



NATION OF PATRIOTS

THE REPRESENTATIVE'S GUIDE

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THANK YOU!

So you've stepped up as the point person for the Patriot Tour...thank you! It's people like you that have kept this event going for years! There's a lot to know, so we've compiled information into this short packet to help you along the way.

Of course, if you need additional support, everything is located online. Don't be a stranger, always feel free to call or email us!

HOW WE CAN HELP YOU

We are striving to bring communities together in unity to rally behind the cause of supporting disabled veterans and their families. It's our job to provide you with the tools to succeed. We want to empower you to reach as many people in your communities as possible through marketing, advertising and PR. Below are the different tools and how to access them:

EMAILING US DIRECTLY

- PR support from our partner – Botham Inc.
- Merchandise inquiries

INFORMATION ONLINE @ www.nationofpatriots.com/representatives-corner

- Advertising templates
- Marketing ideas
- FAQ forums
- Training videos
- Fundraising ideas
- Financial information
- Background information
- Support

THE ORGANIZATION – THE NATION OF PATRIOTS

The Nation of Patriots (NoP) is an all-volunteer 501(c)3 non-profit organization that raises financial support for physically and mentally injured veterans and their families. 100% of all donations we collect go to supporting these military families.

PROFILE:

- **National Headquarters** – We're based in Wisconsin – PO Box 73, Sussex, WI 53089
- **EIN** – 26-4001248
- **Established** – 2009
- **Board of Directors** – Bill Sherer, Paul Ginter, Jake Poepl, MaryAnn Mayer
- **Executive Team** – Cindy Schmittinger, CFO; Rick Schmittinger, Chief Military Affairs Officer; Paul Aubert, National Commander; Rick Bitzer, VP of Operations
- **Regional Commanders** –
 - IL – Dave Hume: davidghume@live.com
 - VA – Lonnie Hitchcock Lonniehitch@aol.com
 - SC, NC – Ed Bohnam edzharley2011@gmail.com

- GA – Joe Combs jcombsii@bellsouth.net
- FL – Dave Grabow grabow.dave@gmail.com
- LA, MS, AR – Steve Carrington atcsc54@gmail.com
- KS, MO – Ryan Mitchell rmitchell844@gmail.com
- NM – Terry Proctor proguns2u@yahoo.com
- AZ – Dan Smith dansmith1093@gmail.com
- NV, SCA – Melanie Stout nationofpatriotslv@gmail.com
- WA –
- WY, MT – Mike Tipton empty95@yahoo.com
- NE – Troy Pospisil saltdogcg55@gmail.com

THE PATRIOT TOUR™

The “Patriot Tour™” is a registered trademark and solely owned by the Nation of Patriots, Inc.

DESCRIPTION:

WHAT IT IS: Passing 1 American Flag through 48 states, 14,500 miles over 110 days. The Patriot Tour™ starts and ends in Wisconsin – In honor of ALL military enlisted, veterans, military families and the fallen.

IT IS OFFICIALLY AND CORRECTLY NAMED “THE PATRIOT TOUR™”.

WHAT IT IS NOT: This is not the Nation of Patriot’s Tour, The Harley Tour, the Flag Passing Tour, The Patriot’s Flag Tour, the Flag of Patriots Tour, The honor flight, the moving Flag or anything else.

PATRIOT TOUR™ GUIDELINES

1. It is your responsibility to connect and coordinate with the group you are receiving the Flag from and the group you will be delivering the Flag to.
2. By default, the group delivering the Flag has the lead in suggesting the delivery/arrival time at the receiving group’s location.

****We expect common sense to prevail and that ALL parties will be mindful of the requests and respectful in how they work with each neighboring group. Aggressive or disrespectful behavior will NOT be tolerated and may be grounds for the offending location’s removal from the Tour schedule****
3. All participating locations must designate a Flag Bearer and a main point of contact. These can be the same individual.
4. The Flag must be handled in strict adherence to the United States Flag Code:
 - a. www.military.com/flag-day/us-flag-code.html

FUNDRAISING & DONATIONS

100% of all donations received go to disabled veterans struggling to support their families. We send donations out in the form of grant checks made out to the veteran or to their bill collectors. These grants ease financial stress so these families can find some relief and focus on improving their lives.

CRITERIA

As a 501(c)3 we must have a set of criteria through which we work with to select the candidates we're able to help:

1. Veteran must have been honorably discharged
2. Veteran must have minimum one (1) legal dependent
3. Veteran must have a VA disability rating of 50% or more

The Financial Assistance Application and Eligibility Criteria forms are available on the website.

WHAT FORMS OF PAYMENTS ARE ACCEPTED?

The Nation of Patriots can accept different kinds of payment forms to make it easier for you to raise donations in your area.

We currently accept:

- Cash deposits
- Personal or business checks
- Credit card payments through PayPal
- Venmo

HOW SHOULD I RAISE MONEY?

We have many locations that raise money during, before and even after the Patriot Tour™ comes through their town. We encourage this and can support your efforts. You can raise money in any way (legally) that you see fit. Some examples of what others are doing out there:

- Raffles
- Silent Auctions
- Poker Runs
- Golf Outings
- Putting out donation boxes
- Asking for voluntary donations per each rider that attends the Patriot Tour

WHAT DO I DO WITH THE DONATIONS I RAISE?

There are several different ways your group can send in the donations you raise: Direct deposit, mail to our Bank or Online

DIRECT DEPOSIT: The Nation of Patriots has a bank account with Wells Fargo. You can take cash and checks to any Wells Fargo branch location and deposit donations into our account. We track all the incoming donations and can validate your deposit.

Wells Fargo Account Information:

Account Name: Nation of Patriots, Inc.

Account Number: 7381757249

Routing Number: Provided upon request

If you don't have a Wells Fargo in your area please follow these instructions:

RECEIVED CHECKS: You send them back to us (as the 501(c)3 entity). You can send us people's personal checks. Please send to PO Box 73 Sussex, WI 53089 or the bank address below.

CASH: If you end up with cash donations then allow a business to take the cash and write you a business check or you can take the cash to a bank and they can give you a cashiers check.

- **Never** – send cash in the mail, or put the money in your personal account to write us a personal check.

PAYPAL: If you use PayPal or you know others that intend to use PayPal, you are responsible for notifying NoP leadership or your representative and providing proper instruction. Otherwise, we may not know to properly allocate the donations to your specific geographic location. The PayPal payee can also include location information in their memo

MIX: You are responsible for notifying NoP leadership or your representative and provide proper instruction as to where and who donations are coming from. Otherwise, we may not know to properly allocate the donations to your specific geographic location.

Vermillion State Bank Address:

C/O Jake Poepl
975 Lyn Way
Hastings, MN 55033

WHAT DOES THE NOP DO WITH DONATIONS

- We track every donation that comes in by state and location
- We work with VA hospitals, American Legions, VFWs, other non-profits and many more veteran associated groups to find, vet and help the military families we support.
- Our goal is to raise as much as possible every calendar year and give it all away by December 31st. Whatever funds we are not able to give out, get rolled over and dispersed throughout the next calendar year.

PATRIOT TOUR CHALLENGE

We allocate donations all across the country from the monies generated over any given year. WE CHALLENGE YOU to raise over \$1,000 in donations. If you meet this challenge we will work with you to identify, vet and select an injured veteran and his or her family (or families) that we can apply every single dollar you raised towards.

This brings everything we do full circle. You lead your community to meeting this goal on behalf of this cause and then you get to put every single penny directly into the hands of a special military family that needs financial support. No middle men, no clunk accounting, just transparent, wholesome and direct.

SPECIAL FORMS

You may run into a situation where you need to present a special form for fundraising purposes, event permits, etc. Here is a list of frequently requested items:

- IRS Form W-9
- IRS Income Tax Form - 990 Long Form
- IRS 501(c)3 Confirmation Letter
- Articles of Incorporation
- Donation Receipt Forms
- Patriot Tour – Rider Release Form
- Veteran Grant Request Application

If there's something you need that you cannot locate online, you may always send a request via email.

FINDING VETERANS

You are responsible for finding candidates in your area before December 31st in the given year. The Nation of Patriots has a vast network of connections and can assist you with this effort.

All grant applicants MUST complete the Veteran Grant Request Application form. The form is turned in to the Nation of Patriots for board review and final approval. Grants will not be provided without board approval.

A good place to start your search is with local VA Hospitals and offices, American Legions, VFW's, Combat Veteran Associations and many other veteran focused and recognized groups around the country. If you're with a Harley Owner's Group through a local HD dealership, you may ask some of the members if they know of anyone in the community that may need assistance (so long as they fit the Nation of Patriots criteria).

The Nation of Patriots also works with veteran foundations and other partners that are constantly in need of help with veterans and military families. We can work with them to find a candidate in your area.

HELP! I CAN'T FIND A CANDIDATE

Depending on your location, it may be somewhat challenging to find a candidate. Finding a candidate can take persistence, resources and time. We understand that you're busy with a million other things and this might be more daunting than originally expected.

VETERAN FAMILY SPONSORSHIP

If you've exhausted yourself and we can't locate anyone in your area, we have other options.

We can locate a veteran family for your group to sponsor. While the family may not be local or even in your state, our program will apply every single dollar that your group raised to helping them out. We will even connect you to the family so you can share photos and letters.

We use a registry system through companies like Amazon, Walmart, Bed Bath and Beyond, etc.

1. We ask the family to select what they need in a private registry
2. We give you access to the registry
3. Your group selects as many items as possible given the total you raised
4. When you've finished, we apply payment and the goods get shipped straight to the veteran

Simple, direct and transparent.

WEBSITES AND SOCIAL MEDIA

We encourage all our participating locations to create their own Facebook pages to share videos, pictures and event details.

If you wish to take it to the next level you may create a website. We do not provide funding or web development support at this time. Any use of our name or logo must be reviewed and approved before a website is published and publicly available.

*****The use of social media and website content shall be strictly designated and solely associated to actions, details and workings of the Nation of Patriots and the Patriot Tour. Political views, opinions or offensive content, postings, articles and pictures are strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated.**

Be mindful of your personal social sites. You represent the Nation of Patriots and the veterans we work to serve.***

ESCALATION PROCEDURES

In the event that you experience malpractice, abuse in any form, malicious intent or any form of behavior that you feel is destructive or may result in a negative impact to the Nation of Patriots or the Patriot Tour, we ask that you report it immediately.

ESCALATION PROCEDURES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. Document the behavior or event in writing
2. Send the written explanation via email to your associated Regional Commander
3. If you do not have a Regional Commander in your area or you have an issue with your current Regional Commander, go to the Contact Us page of the Nation of Patriots' website and put "Reporting Abuse" in the subject line. Include your write-up in the content field and submit it to the national organizers. Our team will respond within 24 hours.