

DVS Celebrates Fleet Week: A Statement from Commissioner James Hendon



If we look at the numbers, we know that out of the 2.1 million people who serve in the military—1.3 million Active Duty, 800,000 Selected Reserve—395,000 serve in the Navy, 46,000 serve in the Coast Guard, 207,000 serve in the Marine Corps. Drilling those numbers down further, just for New York State – when it comes to those who are stationed here, it is 2,300 in the Navy, 1,300 in the Coast Guard and 2,300 Marines. For New York City it is 908 Sailors, 645 Coast Guardsmen, and 805 Marines.

But what I want to focus on right now is the number 814,439. That is the estimated number of spouses and children related to Sea Service Members. That number only consists of husbands, wives, sons, and daughters whom our Sea Service men and women have waiting for them at home.

814,439 people praying for our service members somewhere.

814,439 birthdays and anniversaries missed—at least once.

814,439—the number of spirits who are felt, but effectively, in the here and now, are unseen.

And that is just two tranches of relatives. I didn't talk about cousins, brothers, sisters, mentors, parents, grandparents, great grandparents, aunts, uncles, worshippers at your faith center and friends.

Each of our men and women in uniform took an oath and swore, “to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that [they] will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that [they] will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over [them], according to the regulations of the Uniformed Code of Military Justice. So help [them] God.”

Nowhere in that oath did it say to stay close – physically close – to those you love. Our service members put the defense of this country not only above their life, but above the lives of their families.

There is sacrifice in that. There is pain in that. There is deep, deep patriotism. And there is loss.

Fleet Week is not enough to thank them for their sacrifices. Take all of the things our sailors and marines will be able to do on liberty these next few days, multiply it by ten, put it in a bucket—it’s a drop.

“Freedom isn’t free.”

The debt is insurmountable. All we can offer them, given the circumstances over the next few days while they are in town, is the opportunity to fill the void of your family. Let us be their mother, father, sister, son, uncle, aunt, grandparent, cousin, partner, spouse and friend.

In conclusion, let us never forget about their loved ones – who are the reason why they are here. In the absence of those loved ones, know ... every service member has a family that is more than 8 million strong here in New York City.

And lastly, to all of our sea services here with us this Fleet Week—thank you. Thank you. Thank you for your service.

“I don’t stop when I am tired. I stop when I am done.” —Chief Petty Officer (Retired) David Goggins

Happy Fleet Week!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Hendon', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

James Hendon

Commissioner

NYC Department of Veterans' Services

Fleet Week New York 2023



LIBERTY STATE PARK

SUNDAY, MAY 28 | 12 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY

- USN/USMC HELO DEMOS
- USCG SEARCH & RESCUE DEMOS
- NAVY DIVE TANK
- STATIC DISPLAYS
- USMC BATTLE COLOR DETACHMENT
- USCG SILENT DRILL TEAM
- NAVY BAND




Tour the Ships! *Homeport Pier, Staten Island*

Thursday, May 25 - Monday, May 29
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.



USNS Newport (T-EPF-12)



USS Oak Hill (LSD-51)



USCGC Warren Devanport (WPC-115)
May 27-29

Tour the Ships! *Manhattan*

Thursday, May 25 - Monday, May 29
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.



USCGC Warren Devanport (WPC-115)
Intrepid Pier
May 25-26



USNA Yard Patrol
Intrepid Pier
May 25-26



USS Wasp (LHD-1)
Pier 88

NATO ships open for tours!
NO TOURS IN MANHATTAN ON SUNDAY

For the latest information on all FWNY events check out the link below, “Like” FleetWeekNewYork on Facebook, and “Follow” @FleetWeekNYC on Twitter and Instagram.

[Fleet Week New York 2023](#)

Memorial Day Weekend Flag Planting at Cypress Hills National Cemetery



Remember the Wreath Laying we did in December at Cypress Hills? On May 27th, for Memorial Day weekend, we'll be honoring our Veterans by planting flags at their graves. There are over 27,000 Veterans buried at [Cypress Hills National Cemetery](#) and we will be sure to honor every last one, so no hero is left behind.

