



**THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON**

March 28, 2016

**MEMORANDUM FOR UNDER SECRETARIES, ASSISTANT SECRETARIES, AND  
OTHER KEY OFFICIALS**

**SUBJECT: Delegation of Authority for Naming of VA National Cemeteries**

**1. DELEGATION.**

- a. This memorandum delegates to the Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, or the individual acting in or exercising the responsibilities of that position, the authority to name national cemeteries, in accordance with the Secretary's delegation authority under 38 United States Code (U.S.C.) Section 512. Such authority is limited by the requirement in 38 U.S.C. 531 that, unless otherwise provided by law, any facility, structure, or real property of the Department be named only for the geographic area in which the facility, structure, or real property is located.
- b. This delegation creates efficiency in the establishment of national cemeteries and promotes advocacy for Veterans and their loved ones.

**2. AUTHORITY.** 38 U.S.C. § 512; 38 U.S.C. § 531

**3. RESTRICTIONS.** None.

**4. REDELEGATION.** The Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, or the individual acting in or exercising the responsibilities of that position, may not further delegate this authority.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This delegation of authority is effective upon signature and will expire 2 years after the date delegated.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert A. McDonald".

Robert A. McDonald