

**Military Chaplains Association of
the United States of America
National Institute
and Annual Meeting 2026**
chartered by the United States Congress
101 years of continuous service

**Venue – Embassy Suites by Hilton
San Antonio Riverwalk Downtown
San Antonio, Texas
August 6 and 7, 2026**

Wednesday, 5 August

**1745 (optional) Welcome Reception
open to all, gratis MCA Hospitality Suite
(location TBD)**

The Institute and Meeting begin

Thursday, 6 August

0900-1200 Veteran Military Friendly
Congregation (VMFC) Symposium:
Ways for congregations to be
welcoming places for currently
serving service members (Active,
Reserve, Guard) and their families,
retirees and veterans. (*ticketed event*)

Go to the MCA website, <http://www.mca-usa.org>, and then to the VMFC tab for additional information on the program. This is open to all attendees, as well as local San Antonio Executives and Clergy.

1200- 1330 Lunch on your own

Thursday continued

1330-1730 Federal Chaplaincy Presentations (main meeting room)
(ticketed event)

1330 - Chaplaincy at Dover Mortuary Affairs

Chaplain John Reutemann, USAF
Senior Chaplain, Dover Mortuary Affairs

1445 - Compassion Fatigue and Compassion Satisfaction

Chaplain Christina Douglas, USAR

1600 - From Hanoi Hilton to Seminary to Air Force Chaplaincy

Chaplain Robert Certain USAF,
Retired, author of *Unchained Eagle*:

From Prisoner of War to Prisoner of Christ

Friday, 7 August 0830 – 1230 (*ticketed events*)

0830 - A Brief History of the Armed Forces Chaplains Board and The Role of the Executive Director

Chaplain Karen Meeker, USA

0945 - Best Practices for RPs/RASs

RP1 Therese Julien, USN

1030 - Visible Identification for RASs/RPs in Crisis Situations

Staff Sergeant (Promotable)
Nathan Skinner, ARNG

1145 - Senior Enlisted Leaders RASs/RPs Updates

12:30 Lunch on your own

1400 – 1700 (*ticketed events*)

**1400 MCA Annual Memorial
Service**

1430 MCA Annual Meeting

**1530 Chief Chaplains/
SELS/VA/BOP leaders meet with Service
Chaplains/RASs/RPs/other attendees**

**1800 Gathering Time for Awards
Banquet (Service Dress) *(ticketed
event)***

**1830 Awards Dinner (Service
Dress) *(ticketed event)***

**The 2026 MCA National Institute
and Annual Meeting
concludes with the benediction
following the banquet.**

***We appreciate your attendance and
dedication to federal chaplaincy.
We also thank our sponsors and the
chaplain community in San Antonio
Texas for their support and
contributions.***