 **Saturday, May 27, 2023 (rain or shine)**

 **9am Start**

 **Cypress Hills National Cemetery**

625 Jamaica Avenue

Brooklyn, NY 11208

Things to Consider:

- Wear comfortable clothing and dress accordingly for the weather.
- We suggest you wear gloves as the flags are on wooden poles and can give you splinters as you insert the flags into the ground.
- Feel free to bring little carts or backpacks to carry as many flag bundles as possible.
- **Bring water/hydration.**

For questions or concerns, please reach out to Carlos Varon via email at: lcvaron@gmail.com or by phone at: 718-374-1926

Big Apple TAP: New York Mets Military Transition Summit in Partnership with NYC DVS



New York Mets Military Transition Summit

 Saturday | June 24, 2023

 CitiField | 41 Seaver Way, Queens, NY 11368

 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Theme: "Tools & Resources for Hacking Your Transition"

The session will feature breakout rooms and discussion panels on the following topics:

- Navigating NYC
- NYC Community and Resources
- Financial Security
- Career and Education Networking
- Entrepreneurship
- Resources for Women Veterans
- Job Preparation
- Housing
- Health and Emotional Wellness

Lunch & refreshments will be provided, along with a chance to meet Mr. & Mrs. Met, a tour of Citi field, giveaways, and more.

Scan the QR Code above to register! Space is limited! RSVP to secure your spot! Admission will be granted on a first-come, first-served basis!

About the NYC DVS Big Apple TAP Initiative

The New York City Department of Veterans' Services now offers a Transition Assistance Program for recently separated service members and any Veteran interested in calling the Big Apple their home. This information session will serve as an introduction to our agency and highlight how we can serve as a resource for you and your loved ones during your transition and beyond. The information you receive during this session will help you take advantage of the benefits you earned while in uniform as well as get you acclimated to life in New York City.

This is not your "run-of-the-mill" Transition Assistance Program—this is Big Apple TAP—designed for the select few who are interested in settling down in New York City. At your last duty station, you were told about a suite of programs and services at the federal and state level as a part of your out-processing, but what about at the city level? Lucky for you, New York City has an agency dedicated to providing you and your family with information about the many programs and services

unique to the Big Apple. Whether you plan to stay for a few years or a lifetime, we can help ease your landing!

To learn more about NYC DVS's Transition Assistance Program and to stay up-to-date with future sessions, [CLICK HERE](#).

[Register for the New York Mets Military Transition Summit](#)

VETERAN NEWS

NYC Veterans' Service chief, city gear up for Fleet Week



BY SPECTRUM NEWS STAFF NEW YORK CITY
MAY 23, 2023

Fleet Week kicks off in New York City on Wednesday, making the beginning of a seven-day event that will honor the U.S. Navy, Coast Guard and Marines.

The 35th annual celebration is expected to bring an estimated 2,700 uniformed personnel to the five boroughs.

James Hendon, commissioner of the New York City Department of Veterans' Services, joined "Mornings On 1" Tuesday to preview the week, saying he most looks forward to the Parade of Ships.

"That's a key even to me. I also look forward to the various parades and festivities for Memorial Day," he said. "You'll see our fleet forces just dotting the region at different commemoration. And of course I look forward to the tours." [\[WATCH VIDEO...\]](#)

More Veteran-related Headlines

NYT: [The Tangled Roots of Memorial Day and Why It's Celebrated](#)

WABC-TV: [Fleet Week New York 2023 kicks off with ceremonial Parade of Ships](#)

VA | News: [More than 200 free Memorial Day observances and events across the country](#)

QNS: [Resorts World NYC sponsors Big Apple Honor Flight for veterans](#)

Spectrum NY1: [More resources for veterans at SUNY, CUNY considered](#)

JFK REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAM VETERAN CONTRACTING OPPORTUNITIES



JFK REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAM VETERAN CONTRACTING OPPORTUNITIES

THE JFK REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAM WILL REIMAGINE THE PASSENGER EXPERIENCE AT JOHN F. KENNEDY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT WHILE CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL, MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (MWBE) AND SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESSES (SDVOB). THE NEW JFK WILL FEATURE STATE-OF-THE-ART TERMINALS THAT WILL PLAY A PIVOTAL ROLE IN TRANSFORMING THE AIRPORT INTO A WORLD-CLASS.

