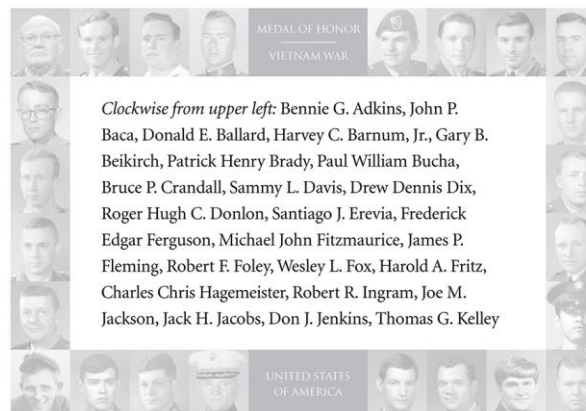
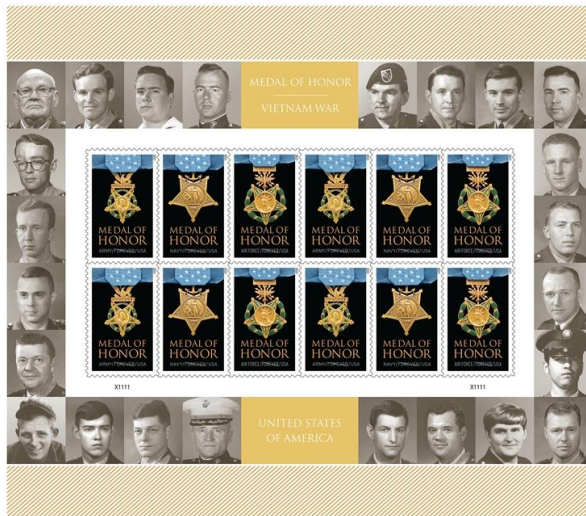


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 25, 2015

Contact: Mark Saunders
202.268.6524
Mark.r.saunders@usps.gov
usps.com/news



Clockwise from upper left: Bennie G. Adkins, John P. Baca, Donald E. Ballard, Harvey C. Barnum, Jr., Gary B. Beikirch, Patrick Henry Brady, Paul William Bucha, Bruce P. Crandall, Sammy L. Davis, Drew Dennis Dix, Roger Hugh C. Donlon, Santiago J. Erevia, Frederick Edgar Ferguson, Michael John Fitzmaurice, James P. Fleming, Robert F. Foley, Wesley L. Fox, Harold A. Fritz, Charles Chris Hagemeister, Robert R. Ingram, Joe M. Jackson, Jack H. Jacobs, Don J. Jenkins, Thomas G. Kelley



Clockwise from upper left: Allan Jay Kellogg, Jr., Joseph R. Kerrey, Peter C. Lemon, Gary Lee Littrell, James E. Livingston, Allen James Lynch, Walter Joseph Marm, Robert J. Modrzejewski, Melvin Morris, Robert E. O'Malley, Robert Martin Patterson, Richard A. Pittman, Alfred V. Rascon, Ronald Eric Ray, Gordon R. Roberts, Jose Rodela, Clarence Eugene Sasser, James M. Sprayberry, Kenneth E. Stumpf, James Allen Taylor, Michael Edwin Thornton, Leo K. Thorsness, Jay R. Vargas, Gary George Wetzel

Medal of Honor Recipients Dedicate Vietnam War Stamps Today

Videos of their Stories included in this News Release

High-resolution images of the stamps are available for media use only by emailing mark.r.saunders@usps.gov

WASHINGTON — Nearly a dozen Vietnam Medal of Honor recipients will help the Postal Service dedicate the Limited Edition Medal of Honor: Vietnam War Forever Stamps during a 1 p.m. ET ceremony today at the [Vietnam Veterans Memorial](#) on the National Mall in Washington, DC.

The event is hosted by the [Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund](#) and the [National Park Service](#) and is free and open to the public.

“The postal families of more than 600,000 employees salute the 2.7 million Americans who served in Vietnam,” said U.S. Postal Service Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President David Williams. “We stand in awe of the

258 Medal of Honor recipients who distinguished themselves through unfathomable circumstances — especially the six out of 10 who received our nation's highest recognition of valor posthumously. Since 1863, our country has awarded the Medal of Honor to 3,493 Americans who heroically responded to such threats. Today, we honor servicemen who in Vietnam reached this highest level of loyalty and valor."

