

## Two Decades of Service: Post-9/11 Veterans



In the 21 years since 9/11, the enduring impact of the largest terrorist attack in U.S. history continues to be felt throughout our nation's military.

In the days and months that followed the 9/11 terrorist attacks, many brave Americans were moved to enlist in the **Armed Forces** to selflessly protect the United States, and its freedoms and ideals. In the year after 9/11, more people enlisted in the military than in any year since. In the first full recruitment after the attacks, 181,510 Americans joined the ranks of active duty service and 72,908 enlisted in the reserves.

This lasting connection between our nation's military and the events of 9/11 is evidenced by the thousands of Veterans and active duty servicemembers who visit the World Trade Center site each year, and in the hundreds of reenlistment and promotional ceremonies that have taken place at the National September 11 Memorial & Museum.

The NYC Department of Veterans Services (DVS) recognizes and honors the courage, selflessness, and sacrifice of the noblest among us who answered the call to serve or continued their military careers after the attacks.

# Post-9/11 Veterans: The Newest Generation of **American Heroes**





The events of 9/11 remain a powerful memory for Americans and especially for our nation's servicemembers.

Post-9/11 servicemembers are the military personnel who chose to enlist after the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks. Many of whom claimed it was 9/11 that inspired them to join the armed forces.

Since that fateful day in our nation's history, when America was shaken by the devastating terrorist attacks of 9/11, more than 3.3 million military veterans have served us in uniform. About one-in-five veterans today served on active duty after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

The newest generation of America's heroes, post-9/11 Veterans have unique needs that require a military culturally competent approach. Many organizations have formed to honor those who have answered our nation's call. United in a common goal to help post-9/11 Veterans, current servicemembers, and their families, these organizations include:

- Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA)
- Team Rubicon
- Team Red, White, and Blue
- Student Veterans of America
- The Mission Continues.

# Veterans on Campus Back to School BBQ: Student Veterans Reflect on Experiences at College





This past Saturday, September 10, Veterans on Campus hosted its Back to School BBQ for Student Veterans at the Fordham Lincoln Center Campus. FUBU co-founder and Veteran businessman J. Alexander Martin joined NYC Department of Veterans' Services Commissioner James Hendon in firing up the grill for burgers, hotdogs, and American classics. New and returning Student Veterans from all NYC colleges kicked off the school year with live music, poetry readings, and a cornhole tournament. Military-connected students received information about resources and services available to Student Veterans at the good old-fashioned summer BBQ.

#### Student Veterans reflected on their experiences at school:

Daniel, a returning Student Veteran at the <u>New York Institute of Technology</u> studying cybersecurity, gave insight into the Student Veteran experience:

"Veterans are coming from a world of knowing exactly where to be and at what time. As Veterans enter school they are entering a world that is less structured and where they are on their own. To help smoothen this transition, it's important to reach Vets as soon as they get into school rather than later."



Veteran entrepreneur and co-founder of fashion icon FUBU, Dr. J. Alexander

Martin weighed in on his military transformation:

"Joining the military was the best decision I made in my life. I wouldn't be who I am today if it weren't for the military. It taught me the world is not flat. I dedicate my time to Veterans and want to show that we can be a beacon."



<u>DVS</u> Commissioner and graduate of the <u>U.S. Military Academy at West Point</u> James Hendon left us with this:

"Veterans bust through walls - including walls to get into academic establishments. All of you had to break a wall to get here. 12 years ago I was a Student Veteran in NYC. I've walked this road. This is not the end - it's just the beginning. There are so many more walls to break. Take advantage of everything you learn about and tell someone about what you learned. It worked in elementary school and it will work now."

## Join Our Team! Be Part of the Mission!





Being part of our team is a great way to continue to serve. The <u>NYC</u> <u>Department of Veterans' Services (DVS)</u> empowers communities with Veteran talent, skills, and preparedness. Join us in serving again - your community.

See below for current job openings at DVS:

## **Current DVS Job Openings**

#### **Budget Director**

Are you well-versed in financial planning? Applications are being reviewed for the Budget Director. Submit your application via the <a href="NYC Jobs Portal">NYC Jobs Portal</a>.

### **Department of Veterans' Services College Aide**

Students interested in a new career as a Department of Veterans' Services College Aide can apply online on the NYC Jobs Portal.

## **NYC Civil Service Job Openings and Exams**



You served your country. Now serve your city!

Do your part to keep the city running! The <u>NYC Department of Citywide</u> <u>Administrative Services (DCAS)</u> makes City government work for all New Yorkers.

There are many diverse career opportunities with NYC DCAS.

Veterans are no longer required to pay application fees for NYC Civil Service examinations.

See below for open competitive NYC Civil Service exam highlights:

## **Open Competitive Exams**

#### **Correction Officer**

Considering a career in corrections? Applications for the Correction Officer will be processed until September 27. Click <u>here</u> to register for the exam.

#### **Police Officer**

Are you dedicated to public safety and controlling crime? Applications for the Police Officer are being processed until September 30. To sign up for the exam, click <u>here</u>.

#### **Chief Marine Engineer (Diesel)**

Do you have creative problem-solving abilities and a passion for the sea? Applications for the Chief Marine Engineer (Diesel) are being reviewed until September 27. To apply to take the exam, click <a href="here">here</a>.

## **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.

## **Programs and Initiatives**

## **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.
During a time of economic crisis and
high unemployment, we want to ensure
that all Veterans get the financial
benefits they earned and deserve. To file
a claim, fill out
the VetConnectNYC.org form

and select Benefits Navigation as your



To request claims support, visit VetConnectNYC.org.



## **Our Fight to End Veteran Homelessness**



Over the past five years, our <u>Housing</u>
<u>Support Services (HSS)</u> team has found homes for over 1,000 formerly unhoused Veterans. Click <u>here</u> to learn more about DVS's efforts to end chronic homelessness among Veterans in New York City.

## **VetBizNYC: Supporting Veteran Entrepreneurship**

DVS has launched <u>VetBizNYC</u>, an interactive map that identifies Veteranowned businesses across the five boroughs. New Yorkers can use our interactive map to find and support Veteran-owned businesses in their community.



### **Veterans Voices Project: Changing the Narrative of Veterans**



Administered by the <u>NYC Department of Veterans' Services</u>, the <u>Veteran Voices Project (VVP)</u> is an oral history initiative designed to preserve the stories of New York City's Veterans across all military branches and service areas. For more information, visit <u>nyc.gov/vetvoices</u>.

### Contact Us

- Complete the services request form at vetconnectnyc.org
- Message the Commissioner
- Partner with DVS
- Press Inquiries

Stay tuned on our website <a href="www.nyc.gov/vets">www.nyc.gov/vets</a> and social media platforms <a href="mailto:@nycveterans.nyc.gov">@nycveterans.nyc.gov</a>. or via email at <a href="mailto:connect@veterans.nyc.gov">connect@veterans.nyc.gov</a>.









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