



**MEDIA ALERT**

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

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NEWS RELEASE

## VFW HONORS LOCAL COMMANDER

Kansas City, Mo., August 16, 2010 -- The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States announced that Howard L. Hagen of Wilmington, Calif. has achieved All American status as a District Commander.

Hagen, Commander of District 4, in the Department of California is one of only 51 VFW District Commanders selected world-wide for All American Commander. National Commander Thomas Tradewell said, "The criteria for this honor are based on outstanding achievements in membership growth and participation in other VFW programs that benefit veterans and their communities. The title of All American Commander is the most prestigious honor given by our organization."

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. is a nonprofit veterans' service organization composed of combat veterans and those who currently serve on active duty or in the Guard and Reserves. Founded in 1899 and chartered by Congress in 1936, the VFW is the nation's largest organization of war veterans and is one of its oldest veterans' organizations. With 1.7 million members located in 7,800 VFW Posts worldwide, the VFW and its Auxiliaries are dedicated to "*honor the dead by helping the living*" through veterans service, legislative initiatives, youth scholarships, Buddy Poppy and national military service programs. Annually, the VFW and its Auxiliaries contribute more than 13 million hours of community service to the nation. For more information or to join, visit the organization's Web site at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org).

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