastic boxes.
 - Utilize one partner representative with sanitized hands to place lapel pin boxes on presentation trays or plates; if you received lapel pins without boxes (loose), place those on the trays or plates.
- **During the event, we recommend:**
 - Announce this (or a similar) sentiment, *“We (CP name) are dedicated to ensuring your well-being, especially in light of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 outbreak, and have made the following modifications to our ceremony ... (list all modifications).”*
 - Encourage attendees to use the hand sanitizer provided.
 - Avoid handshakes and hugs; utilize fist-bumps or elbow-taps instead.
 - Continue to describe the elements of the lapel pins.
 - Ensure [Lapel Pin Fact Sheets](#) are available to participants.
 - Present lapel pins in their boxes (or loose) on trays or plates to Vietnam veterans and/or spouses, and allow them to take their own lapel pin; avoid personally “pinning” any individual.
 - Be sure to include, *“On behalf of a grateful Nation, thank you for your service.”*