



**The Richard H. Stewart, Jr.
American Legion Post # 543
St. James, NC 28461**

PRESS RELEASE

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American Legion Post 543..... Show Me The Money!

Often, the Legionnaires of American Legion Post 543 are asked, “Where do the contributions go?” This is a valid question which needs a thoughtful response to all those who donate their hard-earned money to the Post. The American Legion has an obligation to assist veterans and their families in need. We take this charge very seriously. A majority of the funds donated by the citizens and businesses of Brunswick County goes to assisting veterans and their families. The reality of the situation in Brunswick County is that it is difficult to identify veterans in need. We are in close contact with various civic and military organizations to identify veterans who need assistance. Once they have been identified, we do everything possible to ensure the assistance is warranted and, once substantiated, provide both financial and emotional support. We are always looking to do more. Our assistance to veterans is not limited to the boundaries of our county. We have reached out to make contributions to worthwhile national veteran’s charities to help the families of our fallen comrades, the wounded warriors of our society, and our service men and women in need. Some examples of our efforts in this regard are contributions made by our Post to organizations such as Special Operations Warrior Foundation, Operation Comfort Warriors, Operation North State, and Partner for American Veteran Education, Task Force Dagger Foundation, Operation at Ease, and the Wounded Warrior Battalion–East at Camp Lejeune. There are many

worthwhile national organizations created to help veterans and their families. Unfortunately, some of these organizations are using the veterans as a pawn to further their own agenda at the expense of providing assistance to veterans in need. The Richard H. Stewart, Jr. American Legion Post 543 researches these organizations to ensure the money donated by our patriotic citizens is utilized to help our soldiers, marines, sailors, airmen, and coast guardsman. If you are inclined to make a donation to the Post, rest assured the majority of these funds will be used to support our veterans and their families. There is no organization that does not have a cost associated with doing business. Our Post is no different. However, we try very hard to keep our administrative costs down as low as practicable.

American Legion Post 543 not only supports the veterans but also does its best to promote Americanism, National Security, Children, and Youth. We do this through a series of programs and activities required by our charter.

American Legion Post 543 has repeatedly demonstrated our willingness to help veterans and the citizens of Brunswick County who desperately need our help. Through the generous contributions of our donors we are able to do this. We thank all those who have supported us during our 5-year existence and hope they will continue to provide needed financial support so we can carry on our mission of assisting veterans and the citizens of Brunswick County.