

## Nabvets Charter New Chapter in Albuquerque

By  
Jul 10, 2008 - 1:07:24 AM

[Click here to follow the link:](#)

[http://www.nmperspectiveonline.com/artman2/publish/news/Nabvets\\_Charter\\_New\\_Chapter\\_in\\_Albuquerque10083.shtml](http://www.nmperspectiveonline.com/artman2/publish/news/Nabvets_Charter_New_Chapter_in_Albuquerque10083.shtml)

[Digg this story!](#)  [Email this article](#)  [Printer friendly page](#) 



Regional Commander Harvey Brooks, of Seattle, WA, 3rd from the left, with the New Mexico Black Veterans Association

NABVETS, the National Association of Black Veterans, is a nationally certified Veterans Service Organization and a United States Department of Veterans Affairs claims representative for the purpose of benefits and discharge upgrade services. It is also a membership organization with chapters throughout the United States, Puerto Rico and Guam. NABVETS led several campaigns to bridge the void for mainstream services to all low-income and homeless veterans, as well as Black veterans. Since inception in 1969, NABVETS has provided direct services

to over 65,000 veterans and acted on behalf of over 240,000 veterans - primarily of the Vietnam and post-Vietnam era.

A new NABVET Chapter was chartered in Albuquerque on April 25, 2008 when Regional Commander Harvey Brooks, of Seattle, WA, conducted the installation ceremony for eight officers as the leaders of the new Albuquerque, NM NABVET Chapter #0048. The swearing-in ceremony was held at the MCM Elegante Hotel on Menaul Blvd.

During the ceremonies, the distinguished guests James B. Lewis, NM State Treasurer, and Joe Thergood, Deputy Secretary for the NM Department of Veteran Services, were present to help the men and women of Chapter 0048 celebrate the chartering. Several members of the Black Veteran Association of New Mexico were also on hand to congratulate members of the new Chapter and discuss a partnering and support relationship moving forward.

"I am proud to welcome these leaders into NABVETS. At the national and regional level, we have long awaited and encouraged the formation of a chapter in New Mexico. Albuquerque will be proud to have such a fine group serving their community and we look for strong growth in this state," said Region 1 Commander, Harvey Brooks.

The Albuquerque NABVETS plans to become involved with providing benefit claims service to all veterans, helping homeless veterans and their families, and promoting youth development through educational and sports programs, as well as connecting other veterans to the national organization through membership and establishing new chapters in New Mexico.

The Albuquerque NABVETS will meet on the last Friday of the Month at 5pm. NABVETS are a group of men and women who identify veteran and youth needs within the community and work together to fulfill those needs. For more information or to get involved with the NABVETS, please contact Dr. Darlene Collins at 505-798-2673 or [www.nabvets.com](http://www.nabvets.com).

### ***The names of those who assumed officer positions are as follows:***

Darlene D. Collins, PhD, Chapter Commander; Johnny E. Lewis, Vice Commander; Ray A. Collins, MS.Ed., Jr. Vice Commander; Darry Cross, Finance Officer; Thomas Ware, Acting Adjutant; Jessie Anzures, Legislative Officer; Lanthia L. Gillespie, Chaplin; Van Sanders, Sergeant at Arms