

## Code of Conduct for PVA Healthcare Summit & Expo

Thank you for choosing to participate in the PVA Healthcare Summit & Expo. Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) was founded in 1946 and is a congressionally chartered veterans service organization. PVA has developed a unique expertise on issues involving the special needs of our members – veterans of the armed forces who have experienced spinal cord injury or dysfunction. Advancing [research and education](#) addressing spinal cord injury and dysfunction is critical to our mission and our members.

PVA is dedicated to providing a professional, respectful and inclusive conference experience for everyone. Respectful behavior is always assumed and expected of participants – which includes conference attendees, their guests, vendors and community members – during all conference sessions and related events. Conference participants are expected to interact with others in a professional, respectful and courteous manner, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, national origin, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender presentation, physical appearance, religious affiliation, creed, marital status, differing abilities, medical conditions, personal characteristics, technology choices, or any other differentiating factors.

In keeping with this expectation, abusive, racist, sexist, homophobic, intimidating, harassing, or threatening behavior towards any other event participant or directed at any organizer, volunteer, sponsor, conference staff, or community member will not be tolerated.

Behaviors that will not be tolerated include, by way of example:

- Verbal attacks, accusations, bullying, or offensive comments
- Aggressive or intimidating behavior
- Sustained disruption during presentations and other events
- Unwelcome sexual attention
- Inappropriate physical contact
- Deliberate intimidation or stalking, either in person or online
- Sexual and racist images or materials in public spaces
- Ignoring, encouraging, or advocating any of the above behaviors

The standards set forth above apply to conference participants, including all persons, organizations, sponsors, and entities that attend the PVA Healthcare Summit & Expo. Event participants asked to stop unacceptable behavior are expected to comply immediately.

All PVA agents and/or representatives are empowered to take all necessary action to prevent and/or stop any conduct that violates this code, including but not limited to demanding that the violator be removed either temporarily or permanently from the conference or event or calling local law enforcement officials to assist in the matter.

To report any behavior that violates this code of conduct, please immediately report the conduct to a PVA representative. These standards are separate from any standards that may be imposed by any hotel or venue associated with the conference.