



# National Security

“FOR GOD AND COUNTRY, WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America... To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy.”

- The American Legion Preamble

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## Objectives

Mission of the National Security  
Pillar of the American Legion

Department of Ohio National  
Security Programs & Expectations

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# Mission & Top Priorities



Strong National  
Defense

Law &  
Order/Homeland  
Security

National  
Emergency  
Fund & Disaster  
Preparedness

Immigration and  
Naturalization

Blood Donor  
Program

Full Accounting  
of American  
POW/MIAs

National Guard

Amateur Radio  
Club

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# Department of Ohio National Security Programs



## Law & Order

Department Law Officer and Fire Fighter Of The Year Awards allow us to recognize outstanding Law Officers and Firefighters serving in our communities across Ohio.

Your Posts and Districts can also recognize outstanding Law Officers and firefighter s in your community with honorary certificates from Department.



## POW/MIA

The American Legion is committed to achieving a full accounting of all POW/MIAs from the Gulf War, Vietnam War, Cold War, Korean War and World War II. This means returning living POWs, the repatriation of their remains, or finding convincing evidence why neither of these is possible.

National POW/MIA Recognition Day is always the third Friday in September



## National Emergency Fund

•The National Emergency Fund, created in response to Hurricane Hugo in 1989, has provided more than \$8 million in direct financial assistance to American Legion Family members and posts. By providing this emergency funding, NEF has prevented damaged posts from closing and enabled American Legion Family members to recover from tragedy.

•The fund provides up to \$3,000 for qualified Legion Family members and up to \$10,000 for posts.



## Disaster Preparedness

Post disaster preparedness and response with successful outreach to the community, will greatly enhance your post's visibility and commitment to service in the area. By reaching out to the public, the media, youth and other community groups, you will be signaling to everyone – including veterans and potential members of your post, Auxiliary Unit or Sons of The American Legion Squadron – your commitment to making a difference for the better in your town.

# Department of Ohio National Security Programs Cont.



## Immigration & Naturalization

The American Legion believes in and endorses naturalization.

Providing assistance and instruction to those following the legal path to citizenship has been a longstanding and proud Legion tradition almost since the organization's founding

Many posts, districts and departments have hosted naturalization orientation sessions to teach proficiency in English and lessons in U.S. history and civics.

The American Legion continues to encourage and promote these worthwhile efforts.



## Amateur Radio Club

The American Legion has formed a special entity to provide a forum for military veterans who today are engaged in a hobby that can also provide emergency communications "when all else fails."

Amateur Radio Club can be a subsection of a Post's Disaster Preparedness program.



## Blood Donor Program

The American Legion Blood Donor Program has existed officially since 1942 to help that cause.

Legionnaires participate by giving blood and reporting it to their posts, which mark the donation on their annual Consolidated Posts Reports. Similarly, posts that host blood drives mark their participation on their Consolidated Post Reports, listing number of drives held and total pints donated (for Legionnaires and non-Legionnaires).

Ohio Is 1 of 8 Departments listed as a Category 1 on nationals Website.



## National Guard

The American Legion is dedicated to supporting the National Guard and Reserve components of the armed services.

The American Legion Department of Ohio is committed to assisting National Guard members deployed throughout our state with their missions by offering up support.