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DETR Encourages Employers to "Hire Veterans First"

Las Vegas, NV—The Department of Employment, Training & Rehabilitation (DETR) is stepping up its recruitment of employers for its "Hire Vets First" program, which is a network of businesses that have made the commitment to give preference to qualified veterans when hiring for job openings.

"We feel it was important to dedicate more resources to this worthwhile program that helps transition soldiers back into civilian life, whether they have completed their tours of duty or were discharged due to injury said Terry Johnson, DETR director. Employers who join the "Hire Vets First" network are to be commended for their dedication to these men and women who have bravely served their country."

"Hire Vets First" is a federal program started by the Department of Labor and adopted by states across the country to encourage employers to hire veterans. While the program has been available for several years in Nevada, DETR recently decided to rev up the program by hiring a dedicated staff member to actively recruit employers for "Hire Vets First." Roy Brown is DETR's new State Veterans Coordinator who spends most of his time promoting the advantages of hiring veterans.

Unemployed veterans who are given consideration for these jobs must register for veteran services at a Nevada JobConnect office. Veteran representatives are available at the Nevada JobConnect sites to offer veterans a variety of services to help them get employed with any business. Because the "Hire Vets First" network of employers have agreed to give preferential treatment to veterans, representatives will often refer veterans to one of those companies first.

"As a veteran myself, I understand the challenges faced by men and women completing their service or possibly returning from a war zone," Brown said. "It is often difficult for them to find jobs on their own that fit their skill level. 'Hire Vets First' gives them the edge they need to find jobs and earn a sustainable wage to care for themselves and their families."

Before Brown was hired as the state veterans coordinator, it was sometimes a cumbersome process for employers to find the contact to sign up for “Hire Vets First.” Now employers can call Brown directly at **(702) 486-6512** and join the network with ease.

There are many advantages to hiring veterans, Brown said. Businesses who sign up may be eligible to receive funding for on-the-job training for employees who are veterans. Veterans are eligible for a number of training programs and assistance with their new jobs. Brown said veterans make good employees because the military teaches them to be dedicated, disciplined and they often learn a variety of skills and have security clearances.

Governor Kenny Guinn commended the “Hire Vets First” program and encouraged employers to pledge their support.

“As we celebrate Veterans Day this weekend by honoring the men and women who courageously serve in the armed forces, I would ask Nevada businesses to support the post-military career goals of these national heroes by joining the Hire Vets First program.”



DETR is comprised of the Employment Security Division, Equal Rights Commission, Rehabilitation Division, the Information Development and Processing Division and the Research and Analysis Bureau.



DETR works in partnership with the Nevada JobConnect System to connect businesses and workers.