Scheduled to join Williams in the dedication ceremony are U.S. Army (USA) (Ret.), Medal of Honor recipient Gary Beikirch, [citation](#), [video](#) of Rochester, NY; USA (Ret.), Medal of Honor recipient Colonel Jack Jacobs, [citation](#), [video](#) ; [Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund](#) Founder & President [Jan C. Scruggs](#); [Vietnam Women's Memorial Foundation](#) Founder and President Diane Carlson Evans; Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund CEO [Jim Knotts](#); and Acting Superintendent, National Mall and Memorial Parks Sean Kennealy

Other Medal of Honor Recipients scheduled to attend include: Command Sergeant Major Bennie Adkins, USA (Ret.) [citation](#), [video](#) of Opelika, AL; Major General Patrick Brady, USA (Ret.), [citation](#), [video](#) of New Braunfels, TX; Captain Thomas Kelley, USN (Ret.), [citation](#), [video](#) of Somerville, MA; Lt. Colonel James Sprayberry, USA (Ret.), [citation](#) of Madison, AL; Sergeant Major Kenneth Stumpf, USA (Ret.), [citation](#), [video](#) of Tomah, WI; Ft. Lieutenant USA Brian Thacker, USA (Ret.), [citation](#), [video](#) of Wheaton, MD; Colonel Leo Thorsness, USAF (Ret.), [citation](#), [video](#) of Madison, AL; and Spec. 4th Class Gary Wetzel, USA (Ret.), [citation](#), [video](#) of Oak Creek, WI.

"When you talk with any recipient, he'll tell you that he wears the Medal for those who can't," said Jacobs. "In every combat action, there's a great deal of valor. We hold the Medal in trust for those who came before us and for succeeding warriors. The Postal Service's Medal of Honor stamps not only recognize the 79 still with us today, but more importantly — the millions who served and sacrificed for our nation."

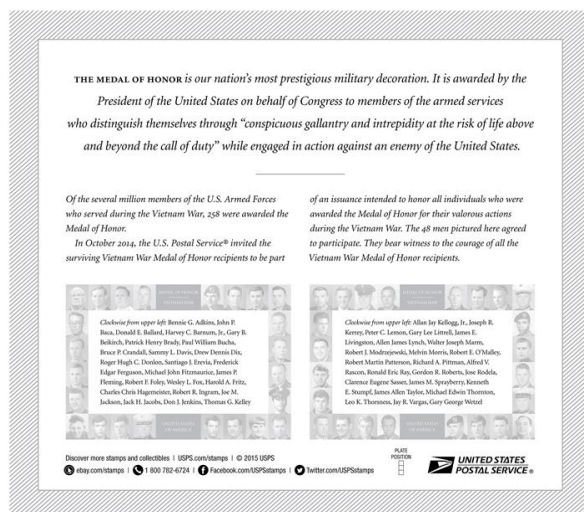
The Protracted Conflict

Several million service men and women fought in the conflict, which claimed the lives of more than 58,000 Americans. Two hundred fifty-eight people who served during the war received the Medal of Honor. More than six out of 10 recipients were honored posthumously.

The Vietnam War was a protracted conflict between North Vietnam and South Vietnam, beginning in the mid-1950s and ending with the fall of Saigon in the south in 1975. The first U.S. combat troops were committed to the defense of South Vietnam in March 1965, although American military advisers had been involved in South Vietnam since the 1950s. Several million Americans served on active duty in Vietnam until March 1973, when U.S. troops were withdrawn from the country.

Medal of Honor: Vietnam War Prestige Folio

The prestige folio stamp sheet depicts 48 of the more than 50 living Vietnam War recipients (some chose not to have their name and/or photograph included). The folio, which lists the names of the recipients, is modeled after the [World War II](#) and [Korean War](#) Medal of Honor prestige folio stamp sheets issued in 2013 and 2014 respectively.



