

DIGNITY CLAUSE

Respect for Headstones and Markers in National Cemeteries

Handling of Markers and Headstones

Every action by contractor personnel at a national cemetery must be performed with the special care, reverence, dignity, and respect that acknowledges the cemetery as the final resting place that commemorates the service and sacrifice that service members, Veterans and their families made for our Nation. Critically important is the awareness required of the Contractor employees of the remains buried in the grounds where the work is performed. The utmost care must be given to these remains and the headstones and flat grave markers that mark those gravesites and memorialize the service of individuals.

- a. Contractors cannot walk, stand, lean, sit or jump on headstones or markers. Nor can they drive over them.
- b. No tools, equipment or other items will be placed or leaned on headstones or markers.
- c. Use care not to scratch or damage markers in any manner.
- d. Contractor shall be responsible for replacing damaged headstones and markers and for restoring turf damaged during performance of this work.
- e. Additionally, should any activity result in the exposure and/or damage to any remains, container for remains (e.g., casket or urn), or outer burial container, the contractor must contact the COR, Director/Assistant Director, or Contracting Officer (CO) for guidance.

Any doubts as to proper procedures shall be brought to the attention of the COR, Director/Assistant Director, or CO for guidance or resolution.

The contractor is required to discuss the guidance with employees and/or subcontractors.

(End of Clause)