



FILMING AND PHOTOGRAPHY POLICY AT VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICES CEMETERIES

Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS) Communications staff or Cemetery management retains the right to approve, disapprove or halt filming or photography that interferes with normal cemetery operations, violates a family's expressed desire for privacy or depicts DVS inaccurately and/or Veterans negatively. Political or partisan activities of any nature, including filming of campaign ads, are not permitted on cemetery grounds.

NEWS MEDIA / PUBLIC / FAMILY MEMBERS

Filming by the media or private production companies must be approved by the DVS Communications Director (804-786-0286).

Our basic responsibility is to protect the integrity of the resources for which we, DVS, are ultimately responsible, and to avoid conflict with the public's normal use of our facilities.

Filming or photography within the cemetery will not interfere with normal cemetery operations, disrupt the peaceful ambiance of the cemetery, or violate a family's expressed desire for privacy.

Filming or photography of individual headstones and markers, committal services and burials by family members, the news media or the public will be allowed if done in a respectful manner.

News media should contact the DVS Communications Director (804-786-0286) in advance to conduct a news story or to cover a committal service or interment.

Restrictions on news media may be implemented by communications or cemetery staff in order to comply with the wishes of family members, to maintain decorum or enforce DVS policy.

ENTERTAINMENT / COMMERCIAL REQUESTS

Filming or photography for entertainment or commercial purposes is permitted under limited circumstances.

The film company must contact the DVS Communications Director (804-786-0286) in advance to request permission and schedule the date/time of the filming.

Must have a licensed drone operator and show the license, if using a drone to film.

Must show FAA clearance to operate in the airspace.

Must sign a DVS filming agreement before filming may begin.

Filming or photography within the cemetery will not interfere with normal cemetery operations, disrupt the peaceful ambiance of the cemetery, or violate a family's expressed desire for privacy.

DVS reserves the right to document filming activities at DVS cemeteries for preservation, training and publicity purposes.