

News Release



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Charleston County Employee Elected as Top Commander of S.C. American Legion



Charleston County's Deputy Director of Veterans Affairs Joe Lysaght was sworn in as Commander of the American Legion Department of South Carolina on May 30 at their annual conference in Columbia, S.C.

The legion is made up of veterans from all military branches and there are 52 department commanders in the U.S. Lysaght will oversee the state's 164 posts, which includes more than 20,000 members.

Lysaght is a veteran of the United States Air Force and the S.C. State Guard and retired at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He has been a member of the American Legion for 17 years.

"Congratulations to Joe, not only on his latest accomplishment, but also on consistent fine work for the past seven years," said Donald Morillo, Charleston County's Director of Veterans Affairs.

Lysaght, who has been with Charleston County's Veterans Affairs for seven years, says there are parallels between his position at the County and the state's American Legion.

"My job at Charleston County is to do everything we can for veterans and we have never turned one away," said Lysaght. "I fully expect to continue that mission with the American Legion with the goal of increasing our membership to 25,000 across South Carolina."

Charleston County Veterans Affairs provides assistance to the veterans of the area including help in the preparation and filing of claims with the VA Regional Office and the Board of Veterans Appeals, help veterans file applications for the review of discharge or the correction of military records, coordinating with other local and state agencies to render advice and assistance to veterans, their dependents and survivors, visiting VA hospitals and nursing homes as well as veterans' homes to explain where to go and who to contact when applying for pension or benefit entitlement, assisting in filing annuity applications for surviving spouses of military and civil service retirees, providing veterans with information about how to obtain a VA home loan and more.

For more information about the state's American Legion department, visit their website: <http://www.scarolinalegion.org/>

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- Visit our website: www.charlestoncounty.org



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