

Date: March 30, 2012 9:02:14 PM EDT

Never get your facts from anonymous chain e-mail. It is always wrong. Especially when you are told how to vote and where to buy. This one is a rehash of false assertions circulating since 05.

For instance, Charity Navagator rates UNICEF 4 stars, with 90.3% of their funds going to program expenses instead of 4.4%, higher than any of those touted by the e-mail. The CEO is listed with a salary of \$407,601, not \$1.9 million. All expenses are not payed and the CEO and others insist none have access to a limo.

<http://www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=4617>

Snopes rates this email, like the earlier versions, as mostly outdated and inaccurate. That is being very charitable. They gave it a complete fact check and found everything in this chain e-mail is factually wrong. It appears to be a very manipulative way to sell a product, attempting to knock out the competition with lies. I get calls from paid professional fund raisers from veteran groups all the time, and they are paid for results.

According to the most recent available filings, all of these statements are false and/or misleading (in large part because the National Commanders are not necessarily the top business executives of these organizations):

The two men who served as National Commander of the American Legion during the 2009 tax year (David Rehbein and Clarence Hill) received total aggregate compensation of \$103,701. The American Legion's National Adjutant (Daniel Wheeler), who is described as "the administrative head of the organization," received \$201,661 in total compensation.

The two men who served as the Veterans of Foreign Wars' Commander-in-Chief during the 2009 tax year (Glen M. Gardner, Jr. and Thomas J.Tradewell, Sr.) received an aggregate total compensation of \$329,868.

In the 2009 tax year, the National Adjutant of Disabled American Veterans (Arthur H. Wilson), who is described as "serving as the DAV's chief executive officer," received a total compensation of \$328,252.

The Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) is a separate entity from the Military Order of the Purple Heart Service Foundation (MOPHSF), although the former is largely dependent upon the latter to raise funds for its programs. For tax year 2009, the Executive Director of the MOPHSF (Gregory A. Bresser), who left that post in August 2009, received \$142,986 in total compensation.

In tax year 2009, the President of Vietnam Veterans of America (the closest match to the "Vietnam Veterans Association" mentioned in the e-mail), John Rowan, received a total compensation of \$69,874. (The highest paid executive was CFO/staff director Joseph Sternburg, who was paid \$137,902.)

Unfortunately, the five veterans-related charitable organizations mentioned above don't receive very high marks for efficiency (as determined by Charity Navigator, the BBB, or Form 990 information):

American Legion: 55%
 Veterans of Foreign Wars: 84%
 Disabled American Veterans: 77%
 Military Order of Purple Heart Service Foundation: 35%
 Vietnam Veterans of America: 25%

<http://www.snopes.com/politics/business/charities.asp>

Dale

On Mar 30, 2012, at 12:13 PM, Sam wrote:

Begin forwarded message:

Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2012 8:29 PM
Subject: Fwd: Fw: Red Kettles & Bell Ringers
 ----- Forwarded Message -----

----- Original
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2012 2:29 PM
Subject: FW: Red Kettles & Bell Ringers

Something to think about

Boys and Girls,
 Red Kettles & Bell Ringers

As you open your pocketbooks for the next natural disaster, please keep these facts in mind:

The **American Red Cross** President and CEO Marsha J. Evans' salary for the 2011 was **\$951,957** plus expenses.

The **United Way** President Brian Gallagher receives a **\$675,000** base salary along with **numerous expense benefits** .

UNICEF CEO Caryl M. Stern receives **\$1,900,000** per year (158K) per month, plus **all expenses** including a **ROLLS ROYCE**.
Less than 5 cents (4.4 cents) per donated dollar goes to the cause.

The **Salvation Army's Commissioner** Todd Bassett receives a salary of only **\$13,000 per year** (plus housing) for managing this \$2 billion dollar organization. **96 percent of donated dollars go to the cause.**

The **American Legion National** Commander receives a **\$0..00 zero** salary. Your donations go to help Veterans and their families and youth!

· The **Veterans of Foreign Wars** National Commander receives a **\$0..00 zero salary** .

Your donations go to help Veterans and their families and youth!

· The **Disabled American Veterans** National Commander receives a **\$0..00 zero salary** .

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· The **Military Order of Purple Hearts** National Commander receives a **\$0..00 zero salary** .

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· The **Vietnam Veterans Association** National Commander receives a **\$0..00 zero salary** .

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No further comment is necessary.

Please share this with everyone you can.

----- Original Message -----
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