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- News Release -

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Christie Administration Teams with U.S. Chamber “Hiring Our Heroes” Event to Help Veterans Find Jobs

Joint Base Career Fair Links Veterans and Service Members to Employment Opportunities

TRENTON, N.J., June 15, 2015 – The Christie Administration’s commitment to New Jersey veterans continued today at the Hiring Our Heroes job fair held on the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst as the state Department of Labor and Workforce Development worked with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation and the American Legion to link former service people to employers eager to hire them.

“My department actively partners with the U.S. Chamber and the American Legion at these career fairs to assist our military servicemembers in making a smoother transition back to civilian life. We also sponsor and host several other employment events targeting veterans and active military personnel throughout the year because we believe providing employment opportunities is the least we can do for these heroes who have sacrificed so much for our nation,” said Commissioner Harold J. Wirths of the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

Veterans, active duty military members, National Guard and reserve members, as well as military spouses met with prospective employers looking to hire at the Fort Dix Timmerman Conference Center. In addition to meeting with employers, participants were provided with

information on training programs and had an opportunity to participate in workshops on job techniques to translate their military experience into job skills.

The department maintains a staff of approximately 35 veteran representatives, all of whom are former military personnel, who work with the veteran population to develop resumes which communicate their aptitude and skill sets to employers. The representatives also assist veterans with networking skills and to match veterans to job openings.

Currently, the Labor Department is working with approximately 17,000 veterans at its 29 One Stop Career Centers throughout the state. For nearly three decades, New Jersey's veteran service programs have ensured that veterans are treated with dignity, compassion and understanding.

According to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, "Hiring Our Heroes" has hosted 900 hiring fairs in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia and helped more than 27,200 veterans and military spouses find jobs. More than 1,700 businesses have pledged to hire 585,000 veterans as part of the Chamber's Hiring 500,000 Heroes campaign.

Today's event was co-sponsored by the U.S. Army Reserve, the U.S. Department of Labor Veterans' Employment and Training Service (DOL VETS), the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Prudential, the University of Phoenix, Goodwill Industries International, NBC News, and the Department of Defense Partnership of Programs.

Veterans seeking employment assistance should:

- Contact the State Veterans Program Coordinator O. Wayne Smith via email: Ottis.Smith@dol.state.nj.us
- Visit the veteran representative at the nearest One-Stop Career Center (locations available at: <http://jobs4jersey.com/jobs4jersey/jobseekers/oscc>)
- Go to <http://jobs4jersey.com/jobs4jersey/jobseekers/vet> for information on veteran job fairs



Labor Department Chief of Staff Gary Hasenbalg greeted employers and job-seekers at a Hiring Our Heroes job fair on the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst.