

News Release

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Bert Levesque (USN, Ret.) to join Virginia Wounded Warrior Program

RICHMOND—Retired Senior Chief Master-at-Arms Bert Levesque will join the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program (VWWP) as the regional director for central Virginia (Region IV). The Virginia Wounded Warrior program provides a network of community-based services designed to help veterans and their families overcome the challenges of stress-related and traumatic brain injuries resulting from their service. It helps ensure that they receive timely assessment, treatment, and support.

As regional director, Levesque will monitor and coordinate services in the region to help veterans and their families receive behavioral healthcare and other types of support. The program draws on services already available through localities, such as the community services boards and brain injury service providers, as well as federal resources such as the Veterans Administration and military treatment facilities. Other services, such as financial assistance, housing, and transportation, may be made available via regional partners. Through outreach activities, Levesque will identify veterans and their families who need assistance and connect them with agencies that can give them the help they need.

Prior to accepting the position with VWWP, Levesque served as Chief, Military Benefits-U.S. Army Retirement Services officer at Fort Drum, responsible for all of New York, New England, and eastern Canada. He coordinated, managed, and provided personalized in-depth counseling and assistance to all eligible veterans, retirees, active duty military personnel, wounded warriors and their family members. He developed an annual Military Appreciation Day/benefits-style seminar in cooperation with military and community organizations where onsite benefits and services were provided for thousands of regional military veterans.

Levesque retired from the Navy in 2002. His last assignments included Assistant Security Officer for Commander in Chief Atlantic Fleet Norfolk, Virginia, and aboard the USS Enterprise as the Assistant Security Officer.

Following retirement, Levesque served as a Deputy Sheriff in Tazewell County where he assisted with developing emergency response procedures, incident command management, and antiterrorism awareness plans. He relocated in 2005 to his hometown in New York and joined the command staff at Fort Drum where he supervised the training and curriculum development of the U.S. Federal Police Academy. In 2007, with the increase in military casualties, he retired from law enforcement and accepted the position of lead Casualty Case Manager for the Fort Drum Casualty Affairs office. His conceptual development of total family aid and coordination of multi-agency entitlements served as the impetus for implementing a benefits advocacy program designed to assist the families of fallen heroes.

“Bert brings significant management experience to the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program. His experience as Chief, Military Benefits-U. S. Army Retirement Services officer, as well as the many other positions he has held throughout his career, will prove immensely valuable in his role as regional director,” commented Catherine Wilson, Executive Director of the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program.

Levesque assumes his new duties on March 28, 2011. His office will be located in Richmond Virginia.

To learn more about VWWP, visit www.WeAreVirginiaveterans.org.

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