

**Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations**  
**Conference at the General Assembly**  
**January 19, 2009**

The Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations (the JLC) held a conference at the General Assembly Building (morning) and the State Capitol (afternoon) on Monday, January 19, 2009. No business was conducted. Members and alternates were asked to sign in, but no roll was called.

**Members and Alternate Members Present**

Jim Aucoin, *AMVETS*  
Daniel Boyer, *Veterans of Foreign Wars*  
Vince Burgess, *Commissioner of Veterans Services*  
Mike Coleman, *Virginia National Guard Association*  
John Cooper, *AMVETS*  
John Dozier, *Korean War Veterans Association*  
Frank Driscoll, *Navy Seabee Veterans of America*  
Wes Edwards, *MOAA*  
Paul Galanti, *Chairman, Board of Veterans Services*  
Carmen Gentile, *Reserve Officers Association*  
Don Kaiserman, *MOAA*  
David Martinez, *Disabled American Veterans*  
Connie O'Neill, *American Legion*  
Thomas Stephen, *Reserve Officers Association*  
Bill Townsley, *Military Order of the World Wars*  
John Velleca, *Virginia National Guard Association*  
Sam Wilder, *AUSA*

**Others Present**

Steven Combs, *Department of Veterans Services*  
Stanley Crow, *AUSA*  
Ed Dauks, *AUSA*  
Kristen DiGirolamo, *Department of Military Affairs*  
Jack Hilgers, *Department of Veterans Services*  
Henry Goodrich, *Virginia National Guard Association*  
Robert Huffman, *Virginia National Guard Association*  
Carl Matney, *AUSA*  
Bob Sempek, *AUSA*  
Isabell Slifer, *AUSA*  
Hugh Sproul, *AUSA*  
Joe Torintino, *MOAA*  
Mark Widner, *Virginia National Guard Association*  
Cindy Wright, *AUSA*

The conference opened at 9:00 a.m. in the General Assembly Building, Conference Room 5 East. Elected officials from the legislative branch of state government addressed the JLC. Discussion covered the JLC 2009 Legislative Objectives and budget constraints.

Elected officials who spoke during the morning were:

- Senator Ralph Northam
- Delegate John Cosgrove
- Delegate Joe Bouchard
- Delegate Bill Howell, Speaker of the House
- Delegate Kirk Cox
- Delegate Mark Cole
- Delegate Vivian Watts
- Delegate Algie Howell
- Delegate Mamye BaCote
- Delegate Bill Janis
- Senator Frank Wagner
- Senator Walter Stosch

Commissioner Vince Burgess also spoke during the morning session.

The morning session of the conference ended at 11:00 a.m. Members met with individual delegates and senators and visited the Capitol Building. Several members took advantage of the opportunity to view the House and Senate sessions from the viewing gallery. The JLC was recognized by Senator Ralph Northam and Delegate John Cosgrove during the “Morning Hour” of their respective sessions.

Free time was available for the JLC members to eat lunch on their own.

The JLC conference reconvened at 1:30 p.m. in House Room 2 of the State Capitol. The attendees were joined by about 18 members of the Disabled American Veterans representing several chapters from around the Commonwealth.

Afternoon speakers were:

- JLC Chairman Dan Boyer, who recapped the morning session
- Deputy Secretary of Public Safety Marilyn Harris, representing Governor Tim Kaine
- Lieutenant Governor Bill Bolling
- Attorney General Bob McDonnell

The afternoon session of the conference ended at 3 p.m. Several JLC members took a tour of the Capitol. Throughout the conference, Stan Crow of the AUSA provided outstanding photographic coverage.