

CACVSO Communicator
Legislative Advocate's article
July 2016

By Pete Conaty

9TH ANNUAL CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY VETERANS OF THE YEAR LUNCHEON

The 9th annual Veterans of the Year Luncheon was held at the Sacramento Convention Center on June 29, 2016. Each Assemblymember is given the opportunity to choose a veteran from their district to be honored for their military and community service.

This event was well attended with 66 Assemblymembers participating and 69 veterans honored. This year, almost 400 people attended this event. The Speaker of the California State Assembly, Anthony Rendon (D-Lakewood) made opening remarks and the keynote speaker was CalVet Secretary Vito Imbasciani M.D. The Veterans Recognition Luncheon is considered the premier Capitol veterans event.

The California Association of County Veterans Service Officers was a major sponsor of this event. CACVSO President Ted Puntillo represented the Association at the event.

This year, two of the veterans honored were from CVSO offices!

- Hannah Williamson, Butte County CVSO by Assemblyman James Gallagher (R-Plumas Lake)
- Ralph Duarte, Riverside County VSR by Assemblyman Eduardo Garcia (D-Coachella)

Congratulations to Hannah and Ralph for a job well done and the great work you do for veterans every day!

Other CVSO's have been honored at past Veterans of the Year Luncheons:

- Ted Puntillo-Solano County
- Floyd Martin-Amador County (retired)
- Joe Wright-Kings County (retired)



L to R: Assemblyman Gallagher, Hannah Williamson, and local Butte County veteran Butch Frederickson at the Veterans Luncheon



L to R: Ralph Duarte and Assemblyman Eduardo Garcia at Veterans Luncheon



President Ted Puntillo and Kathy Puntillo at Veterans Luncheon