



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ADVOCACY**
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Miami-Dade Military Affairs Advisory Board joins the French Consulate in Miami to honor 102-year-old-WWII Veteran Raymond Surette

MIAMI – The [Military Affairs Advisory Board \(MAB\)](#) joins French Consul General Raphael Trapp in the recognition of U.S. Veteran, Raymond Surette, SGT, Army Air Corps, who participated in the liberation of France during World War II. Surette will receive the insignia of “Knight in the Legion of Honor” at the age of 102. District Commissioner Kionne McGhee who is also MAB’s Chairman will attend the tribute ceremony at 10:30 a.m., on Monday, May 8 at the Miami-Dade Military Museum and Memoria (Zoo Miami), 12460 SW 152nd Street, Miami, FL 33177.

Raymond Surette was born on May 12, 1920, in Rumford, Maine. Drafted into the U.S. Army in February 1943, he was assigned to the 826th Bombardment Squadron in the Army Air Corps. After a first instruction at the Miami Beach Training Center, he completed advanced training in Colorado and Michigan on gunsight, loading bombs, and turret gunnery. As a marksman and a tower turret and gunsight mechanic, Surette participated in the main battles taking place in Europe. From April 1944 onward, he fought in France aboard B-24 Heavy Bombers. He took part of the liberation of Northern France and Southern France. He also served in the North Apennines and in the Battle of Rhineland. Surette resides in Homestead, Florida.

MAB provides the Board of County Commissioners with recommendations regarding military affairs in Miami-Dade County specific to the Marine Corps, Army, Navy, Air Force, National Guard Reserves and Coast Guard (collectively “Armed Forces”) and active, reserve, retired, disabled and deceased military personnel in Miami-Dade County.

Miami-Dade County provides equal access and equal opportunity in its programs, services, employment, and activities and does not discriminate based on disability. For more information or to request materials in accessible format, sign language interpreters, CART services, and/or any accommodation to participate in any County-sponsored program or meeting, please contact Executive Director of Military and Veteran Affairs [Gustavo Cruz](#) at 305-375-4493.

WHO: Military Affairs Advisory Board and French Consulate in Miami
WHAT: Tribute to 102-year-old-WWII Veteran Raymond Surette – Knighting in the Legion of Honor
WHEN: At 10:30 a.m., Monday, May 8 (four days before his 103rd birthday)
WHERE: Miami-Dade Military Museum and Memoria (Zoo Miami), 12460 SW 152nd Street, Miami, FL 33177.

The Military Affairs Board is one of the 13 advisory boards/council/program in the [Office of Community Advocacy](#), a division under the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners. The Office is charged with making Miami-Dade County “One Community” that embraces our diverse and unique population. Subscribe to our [YouTube](#) channel and follow @AdvocacyMDC on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).