

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Indianapolis, Indiana
May 10-11, 2017**

Resolution No. 30: Distinguished Service Medal

Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

Submitted by: Internal Affairs Commission

WHEREAS, The American Legion created the American Legion Distinguished Service Medal and has authorized its award to distinguished individuals and organizations in recognition of their outstanding service to the nation and programs of The American Legion; and

WHEREAS, It is in keeping with the principles, purposes and traditions of this award that it now be bestowed upon an individual who during his continual years of public service has actively served community, state and nation in an exemplary manner; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Apostolos P. Georgopoulos, studied medicine and physiology at the University of Athens in Greece where he obtained his M.D. and Ph.D. degrees; and

WHEREAS, He was trained in neurophysiology at Johns Hopkins where he ascended the faculty ranks and was promoted to Professor of Neuroscience along with being a member of the Philip Bard Laboratories of Neurophysiology at the Department of Neuroscience; and

WHEREAS, The position of The American Legion Brain Sciences Chair was created by the efforts and generosity of the Minnesota American Legion Family who raised over one million dollars to endow this position to promote research, teaching and treatment of brain diseases and disorders; and

WHEREAS, In 1991, Dr. Georgopoulos accepted The American Legion Brain Sciences Chair at the University of Minnesota and is director of the Brain Science Center at the Minneapolis Veterans Administration Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, Under the direction of Dr. Georgopoulos, researchers at the Brian Sciences Center are studying post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), Gulf War Illness, Alzheimer's Disease, schizophrenia, alcoholism, and areas of the brain involved with movement, timing and cognitive processes; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Georgopoulos has worked to ascertain specific brain biomarkers and brain functions so that accurate and precise diagnoses of PTSD can be made by physicians regarding an often very serious psychiatric disorder that can pose a lifetime risk for as many as seven percent of all adults worldwide, including military members and veterans as well as civilians; and

WHEREAS, Timely and correct PTSD diagnoses can help ensure that proper and effective treatments can be administered as soon as possible after diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Georgopoulos is the McKnight Presidential Chair in Cognitive Neurosciences and Professor of Neuroscience, Neurology and Psychiatry and has also ascended to be Regents Professor of Neuroscience at the University of Minnesota (the university's highest faculty honor); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 10-11, 2017, That the 2017 Distinguished Service Medal of The American Legion be presented to Apostolos P. Georgopoulos, MD, PhD.