

**WOUNDED WARRIOR EMPLOYMENT
AND
ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE WOUNDED WARRIOR HIRING CONFERENCE**

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FM SECNAV WASHINGTON DC

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SUBJ: WOUNDED WARRIOR EMPLOYMENT AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE WOUNDED WARRIOR HIRING CONFERENCE UNCLASSIFIED// FM SECNAV WASHINGTON DC TO ALNAV UNCLAS ALNAV 002/10 MSGID/GENADMIN/SECNAV WASHINGTON DC/-/JAN// SUBJ/WOUNDED WARRIOR EMPLOYMENT AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE WOUNDED WARRIOR HIRING CONFERENCE// RMKS/

1. SINCE THE ATTACKS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, OVER 10,000 MARINES AND SAILORS HAVE BEEN WOUNDED DEFENDING THE CAUSE OF OUR COUNTRY.

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THEIR SERVICE HAS BEEN EXEMPLARY AND UNSELFISH, AND IN THEIR SACRIFICE THEY HAVE GIVEN MUCH OF THEMSELVES SO THAT OUR COUNTRY WILL REMAIN SAFE FROM ATTACK AND FREE FROM TERROR.

2. THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS ARE COMMITTED TO SERVING OUR WOUNDED VETERANS, JUST AS THEY HAVE SERVED US. THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY (DON), THROUGH THE WOUNDED WARRIOR REGIMENT AND NAVY SAFE HARBOR PROGRAM, PROVIDES SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE TO OUR WOUNDED, ILL, AND INJURED SERVICE MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES THROUGHOUT RECOVERY, REHABILITATION, AND REINTEGRATION.

3. BUT FOR SOME OF OUR RETURNING BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN ARMS, REINTEGRATION TO THE WORKFORCE IN THE FACE OF THE CURRENT ECONOMIC DOWNTURN POSES A SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGE. OVER 140,000 VETERANS OF OPERATIONS IRAQI AND ENDURING FREEDOM ARE UNEMPLOYED OR UNDEREMPLOYED; THIS REPRESENTS ONE OF EVERY TWELVE VETERANS FROM IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN.

THE CHALLENGE IS PARTICULARLY ACUTE IF THE RETURNING SAILOR OR MARINE IS WOUNDED OR INJURED. IN ADDITION TO WEEKS, MONTHS, OR YEARS OF PAGE 03 RUCOMFC7490 UNCLAS RECOVERY, THEY FACE THE POTENTIAL TRAVESTY OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

4. THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE. IN ORDER TO ADDRESS THE EMPLOYMENT CHALLENGES FACED BY OUR WOUNDED WARRIORS, NAVSEA, SUPPORTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY FOR MANPOWER AND RESERVE AFFAIRS, WILL HOST A WOUNDED WARRIOR HIRING AND SUPPORT CONFERENCE FOR THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION AT THE HILTON ALEXANDRIA MARK CENTER FEBRUARY 2-3, 2010. THE PURPOSE OF THE CONFERENCE IS TO ADDRESS AND IMPROVE THE DON APPROACH AND EFFECTIVENESS IN HIRING WOUNDED WARRIORS, WITH A FOCUS ON INCREASING THE NUMBER OF WOUNDED VETERANS IN EMPLOYMENT.

5. CONFERENCE DETAILS FOR THE WOUNDED WARRIOR HIRING AND SUPPORT CONFERENCE MAY BE FOUND AT WWW.DONHQ.NAVY.MIL/AAUSN/REGISTRATIONMRA.ASPX?1AE5B26896.

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE DON WOUNDED WARRIOR PROGRAMS CONTACT:

A. SAFE HARBOR TOLL FREE AT (877)746-8563 OR ON THE WEB AT WWW.SAFEHARBOR.NAVY.MIL.

B. THE MARINE CORPS WOUNDED WARRIOR REGIMENT MAY BE CONTACTED PAGE 04 RUCOMFC7490 UNCLAS VIA THE SERGEANT MERLIN GERMAN WOUNDED WARRIOR CALL CENTER TOLL FREE AT (877) 487-6299 OR ON THE WEB AT WWW.WOUNDEDWARRIORREGIMENT.ORG.

C. THE BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY, WOUNDED, ILL AND INJURED WARRIOR SUPPORT MAY BE CONTACTED AT (202)762-3043.

6. TOGETHER WE CAN ENSURE OUR WOUNDED VETERANS CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THE CARE THEY NEED AND ARE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITIES TO SUCCEED THAT THEY DESERVE.

7. RELEASED BY RAY MABUS, SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.// BT #7490 NNNN