SPONSORED BY:



CAZAR LOGISTICS
A VETERAN OWNED & OPERATED COMPANY

The New Terminals at JFK

The new terminals at JFK will be developed by The New Terminal One (NTO/T1) and JFK Millennium Partners (JMP/T6). They seek certified service-disabled veteran-owned businesses (SDVOBs) to participate in the \$19 Billion program. [\(Click here\) for information about the SDVOB Certification.](#)

SDVOB JFK Opportunities?

There will be a networking session and exhibition by Prime Contractors and the PANYNJ who are interested in learning more about your business and helping you become pre-qualified for opportunities at NTO/T1 and JMP/T6.

Event Information



Date & Time

June 12, 2023
10 am to 1 pm



Location

89-14 Parsons Blvd Jamaica, NY 11432
4th and 5th Floor



Registration

www.JFKVETOPPS.eventbrite.com

Light Refreshments to be served.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

516.636.1090

EHernandez@Atlascollective.org
www.atlascollective.org

40 Main Street, Suite B, Hempstead, NY 11552

[Register Today!](#)

AmeriCorps/ NYC VISTA Program



What is AmeriCorps?

AmeriCorps is the federal agency for national service and volunteerism. AmeriCorps provides opportunities for Americans of all backgrounds to serve their country, address the nation's most pressing challenges, and improve lives and communities.

What is AmeriCorps Vista?

VISTA members serve at New York City government agencies (known as host sites) full-time from **July 31, 2023 to August 2, 2024** to address critical city issues related to poverty by engaging in capacity-building work. Capacity building refers to tasks and activities that create, expand or strengthen the systems and processes that help an organization carry out its anti-poverty work. These tasks and activities include the transfer of knowledge/skills, products, and relationships.

For more info about AmeriCorps VISTA, visit [here!](#)

DVS VISTA Job Opening:

The **NYC Veterans Support VISTA Member** will manage the DVS/NYC Cares Mission: VetCheck program. The program connects Veterans to fellow New Yorkers through supportive check in calls. The VISTA Member will manage a robust volunteer effort where trained volunteers provide information on essential public services and other resources to Veterans.

For more info on DVS's job, visit our posting [here](#)!

Who is eligible?

- Must be a U.S. Citizen, U.S. National, or Lawful Permanent Resident of the United States
- Have successfully obtained a High School diploma or its equivalent prior to the start of the program
- Agree to and pass a criminal background check
- Ability to serve full time for the program term (generally M-F 9AM - 5PM)

How to apply:

To apply, create an [AmeriCorps account](#) and select apply now on our [job listing](#).

To learn more about **NYC Service**, visit their website [here](#).

To learn more about benefits of working for **AmeriCorps** visit their website [here](#).

