

# *Congressional Gold Medal*

## WREATH LAYING CEREMONY



*Salute to WWII Women's Army Corps  
6888th Central Postal  
Directory Battalion*

**Sunday March 27, 2022 at 2 pm**

**INGLEWOOD PARK CEMETARY**

# *Ceremony*

## **POSTING OF COLORS**

DIEGO RUGERIO

ANDREA RAMOS

BRIONNA HOLDEN

ROSEMARY ZERMENO

(WASHINGTON PREP HIGH SCHOOL JROTC)

UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF JOHN WILLIAMS, JR., 1SG (RET)

## **NATIONAL ANTHEM SONG BY**

AUDRA JEFFERSON

AVIATION STRUCTURAL MECHANIC

*NAVY VETERAN*

## **INVOCATION**

PASTOR BYRON L. SMITH SR.

GETHSEMANE CHRISTIAN LOVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

## **WELCOME**

DR. FELICIA A. BANKS, PH.D., ARMY (RET)

CHAIR OF NAACP LOS ANGELES BRANCH

ARMED SERVICES AND VETERAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE



**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUEST**

LATIA SUTTLE, CW2 (RET)  
CHAIR OF NAACP BEVERLY HILLS HOLLYWOOD &  
VICE CHAIR OF CA-HI STATE NAACP  
ARMED SERVICES AND VETERAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**6888TH ROAD TO THE GOLD**

IRMA COOPER, COL (RET)  
VICE PRESIDENT & CHAIR OF NAACP SAN GABRIEL VALLEY  
ARMED SERVICES AND VETERAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**MUSICAL SELECTION**

*A CHANGE IS GONNA COME*  
AUDRA JEFFERSON  
SOLOIST  
*NAVY VETERAN*

**INTRODUCTION OF THE MAYOR OF INGLEWOOD**

DR. FELICIA A. BANKS, PH.D  
HOST  
*ARMY VETERAN*

**SPECIAL REMARKS BY**

JAMES T. BUTTS  
MAYOR OF INGLEWOOD



## **HARPIST SELECTION**

ELAINE LITSTER

## **KEYNOTE SPEAKER INTRO**

ANTWANISHA WILLIAMSON

CHAIR OF CA-HI STATE NAACP- ARMED SERVICES AND VETERAN AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE  
*NAVY VETERAN*

## **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

VIRGINIA WIMMER

DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR WOMEN VETERANS AFFAIRS AT THE  
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
*AIR FORCE VETERAN*

## **POEM**

*I AM NOT INVISIBLE*

DAPHNE "DEE" WRIGHT

CERS, HUD-VASH PROJECT BASED, CERTIFIED PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST  
*NAVY VETERAN*

## **REMARKS BY DISTINGUISHED GUEST & FAMILY MEMBERS**

3 MINS REMARKS

## **DOVE RELEASE**





## **WREATH LAYING**

JOHN WILLIAMS, JR., 1SG (RET)  
JAMES T. BUTTS, MAYOR OF INGLEWOOD  
FOR LYDIA ESTHER THORNTON MOORE  
PINEVIEW, LOT 288 GRAVE D

IRMA COOPER, COL (RET)  
1SG (RET) JOHN WILLIAMS, JR.  
FOR ETHEL CHRISTINA LOVING HENDERSON  
PINEVIEW, LOT 649, GRAVE B

LATIA SUTTLE, CW2 (RET)  
FOR ELIZABETH EASTMAN  
CHERRY BLOSSOM, LOT 300, GRAVE C

LATIA SUTTLE, CW2 (RET)  
FOR ANNIE LEE PROCTOR REED  
SUNSET MISSION MAUSOLEUM, SANCTUARY OF ANGELS, CRYPT 1425



## **BENEDICTION**

PASTOR BYRON L. SMITH SR.  
GETHSEMANE CHRISTIAN LOVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

## **MUSICAL SELECTIONS**

*BLACK NATIONAL ANTHEM*  
AUDRA JEFFERSON  
SOLOIST  
*NAVY VETERAN*

## **CEREMONY DISMISSAL**



## **SPECIAL THANKS TO**

THE FAMILIES OF THE 6888TH

ALVA STEVENSON (LYDIA THORNTON)

ROSENDA MOORE (LYDIA THORNTON)

DR. ALNITA DUNN (JEWEL RETTIG)

AMBER MESHACK (LENA KING CURRENTLY RESIDING IN LAS VEGAS, NV)

INGLEWOOD PARK CEMETARY

KEVIN BROWN, SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT OF PARK OPERATIONS AND  
CONSTRUCTION

RENE NEGRET, SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT OF SALES AND MARKETING

PAMELA GARCIA, MANAGER / CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT  
INGLEWOOD PARK CEMETERY

JAMES T. BUTTS, MAYOR OF INGLEWOOD

6888TH CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL BILL CO-SPONSORS

KAREN BASS, CONGRESSWOMAN

MAXINE WATERS, CONGRESSWOMAN

VIRGINIA WIMMER, DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR CALVET  
WOMEN VETERAN AFFAIRS

### **CEREMONY SPONSORS**

NAACP BEVERLY HILLS/ HOLLYWOOD #1027  
NAACP SAN GABRIEL VALLEY #1066  
WOMEN IN SERVICE - LA CHAPTER  
NATIONAL ACTION NETWORK  
TITUS & IRMA COOPER  
LATIA SUTTLE  
ANTWANISHA WILLIAMSON  
DR. FELICIA A. BANKS, PH.D

### **SPECIAL GRATITUDE**

PAULETTE GIPSON  
NAACP COMPTON BRANCH #1031  
PRESIDENT

LORI CONDINUS  
NATIONAL ACTION NETWORK

### **DISTINGUISHED GUEST**

CAROLYN FOWLER  
CNFDW STATE PRESIDENT  
CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE-VICE CHAIR

AIMEE PILA-BROVA  
SO CAL GRANT MAKERS  
DIRECTOR

JUANITA DOPLEMORE  
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MILITARY WOMEN OF COLOR  
(I.AM.WOC)  
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

MARNISHA MINTLOW  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN  
MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE LOS ANGELES SECTION- PRESIDENT  
*MARINE CORPS VETERAN*



# *Distinguished Guest, Continue*

**VIRGINIA WIMMER**  
DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR CALVET  
WOMEN VETERAN AFFAIRS



**JAMES T. BUTTS**  
MAYOR OF INGLEWOOD

**IRMA COOPER, COL (RET)**  
6888TH ROAD TO THE GOLD









**This ceremony was hosted by**

DR. FELICIA A. BANKS, PH.D

*US ARMY (RET)*

IRMA COOPER, COL

*US ARMY (RET)*

LATIA SUTTLE, CW2

*US ARMY (RET)*

# *SPONSORS*

