

16 April 2016

To: George Washington Chapter, WSSAR

From: Russell P. Oliver (NSSAR #187844), Flag Award Chair, George Washington Chapter, WSSAR

Subject: NSSAR Flag Certificate Citation, Verizon Pacific Northwest and Sterling Telecommunications and Construction, Inc.

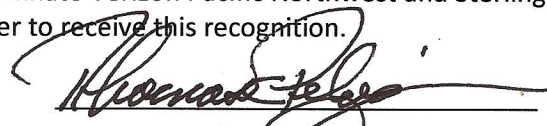
This Citation is submitted in support of the nomination of Verizon Pacific Northwest and Sterling Telecommunications and Construction, Inc., to receive the NSSAR Certificate of Commendation in recognition of their exemplary patriotism in the display of the flag of the United States of America.


If you travel the I-5 corridor north of Everett, WA, you can't miss the large and prominent US flag display located near Dagmar's Marina. But in fact, the flagpole is a stealth design for a Verizon wireless cell tower. The City of Everett specifically requested a stealth design for this location, and Verizon opted for their tallest monopole flagpole design, at 154 feet in height, with a 20x30 foot American flag. Initially installed in June of 2005, this flag display is a part of an active wireless tower, and the Dagmar's tower location is an important wireless tower for Verizon's coverage in Washington. Verizon currently has 8 flagpole stealth towers installed in our state (7 of which fly the US flag, one the WA state flag), but the Dagmar's tower is the only 154 foot design and the 20x30 flag on display there is the largest of the US flags Verizon currently displays. The Dagmar's tower flag display is a true source of inspiration and pride for the entire Everett area, and the thousands of those viewing the flag as they travel through the area on I-5.


When municipalities request a stealth flagpole cell tower design, Verizon proudly takes on the costs to install and properly maintain the flags on each display. The Dagmar's tower location has a dedicated Verizon Technician and a Sterling Telecommunications and Construction general contractor team who maintains both the tower and the flag display. The Verizon technician assigned to Dagmar's tower is John Clark (prior military, 4 years active in the Air Force, and 17 years in the Air National Guard), who cares for the flag display and attends to half-staff and full-staff flag notifications from his Manager, Brad Adams. All of this in addition to their Verizon duties! With our aggressive Northwest weather, and Verizon's pride in the condition of their flag displays, the flag at Dagmar's tower is typically replaced 3-4 times a year. Verizon also recently replaced the rope and pulley system for the flag display, again at their own expense. There is always a spare flag on hand, just in case a replacement is needed quickly. All this care and attention, and we in the community rarely know that the Dagmar's tower flag display is a Verizon wireless tower, or about Verizon and Sterling Telecommunications and Construction working behind the scenes maintaining the flag there.

Verizon's 600 square foot US flag display at the Dagmar's tower location is a powerful visual reminder to all, especially younger Americans, of those who came before us and how bright the future can be for generations to come in the greatest nation on Earth. In addition, Verizon's and Sterling's pride in the care and maintenance of the Dagmar's tower flag display, at Verizon's expense, is meticulous and commendable. It is my honor to nominate Verizon Pacific Northwest and Sterling Telecommunications and Construction, Inc., for consideration by our chapter to receive this recognition.

Approved by Chapter Acclamation, 16 April 2016 chapter meeting


Chapter President


Chapter Vice President


Chapter Flag Award Chair