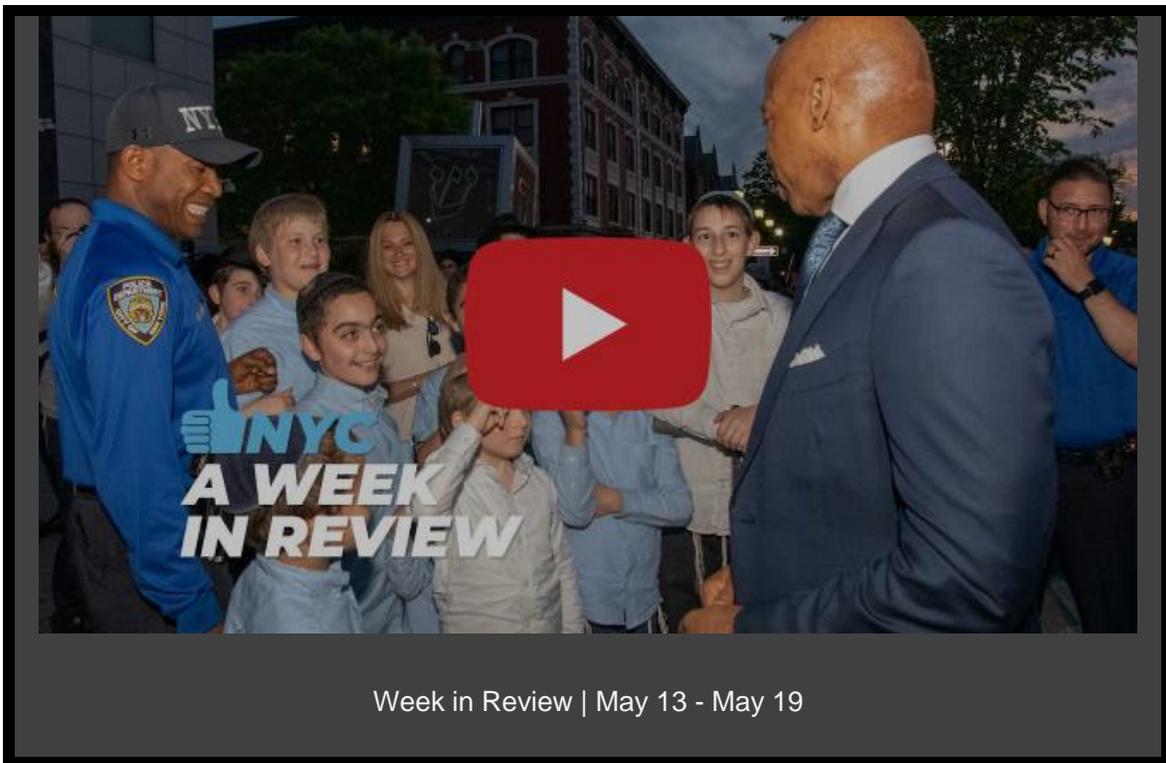


We are looking to highlight Veterans in the arts community! Whether it's an upcoming free exhibition, performance, or piece/installation you've created, we want to showcase your work and help spread the word. Submissions will be reviewed on a rolling basis and promoted at our discretion. We want this to be a space for Veteran artists to express themselves in an authentic way.

Please email submissions to connect@veterans.nyc.gov with a brief bio, an artist statement, art medium, and your affiliation to the Veteran community.

A Message From Mayor Adams:

Each week DVS will share a short update about how our administration is getting stuff done for New Yorkers.



The Adams administration is dedicated to cutting through the noise and delivering information directly to you and all New Yorkers.

Sign up to "Hear From Eric" and get direct messages from City Hall, tailored to your interests and neighborhood, sent directly to your inbox – at [nyc.gov/hearfromeric!](https://nyc.gov/hearfromeric)

DCAS Civil Service Pathways Fellowship



Ready to start your career working for the City of New York? NYC Citywide Administrative Services is accepting applications for their Civil Service Pathways Fellowship. This **two-year program** is designed to create a pipeline from college to a career in civil service.

The **Fellowship** is set to begin in **August 2023** and is subject to the requisite approvals for city agency placement.

Applicants

The Fellowship position for the NYC Department of Veterans' Services highly encourages student Veterans and student Veteran spouses to apply!

How to apply

Fill out DCAS's application [here](#)!

If you have any further questions about the program, please reach out to the **Department of Citywide Administrative Services** ([DCAS](#)).

For questions about the prospective role at DVS, please reach out to **Assistant Commissioner of Operations & Administrative Services**, [Jason Parker](#).

Join Our Team! Be Part of the Mission!



Current DVS Job Openings

Being part of our team is a great way to continue to serve.

[Visit NYC.gov/jobs](https://www.nyc.gov/jobs) and select “Veterans’ Services” from the agency menu to learn more about and apply to the job below.

