

# Dept. of MN VFW, Charitable Association

## Military Family Vehicle Donation Program

In January, 2023 the MN VFW thru the MN VFW Charitable Association joined in a partnership with LaMettry's Collision to award a free refurbished vehicle to a veteran or family of a veteran who has demonstrated a need for a vehicle.

Each Memorial Day, LaMettry's Collision has awarded thirteen "like new" vehicles since 2012 at no cost and with no strings attached. These vehicles are initially donated by an auto insurance company who has totaled them out as the result of motor vehicle crashes. LaMettry's Collision, in cooperation with other partners who donate parts and materials, restores these vehicles to a near new condition before they are awarded. They provide all of the labor and the title transfer costs.

The MN VFW Charitable Association acting on behalf of the MN VFW gathers all of the information provided by an applicant, reviews each for accuracy, selects at least ten based on need and passes the application form on to LaMettry's Collision where the final selection is made.

Each VFW post and County Veteran Service Office is the focal point in their community for veterans. They are asked to look within their community for veterans who need assistance; who need a vehicle for everyday life; who need a vehicle to help other in their community; who need a vehicle to help them in their community volunteer activities.

Each application must include a copy of the veteran's DD-214 Discharge Paper to verify that they are a veteran and that they were honorably discharged. The DD-214 is NOT forwarded on to LaMettry's Collision and is destroyed after the vehicle is awarded.

Here is the timetable for this year:

- Applications are submitted between October 1, 2024 and January 15, 2025.
- The Charitable Association reviews and send potential candidates by March 1, 2025
- LaMettry's Collision will award the next vehicle in May 2025.
- Applications and DD-214s are to be sent to: Minnesota VFW Charitable Association, PO Box 17146, St. Paul, MN 55117

Questions, contact: Ken Schroepfer, President, Minnesota VFW Charitable Association

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