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA / MEDAL OF HONOR / VIETNAM WAR

William E. Adams · Bennie G. Adkins · Lewis Albanese · Leonard L. Alvarado · James Anderson, Jr. · Richard A. Anderson · Webster Anderson · Eugene Ashley, Jr. · Oscar P. Austin · John P. Baca · Nicky Daniel Bacon · John E. Baker, Jr. · Donald E. Ballard · Jetha Colby Barker · John Andrew Barnes III · Harvey C. Barnum, Jr. · Gary B. Bekinch · Ted Belcher · Leslie Allen Beltrichard · Roy P. Benawider · Steven L. Bennett · Thomas W. Bennett · Michael R. Blanchfield · John P. Bobo · James Leroy Bondsteel · Hammett L. Boswell, Jr. · Patrick Henry Brady · Daniel D. Bruce · William Maud Bryant · Paul William Bucha · Brian L. Buler · Robert C. Burke · Vincent R. Capodanno · Wayne Maurice Canon · Bruce W. Carter · Jon R. Cavaiani · Raymond M. Clausen · Ronald L. Coler · Felix M. Conde-Falcon · Peter S. Connor · Donald Gilbert Cook · Andie R. Copas · Bruce P. Crandall · Thomas E. Creek · Michael J. Crescente · Nicholas J. Catrinia · Larry G. Dahl · Rodney Maxwell Davis · Sammy L. Davis · George E. Day · Emilio A. De La Garza, Jr. · Merlyn Hans DeHethelen · Edward A. Devore, Jr. · Ralph E. Dias · Douglas E. Dickey · Drew Dennis Dix · Stephen Holden Doane · David Charles Dolby · Roger Hugh C. Donlon · Kern W. Dunagan · Jesus S. Duran · Harold Bascom Durham, Jr. · Glenn H. English, Jr. · Santiago J. Ereira · Michael J. Estocin · Richard L. Eichelberger · Donald W. Evans, Jr. · Rodney J. Evans · Frederick Edgar Ferguson · Daniel Fernandez · Bernard Francis Fisher · Michael John Fitzmaurice · Charles Clinton Fleck · James P. Fleming · Robert E. Foley · Michael Fleming Folland · Paul Hultstrom Foster · Douglas B. Fournet · James W. Fous · Wilely L. Fox · Frank R. Fratellonico · Ed W. Freeman · Harold A. Fritz · Candelario Garcia · James A. Gardner · John G. Gertsch · Alfredo Gonzalez · James A. Graham · Bruce Alan Grandstaff · Joseph Xavier Grant · Terrence Collinson Graves · Peter M. Guenther · Charles Chris Hagemeister · Loren D. Hagen · Robert W. Hartcock · Carmel Bernon Harvey, Jr. · Frank A. Herda · Robert John Hibbs · John Noble Holcomb · Joe R. Hooper · Charles Ernest Hooking, Jr. · Jimmie E. Howard · Robert L. Howard · James D. Howe · George Alan Ingalls · Robert R. Ingram · Joe M. Jackson · Jack H. Jacobs · Don J. Jenkins · Robert H. Jenkins, Jr. · Delbert O. Jennings · Jose Francisco Jimenez · Lawrence Joel · Dwight H. Johnson · Ralph H. Johnson · Donald R. Johnston · William A. Jones III · Stephen Edward Kampczyk · Terry Terasu Kawamura · Kenneth Michael Kaye · John I. Kokenburg · Miguél Keith · Leonard B. Keller · Thomas G. Kelley · Allan Jay Kellogg, Jr. · Joseph R. Kerrey · Thomas James Kinsman · Paul Ronald Lamborn · George C. Lang · Garfield M. Langhorn · Joseph G. LaVigne, Jr. · Clyde Everett Lauen · Billy Lane Lauffer · Robert D. Law · Howard V. Lee · Milton A. Lee · Robert Ronald Leary · Peter C. Lemon · Matthew Leonard · John L. Levittow · Gary Lee Littell · James E. Livingston · Donald Russell Long · Carlos James Louada · Andre C. Lucas · Allen James Lynch · Walter Joseph Marm · Gary W. Martin · Larry Leonard Maxam · Finnis D. McCleery · Phil G. McDonald · John J. McGinty III · William L. McGonagle · Ray McKibben · Thomas J. McMahon · David H. McNerney · Edgar Lee McWethy, Jr. · Don Leslie Michael · Franklin D. Miller · Gary L. Miller · Robert J. Modrozewski · Frankie Zoly Molnar · James H. Monroe · William D. Morgan · Charles B. Morris · Melvin Morris · Robert C. Murray · David P. Naab · Melvin Earl Newlin · Thomas P. Noonan · Thomas R. Norris · Michael J. Novack · Milton L. Obie III · Kenneth L. Olson · Robert E. O'Malley · David G. Ouellet · Robert Martin Patterson · Joe C. Paul · Richard A. Penny · William Thomas Perkins, Jr. · Lawrence David Peters · Danny J. Petersen · Jimmy W. Phlips · Larry S. Pierce · William H. Pitsenberger · Richard A. Pittman · Riley L. Pitts · Stephen W. Pleis · William D. Port · Robert Leslie Poxon · William R. Prom · Robert J. Pruden · Lauro Rabel · Alfred V. Rascon · David Robert Ray · Ronald Eric Ray · Frank S. Reasoner · Arund C. Reason · Gordon R. Roberts · James W. Robinson, Jr. · Louis R. Rocco · Jose Rodela · Charles Calvin Rogers · Euripides Rubio · Leslie H. Sabo, Jr. · Hector Santiago-Golon · Ruppert L. Sargent · Clarence Eugene Sasser · William W. Seay · Daniel John Shea · Marvin G. Shields · Lance P. Sijan · Clifford Chester Sims · Walter K. Singleton · George K. Siler · Donald Sidney Skidgel · Donald P. Short · Larry E. Smalley · Elminda R. Smith · James M. Sprayberry · Russell A. Steinman · Jimmy G. Stewart · James B. Stockdale · Lester R. Stone, Jr. · Mitchell W. Stout · Robert F. Stryker · Kenneth E. Stumpf · Jon E. Swanson · James Allen Taylor · Karl G. Taylor, Sr. · Brian Miles Thacker · Michael Edwin Thornton · Leo K. Thorsness · Jay R. Vargas · Humbert R. Versace · John E. Warren, Jr. · Charles Joseph Walters · Dale Eugene Warrington · Lester W. Weber · Gary George Wetzel · Ray W. Wheat · Jerry Wayne Wickam · Hilliard A. Wilkuba · Louis E. Willett · Charles Q. Williams · Dwayne T. Williams · James E. Wilson · Alfred M. Wilson · David F. Winder · Kenneth L. Worley · Raymond R. Wright · Massimo Yabes · Rodney J. T. Yano · Gordon Douglas Yntema · Gerald O. Young · Marvin R. Young · Fred William Zabitsky

