

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Martha Utley (USCG, Ret) joins Virginia Wounded Warrior Program

RICHMOND— Ms. Martha Utley joined the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program on October 18 as Regional Director for Central, Region 4. As the Regional Director, Ms. Utley will monitor and coordinate services to help veterans and their families receive behavioral health care and other types of services. Region 4 serves the counties of Amelia, Brunswick, Charles City, Charlotte, Chesterfield, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Goochland, Greensville, Halifax, Hanover, Henrico, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, New Kent, Nottoway, Powhatan, Prince Edward, Prince George, Surry and Sussex and the cities of Colonial Heights, Emporia, Hopewell, Petersburg and Richmond.

The Virginia Wounded Warrior 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, Ms. Utley will identify veterans and their families who need assistance and connect them with agencies that can give them the help they need.

On September 1, 2011, Ms. Utley retired from the United States Coast Guard with more than 27 years of active service. At the time of her retirement, Master Chief Utley served as the Coast Guard's Health, Safety and Worklife Command Master Chief with a command of more than 850 personnel. Additionally, she served as the senior enlisted, responsible for operational performance and quality assurance compliance of all Coast Guard Corpsmen serving on Independent Duty throughout the service. Of historical note, Ms. Utley was the first woman in the history of the Coast Guard to obtain the rank of Master Chief Petty Officer (E-9) in the Health Services field.

Prior to these assignments, Master Chief Utley held positions such as Clinic Administrator, Clinic Supervisor, and as an Independent Duty Corpsman aboard a CG High Endurance Cutter.

Other duty assignments included: Coast Guard Cutter HAMILTON (WHEC-715), CG Base Kodiak Alaska, CG District 17 Juneau Alaska, Air Stations Elizabeth City, NC and North Bend, OR, and Small Boat Station Wrightsville Beach, NC. Her awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Coast Guard Commendation Medal, and the Coast Guard Achievement Medal as well as numerous life-saving citations while flying as an Aviation Medevac Specialist.

Ms. Utley attended the University of Alaska Southeast and Coastline Community College working toward her Bachelor of Science Degree in Health Care Administration. She is a native of Richmond, Virginia and currently resides in Hanover County.

To learn more about the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program, visit www.WeAreVirginiaveterans.org.

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