

VFW Chaplains Training

Ethics



Ethics

What will
we learn?

- **Ethics:** What exactly does that mean?
- What are the implications for chaplains?
- Applied ethics for chaplains
Examples



Ethics



WHAT IS ETHICS?



Ethics is a set of moral principles or rules that guide our behavior to determine what is right or wrong.

The purpose of chaplaincy ethics

Accountability:

Public trust:

Safety and well-being:

Core principles

Compassion and empathy:

Integrity and honesty:

Cultural and religious respect:

Professional boundaries:

Key ethical duties

Confidentiality:

Non-proselytizing:

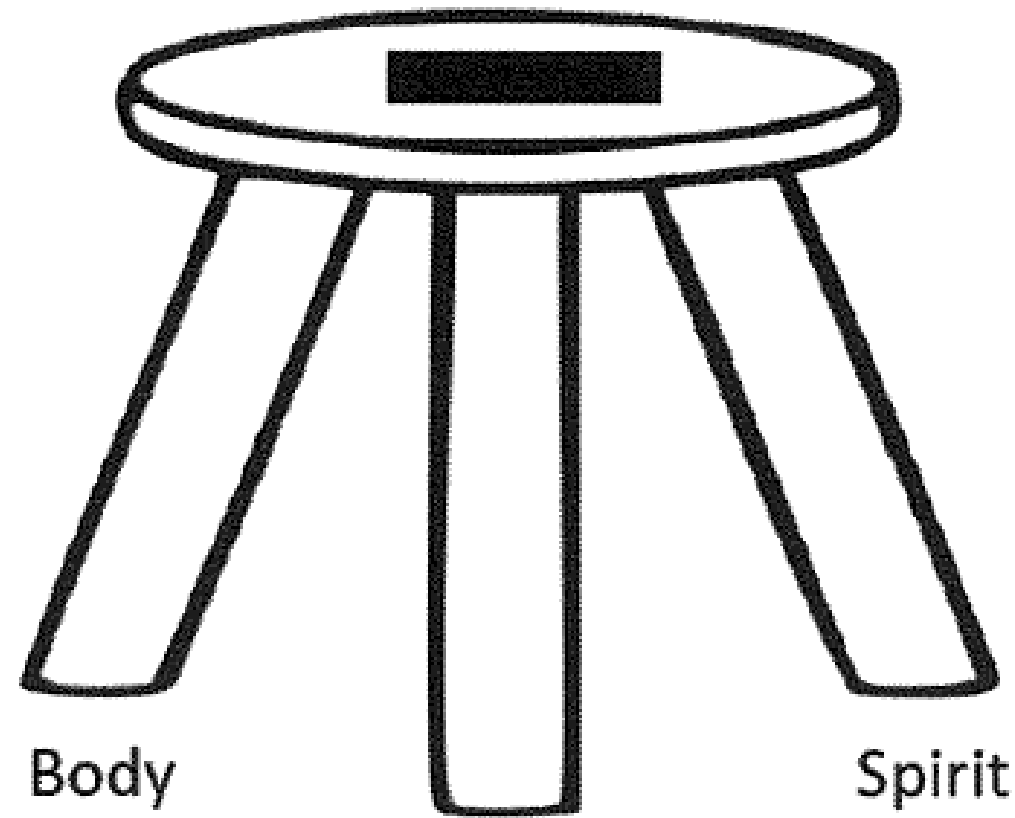
Competence:

Respect for autonomy:

Avoid exploitation:

VFW Chaplain Code of Ethics

1. Chaplains will demonstrate utmost personal and professional integrity: truthfulness, honesty, and compassion to those who they minister to.
2. Chaplains will provide an objective, appropriate, holistic support and a comforting presence.



Body

Mind

Spirit

VFW Chaplain Code of Ethics

3. Chaplains will not proselytize. Those who are cared for will be provided freedom from unwanted gifts of religious literature or symbols, evangelistic and sermonizing speech, or forced acceptance of specific moral values and traditions.

4. Chaplains will demonstrate sensitivity to all faith traditions and provide appropriate and sensitive spiritual care to all persons in need, irrespective of their religious or nonreligious identity.
5. Chaplains will not discriminate, with regards to their care, based on sex, age, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, disabilities, socioeconomic status, or any other factors that would hamper a person's ability to receive spiritual care.



6. Chaplains will, whenever possible, attempt to locate a spiritual leader within the faith tradition of an affected person, if needed.
7. Out of respect for those who are served, Chaplains will maintain confidentiality.
8. Chaplains recognize their personal and professional limits, know their boundaries and make referrals to professionals with appropriate expertise.
9. Chaplains will do no harm.



Additional Points

- ❖ Chaplains are volunteers and will take no monetary gifts from those who are served.
- ❖ Chaplains shall adhere to all applicable Codes of Ethical Standards as prescribed by the VFW



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any chaplain or minister, they must provide a dynamic and genuine ministry with a shepherd's heart. Whether leading worship, visiting a hospital, conducting a final farewell to our comrades, or even answering a phone call just to talk, *Chaplains* are always at the frontline of our veterans' lives.

Chaplains serve both God and country by bringing their unique gifts with which they are endowed by God, to the veterans of our nation in the broad, challenging, diverse, and ever changing environment.

Courtesy of Reverend Tom Darling (Past VFW National Chaplain)

BEING A CHAPLAIN

You were elected or appointed to the office of Post/District Chaplain.
You have an important responsibility to your Post/District.
Whether you have been selected for your religious training or past VFW experiences, you are expected to be the spiritual advisor to your organization and its members.

You are not expected to know everything but are expected to search for the answer and get back to the individual. Do not be afraid to ask questions when necessary. There are many ministers of faiths/denominations and chaplains that are willing to assist you. As you meet them, create a contact list and offer veteran/VFW/chaplain assistance when they need it. All will benefit from the experience.

Deborah Halter Past VFW National Chaplain

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Chaplain Dave Frei
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[Chaplain's Corner](#)(March)

Veterans Crisis Line

https://lotcs.org/vfw_chaplain.html

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
OF THE UNITED STATES

VFW Code of Ethics

- Also Includes personal conduct
- Accountability
- Conflict of interest

CODE OF ETHICS POLICY



2022-2023

AS APPROVED BY THE VFW, DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION

*Thank
You*
for your time





Questions?