Manager of Claims - The Community Services Unit works to close gaps and empower New York City Veterans’ and their families through the proper connection to resources and support offered through our VetConnectNYC program. The Manager of Claims will be expected to manage claims processes including intake, preparation and filing of claims for a broad spectrum of federal, state, local, and private Veterans’ benefits, such as for Disability Compensation, Non-service Connected Pension, and other benefits.

VA Work Study Positions at DVS

The NYC Department of Veterans' Services (DVS) supports VA Work-Study Positions! Here is a current list of available VA Work-Study openings:

- [Administrative Intern](#)
- [Benefit Intern](#)
- [Care Coordination Intern](#)
- [Data Analyst Intern](#)
- [Information Technology Intern](#)

- [IT Support Intern](#)
- [Legal Intern](#)
- [Outreach Coordinator Intern](#)
- [Veteran Business Promotion Intern](#)

If you are interested in applying for a DVS-specific Work-Study position and meet eligibility requirements, please submit the following to VAWorkStudy@veterans.nyc.gov:

- Resume
- Job Specific Cover Letter
- Supporting Documents found in the Job Description

[Check Here for VA Work-Study Postings](#)

NYC Civil Service Job Openings and Exams



Open Competitive Exams

Correction Officer - Correction Officers, under supervision, maintain security and are responsible for the care, custody, control, job training and work performance of sentenced and detained inmates within New York City correctional facilities. They supervise inmate meals, visits, recreational programs, and other congregate activities; inspect assigned areas for conditions which threaten safety and security; conduct searches in order to detect contraband; complete forms and reports; maintain appropriate log books; communicate with other area Correction Officers to exchange pertinent information; issue verbal orders, announcements and explanations to inmates; observe inmates and make recommendations concerning medical and/or psychiatric referrals; safeguard Department supplies and equipment; escort inmates within and outside of the facility including their transportation in Departmental vehicles; respond to unusual incidents and disturbances; enforce security procedures in accordance with Department guidelines; request medical assistance for inmates when necessary; count and verify the number of inmates present in assigned areas; verify identification of inmates; supervise inmates of either sex; and operate a motor vehicle.

Police Officer - Police Officers perform general police duties and related work in the New York City Police Department including connecting and building relationships with the community. They patrol an assigned area on foot or in a vehicle to prevent crime; apprehend crime suspects; intervene in various situations involving crimes in progress, aided cases, complaints, emotionally disturbed persons, etc.; respond to and investigate vehicular accidents; investigate specific offenses; interact with prisoners; operate and maintain patrol vehicles; issue summonses; obtain information regarding incidents by interviewing witnesses, victims, and/or complainants; safeguard and voucher found, seized or recovered property; provide information to the public; handle situations involving maltreated, abused, or missing children; interact with juveniles; may be assigned to crowd control for large-scale events such as demonstrations, rallies and parades; prepare forms and reports; and testify in court.

School Safety Agent - School Safety Agents patrol designated areas of school buildings and surrounding areas; identify and prevent infiltration of unlawful or prohibited items through scanning; give routine information to visitors and direct them to the proper personnel and offices; request identification of, and remove from the premises, any

unauthorized persons; aid sick and injured persons and call for medical, police or fire assistance, when needed; notify supervisors of all emergency incidents and complete any related documentation; respond to altercations between students and other persons, and attempt to separate the involved persons and resolve conflicts; maintain records of persons entering and leaving buildings; monitor security camera systems to ensure facility entrances are secure; identify persons violating Department of Education Rules and Regulations; apprehend persons violating the Penal Law and notify the proper administrative personnel; prepare reports and testify in regard to these violations at Superintendent's or Principal's hearings and/or in court; monitor and use radios to request assistance from co-workers; may operate motor vehicles; and perform related work.

To receive monthly updates on upcoming civil service exams click the button below to be directed to the Subscribe to the DCAS Newsletter page. On the registration form, select "City Jobs and Civil Service Announcements".