The Nation's Most Prestigious Military Decoration

The Medal of Honor is our nation's most prestigious military decoration. It is awarded by the president of the United States on behalf of Congress to members of the armed services who distinguish themselves through "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty" while engaged in action against an enemy of the United States.

The Medal of Honor traces its origins to the first year of the Civil War, when Congress saw the need for a formal means of recognizing or rewarding acts of heroism. In 1861, James W. Grimes, a senator from Iowa, introduced a bill to "promote the efficiency of the Navy" by distributing "medals of honor." President Lincoln signed the bill into law on Dec. 21, 1861. Lincoln signed a similar measure on behalf of the U.S. Army on July 12, 1862, and the country had two Medals of Honor: one for sailors and one for soldiers.



Three Versions of the Medal of Honor

There are now three similar, yet distinct, versions of the Medal of Honor, one for each Military Department (Army, Navy and Air Force). The medals are similar in that each consists of a variation of a five-pointed star worn around the neck on a light blue ribbon. The Navy version is awarded to those serving in the Navy and Marine Corps, and during times of war, to members of the Coast Guard. The Air Force, which was established as an independent department in 1947, adopted its distinctive Medal of Honor in 1965. The first presentation of the U.S. Air Force's medal took place in 1967 during the Vietnam War.

Following is a listing of the living recipients depicted on the stamp sheet in state order. [Click the links to the videos of the recipients recounting their experiences.](#) (Note: Media use is of video is only permitted if broadcast in its entirety.)

