



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Northern Virginia Chamber Announces the 2019 Distinguished Service Award Winners**

**Tysons, Va.** –The [Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce](http://www.novachamber.org) (Northern Virginia Chamber) is pleased to announce the winners of the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Distinguished Service Awards.

The Distinguished Service Awards honor those who have made meaningful contributions to help veterans succeed. The awards include: **Veteran-Owned Business of the Year** in three categories, **Veteran Employee of the Year**, **Veteran Service Organization of the Year**, and the **Lifetime Distinguished Service Award**.

**The 2019 Distinguished Service Award winners are:**

**Veteran-Owned Business of the Year:**

- **Emerging** (less than 5 years in business)
  - RavenTek
- **Maturing** (between 5 and 10 years in business)
  - OBXtek, Inc.
- **Established** (more than 10 years in business)
  - Intelligent Waves LLC

**Veteran Employee of the Year (co-winners):**

- Gene Hammond, iDirect Government
- Herbert Valle, Axiologic Solutions LLC

**Veteran Service Organization of the Year:**

- Operation Second Chance
- PenFed Foundation – **Honorable Mention**

**Lifetime Distinguished Service Award:**

- Phillip Panzarella, Easterseals DC MD VA

“Congratulations to the 2019 Distinguished Service Award winners for this well-deserved achievement,” said Julie Coons, Northern Virginia Chamber President and CEO. “Veteran businesses and organizations form community stewardship and business leadership that enriches the lives of Veterans and civilians alike in the Greater Washington region.”



"The Greater Washington region united to recognize Veteran-Owned businesses, Veteran employees, and Veteran service organizations for their contributions to the greater business community," said Ben Rodgers and Bob Eisiminger, co-chairs of Northern Virginia Chamber's Veteran and Military Business Council. "It is a privilege and an honor to congratulate the winners of the 2019 Distinguished Service Awards for their meaningful efforts to grow the regional economy."

The nomination period for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Distinguished Service Awards will open summer 2020. More information about the 2019 Distinguished Service Awards can be found [here](#). Follow the conversation on Twitter @NovaChamber with hashtags: #DSA2019.

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**About the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce:** *The Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce (Northern Virginia Chamber), The Voice of Business in Northern Virginia™, is the preeminent Northern Virginia membership organization for businesses to grow through relationship building and partnership engagement throughout the Greater Washington region. 700 organizations and 500,000 employees strong, the Northern Virginia Chamber is the largest chamber of commerce in Northern Virginia and has been working hand-in-hand with regional businesses, government, and academia to build a robust and innovative business community for more than 90 years. To learn more about the Northern Virginia Chamber, please visit <http://www.novachamber.org> and follow the Northern Virginia Chamber on Twitter: [@NOVACHamber](#) and [@NOVACHamber CEO](#).*