[Subscribe to the DCAS Newsletter Here](#)

Programs and Initiatives

Affordable Housing For Veterans



The [NYC Department of Veterans' Services \(DVS\)](#) maintains a list of federal, state, and city programs that offers a limited, but selective list of affordable housing options for veterans seeking financial relief for their housing arrangements. Visit our [Affordable Housing for Veterans](#) page to learn more.

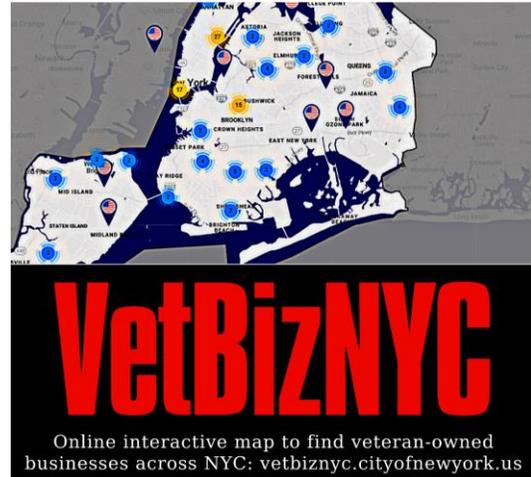
Empowering Veteran Business Owners



The primary mission of the [VBLA](#) is to serve Veterans seeking support and assistance with running a business and in their pursuit of New York City Government contracting opportunities. Our leadership association engages with the private sector, government, advisory board, and local partners to build a consortium that facilitates the growth and development of Veteran Businesses.

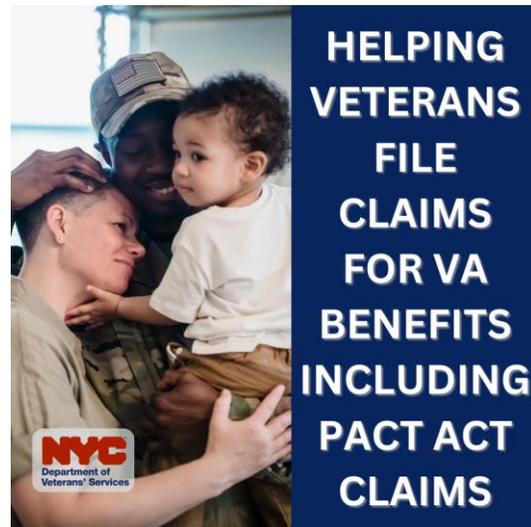
VetBizNYC: Supporting Veteran Entrepreneurship

DVS has launched [VetBizNYC](#), an interactive map that identifies Veteran-owned businesses across the five boroughs. New Yorkers can use our interactive map to find and support Veteran-owned businesses in their community.



Are You Getting the Benefits You Deserve?

The [NYC Department of Veterans' Services \(DVS\)](#) represents NYC Veterans in claims for benefits from the [U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs](#). Our team is also qualified to assist with PACT Act related claims. If you had a toxic exposure during your service, time is crucial for you to get the benefits you deserve. To file a claim, fill out the [VetConnectNYC.org](#) form and select **Benefits Navigation** as your preferred service.



VetConnectPro: A First-in-the-Nation Employment Tool



[VetConnectPro](#), is a new employment tool designed to help Veterans find employment within NYC government. The platform features a military skills translator that can match your service experience and Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) to City jobs and civil service exams. Upload your resume and get started today: nyc.gov/vetconnectpro.

Newsletter Sign-up

If you received this newsletter by way of a friend or colleague and have yet to sign-up on your own, click [here](#), and stay up-to-date with the latest news impacting the community, updates on city services, info on DVS programs, Veteran-specific resources & more.

Contact Us

- Complete a service request form at vetconnectnyc.org
- [Message the Commissioner](#)
- [Partner with DVS](#)
- [Press Inquiries](#)
- [Event Request Form](#)

Stay tuned on our website www.nyc.gov/vets and social media platforms [@nycveterans](#), or via email at connect@veterans.nyc.gov.