LAST NAME	FIRST	CITY	ST	MEDAL OF HONOR CITATION	VIDEO LINK
ADKINS	BENNIE	OPELIKA	AL	http://www.cmohs.org/recipient-detail/3513/adkins-bennie-g.php	https://vimeo.com/124517084
SPRAYBERRY	JAMES	MADISON	AL	http://www.cmohs.org/recipient-detail/3420/sprayberry-james-m.php	N/A
THORSNESS	LEO	MADISON	AL	http://www.cmohs.org/recipient-detail/3433/thorsness-leo-k.php	https://vimeo.com/73862719
FERGUSON	FREDERICK	CHANDLER	AZ	http://www.cmohs.org/recipient-detail/3273/ferguson-frederick-edgar.php	https://vimeo.com/72417862
BACA	JOHN	JULIAN	CA	http://www.cmohs.org/recipient-detail/3219/baca-john-p.php	https://vimeo.com/71014774

MODRZEJEWSKI	ROBERT	SAN DIEGO	CA	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3365/modrzejewski-robert-j.php	https://vimeo.com/75308007
PITTMAN	RICHARD	STOCKTON	CA	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3389/pittman-richard-a.php	https://vimeo.com/76054667
TAYLOR	JAMES	PENN VALLEY	CA	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3429/taylor-james-allen.php	https://vimeo.com/119380139
VARGAS	JAY	SAN DIEGO	CA	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3434/vargas-jay-r.php	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hifl6wQfXZI
LEMON	PETER	COLORADO SPRINGS	CO	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3341/lemon-peter-c.php	N/A
BUCHA	PAUL	RIDGEFIELD	CT	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3239/bucha-paul-william.php	https://vimeo.com/71019460
INGRAM	ROBERT	JACKSONVILLE	FL	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3309/ingram-robert-r.php	https://vimeo.com/73382873
LITTRELL	GARY	ST. PETE BEACH	FL	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3345/littrell-gary-lee.php	https://vimeo.com/75398366
MORRIS	MELVIN	COCOA	FL	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3501/morris-melvin.php	N/A
PATTERSON	ROBERT	PACE	FL	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3380/patterson-robert-martin.php	https://vimeo.com/75311195
RAY	RONALD	PONTE VEDRA BEACH	FL	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3399/ray-ronald-eric.php	https://vimeo.com/76052808
KELLOGG JR.	ALLAN	KAILUA	HI	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3328/kellogg-allan-jay-jr.php	https://vimeo.com/119449311
FRITZ	HAROLD	PEORIA	IL	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3287/fritz-harold-a.php	https://vimeo.com/71966122

LYNCH	ALLEN	GURNEE	IL	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3350/lynch-allen-james.php	https://vimeo.com/75487441
DAVIS	SAMMY	FREEDOM	IN	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3256/davis-sammy-l.php	https://vimeo.com/71966854
DONLON	ROGER	LEAVENWORTH	KS	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3266/donlon-roger-hugh-c.php	https://vimeo.com/71969487
HAGEMEISTER	CHARLES	LEAVENWORTH	KS	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3296/hagemeister-charles-chris.php	https://vimeo.com/73385334
JENKINS	DON	MORGANTOWN	KY	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3312/jenkins-don-j.php	N/A
KELLEY	THOMAS	SOMERVILLE	MA	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3327/kelley-thomas-g.php	https://vimeo.com/75304837
RASCON	ALFRED	LAUREL	MD	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3397/rascon-alfred-v.php	https://vimeo.com/73855089
BALLARD	DONALD	GRAIN VALLEY	MO	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3222/ballard-donald-e.php	https://vimeo.com/71014344
MARM JR.	WALTER	FREMONT	NC	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3351/marm-walter-joseph-jr.php	https://vimeo.com/75488849
ROBERTS	GORDON	ERWIN	NC	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3402/roberts-gordon-r.php	https://vimeo.com/76053586
JACOBS	JACK	N/A	N/A	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3311/jacobs-jack-h.php	https://vimeo.com/73861330
DIX	DREW	MIMBRES	NM	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3263/dix-drew-dennis.php	https://vimeo.com/71972965
BEIKIRCH	GARY	ROCHESTER	NY	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3226/beikirch-gary-b.php	https://vimeo.com/71020433

