

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 20, 2021

CONTACT: Allen Houston, DVS Press Secretary,
646-740-7296 or ahouston@veterans.nyc.gov

DVS launches Interactive Map of Veteran-Owned Businesses in New York City

New York –The New York City Department of Veterans’ Services (DVS) launched [VetBizNYC](#) today, an interactive map that identifies Veteran-owned businesses (VOB) to promote Veteran entrepreneurship, small business development, M/WBE certification, and help support the local economy.

“Veteran business owners were adversely impacted like all businesses during the pandemic, and this map is a great way for citizens to support those who have served our country and stimulate local commerce. It also gives Veterans a platform to promote their business to the city’s 8.5 million residents so that they can thrive and we can continue to make NYC the best city in the United States for Veteran entrepreneurs,” said **DVS Commissioner James Hendon**.

“A recovery for all starts with supporting our small business owners, including Veteran business owners who put their lives on the line for our country and are now contributing by building stronger communities and a more robust city economy. The Veteran-owned business map is a dynamic tool that will help attract attention to their businesses and showcase the entrepreneurial spirit that makes New York so unique,” said **J. Phillip Thompson, New York City Deputy Mayor for Strategic Policy Initiatives**.

More than 150 businesses have been added to the interactive map so far, with pins showing their location in the five boroughs. The businesses represent a cross-section of industries such as construction, restaurants, photographers, gardening, and office supplies. It also includes key business contact information as well as a list of a business’s city and state certifications. VOBs that are interested in being included on the map can fill out our [online form](#).

The map was created through an ongoing thought partnership with the NYC Department of Small Business, who is also working with DVS to promote and advance Veteran minority-owned business certifications.

“SBS is committed to fully supporting our Veterans who have ventured out and started a small business,” said **Jonnel Doris, Commissioner of the NYC Department of Small Business Services**. “Our City’s recovery depends on the full comeback of all small businesses and VetBizNYC will allow New Yorkers to shop small and support our treasured veteran-owned businesses.”

"This timely initiative will be very helpful in highlighting the ingenuity and economic contributions that Veterans make on a daily basis to the to the NYC economy years after their service to this great country," said **Andrew Walcott, owner of Fusion East Restaurant, and Air Force Veteran**.

“Governor Cuomo signed the Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business (SDVOB) Act into law in 2014 to increase eligible Veteran-owned businesses participation in New York State’s contracting opportunities,” **New York State Office of General Services (OGS) Commissioner RoAnn Destito** said. “Through OGS’s online directory of SDVOBs and now DVS’s VetBizNYC interactive map, the public can more easily identify and support Veteran-owned companies, giving these small businesses an even greater role in our state’s economy.”

Veterans who would like to know more about DVS can contact (212) 416-5250 or visit www.nyc.gov/vets.

#

About the New York City Department of Veterans’ Services

The NYC Department of Veterans’ Services’ mission is to connect, mobilize, and empower New York City’s Veteran community to foster purpose-driven lives for US Military Service Members—past and present—in addition to their caregivers, survivors, and families. We assist NYC Veteran community members on issues that include, but are not limited to: employment, housing, food security, wellbeing, benefits, culture, and targeted advocacy. For more information, visit www.nyc.gov/vets, call (212) 416-5250, email connect@veterans.nyc.gov, or follow us on social media @nycveterans.