



“Colonel Gary E. DeKay” Flagler County Veteran of the Year Nomination Instructions 2026



Purpose. The purpose of the “Colonel Gary E. DeKay” Flagler County Veteran of the Year Award is to recognize a living Flagler County veteran who has not only served his/her country with honor but has used the leadership skills and abilities learned in service to the nation to better the community through selfless volunteer service to Flagler County.

Nominations and Award. Nominations for the Flagler County Veteran of the Year are accepted by the Flagler County Veterans Advisory Council from 1 August through 30 September of each year. The Flagler County Veterans Advisory Council commissions a panel of veterans and community leaders to review and select the Veteran of the Year from the eligible candidates. The award is presented at the Flagler County Veterans Day ceremony in November each year.

Award Criteria. The following criteria must be met for an individual to be considered for the Flagler County Veteran of the Year.

- **Must be a resident of Flagler County, Florida.**
- **Must be a living veteran of one of the six Armed Forces of the United States, including Reserve or National Guard, or the United States Merchant Marine.**
- **Must have demonstrated outstanding patriotism, leadership, and selfless service as a veteran and as a volunteer in community or civic service.**
- **May be awarded for a single act or for continuous service.**
- **May *not* be a previous recipient of the Flagler County Veteran of the Year award.**

Nomination Procedures. Nominations are open from **August 1 to September 30 each year**. Nominations must be postmarked no later than **September 30**. The nomination may **not exceed three typewritten pages and must include as a minimum:**

1. A resume not to exceed two (2) typewritten pages (minimum font of 11 pitch) which includes:

- **Period(s) of military service and branch of one of the six Armed Services or USMM**
- **Military Awards and Decorations**
- **Membership in nationally recognized veterans organizations**
- **Community and/or civic organization memberships**
- **Community and/or civic organization awards or special recognition**
- **Nominees address, telephone number, and email if available.**

2. A one page typewritten nomination statement that describes why the individual being nominated should be selected as the Flagler County Veteran of the Year. This should be a description of the outstanding patriotism, leadership and selfless service of the veteran as a volunteer contributor to the betterment of the County through community or civic service. (Maximum 250 words)

3. Proof of Military service – DD 214 or verification by a nationally recognized veteran’s organization.

4. Nominations must be mailed or personally delivered to the Flagler County Veteran’s Service Office, ATTN: Veteran of the Year, 1769 East Moody Boulevard, Building #2, Bunnell, Florida 32110.