KERREY	JOSEPH (BOB)	NEW YORK	NY	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3329/kerrey-joseph-r.php	https://vimeo.com/119452562
LIVINGSTON	JAMES	MOUNT PLEASANT	SC	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3346/livingston-james-e.php	https://vimeo.com/119446421
FITZMAURICE	MICHAEL	HARTFORD	SD	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3276/fitzmaurice-michael-john.php	https://vimeo.com/71967786
BRADY	PATRICK	NEW BRAUNFELS	TX	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3236/brady-patrick-henry.php	https://vimeo.com/70869461
EREVIA	SANTIAGO	SAN ANTONIO	TX	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3492/erevia-santiago-j.php	N/A
FLEMING	JAMES	MANVEL	TX	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3278/fleming-james-p.php	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X9nCnqlWuE
O'MALLEY	ROBERT	GOLDTHWAITE	TX	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3378/o-malley-robert-e.php	N/A
RODELA	JOSE	SAN ANTONIO	TX	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3506/rodela-jose.php	N/A
SASSER	CLARENCE	ROSHARON	TX	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3409/sasser-clarence-eugene.php	https://vimeo.com/73856944
THORNTON	MICHAEL	PLANO	TX	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3432/thornton-michael-edwin.php	https://vimeo.com/73868556
BARNUM JR.	HARVEY	RESTON	VA	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3225/barnum-harvey-c-jr.php	https://vimeo.com/71504014
FOLEY	ROBERT	ALEXANDRIA	VA	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3279/foley-robert-f.php	https://vimeo.com/71511108
FOX	WESLEY	BLACKSBURG	VA	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3284/fox-wesley-l.php	https://vimeo.com/71509352
CRANDALL	BRUCE	MANCHESTER	WA	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3250/crandall-bruce-p.php	https://vimeo.com/71016656

JACKSON	JOE	KENT	WA	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3310/jackson-joe-m.php	https://vimeo.com/119451288
STUMPF	KENNETH	TOMAH	WI	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3427/stumpf-kenneth-e.php	https://vimeo.com/119383883
WETZEL	GARY	OAK CREEK	WI	http://www.cmozs.org/recipient-detail/3440/wetzel-gary-george.php	https://vimeo.com/72904607

Ordering First-Day-of-Issue Postmarks

Customers have 60 days to obtain first-day-of-issue postmarks by mail. They may purchase new stamps at their local Post Office, at the Postal Store website at usps.com/shop or by calling 800-STAMP-24. They should affix the stamps to envelopes of their choice, address the envelopes to themselves or others and place them in larger envelopes addressed to:

Medal of Honor: Vietnam War Stamps
Special Events
PO Box 92282
Washington, DC 20090-2282

After applying the first-day-of-issue postmark, the Postal Service will return the envelopes through the mail. There is no charge for the postmark up to a quantity of 50. For more than 50, customers are charged 5 cents each. All orders must be postmarked by July 24, 2015.

Ordering First-Day Covers

The Postal Service also offers first-day covers for new stamp issues and Postal Service stationery items postmarked with the official first-day-of-issue cancellation. Each item has an individual catalog number and is offered in the quarterly *USA Philatelic* catalog, online at usps.com/shop or by calling 800-782-6724. Customers may request a free catalog by calling 800-782-6724 or writing to:

U.S. Postal Service
Catalog Request
PO Box 219014
Kansas City, MO 64121-9014

Philatelic Products

There are nine philatelic products for this stamp issue:

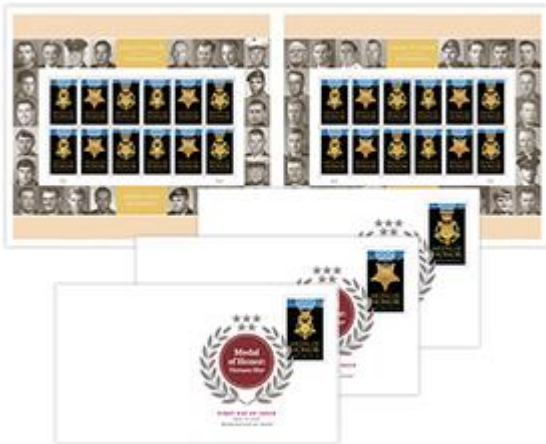


589724, [Framed Art](#), \$39.95.



589706, [Press Sheet with Die-cut](#), \$35.28 (print quantity 1,000).

589708, [Press Sheet without Die-cut](#), \$35.28 (print quantity 1,500).



589710, [Digital Color Postmark Keepsake](#) with sheet of 24 stamps (set of 3), \$16.95.



589716, [First-Day Cover](#) (set of 3), \$2.79.



589721, [Digital Color Postmark](#) (set of 3), \$4.92.



589730, [Ceremony Program](#), \$6.95.

589731, Stamp Deck Card, \$0.95.

589732, Stamp Deck Card with Digital Color Postmark (random stamp), \$1.99.

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

#

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Reporters interested in speaking with regional Postal Service public relations professionals should visit this [link](#).

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