



For Immediate Release  
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### **Ohio Department of Veterans Services Launches Social Media, E-Mail Contacts**

COLUMBUS – The Ohio Department of Veterans Services has launched a major new outreach to find military veterans through Facebook, Twitter and e-mail.

The department's website, [dvs.ohio.gov](http://dvs.ohio.gov), now offers a link to a Facebook page containing key messages of interest to veterans in Ohio. A Twitter account offers more frequent, short updates. Veterans Services is also offering an e-mail listserv sign-up that will provide a monthly newsletter of items of interest to Ohio's veterans community.

Employing social media to find veterans is an essential step in connecting them to the benefits they have earned, the department believes. Ohio has over 900,000 military veterans.

"There are a host of benefits available to many veterans, but a lot aren't even aware that they're qualified," said Thomas N. Moe, Director of the Ohio Department of Veterans Services. "We're using the latest in 21<sup>st</sup> Century technology to get the word out to all our veterans that the time they spent in uniform may have earned them some very significant benefits that can help them now."

Included in the department's social media package is a link to the photo site Flickr, where it posts images of recent veterans' ceremonies for viewing and sharing. Also offered is a YouTube channel of video from these events and related content of general interest or assistance to veterans.

Veterans of military service generally qualify for a number of federal and state benefits ranging from compensation for injuries to health care, educational, home loans and many others, to include direct financial assistance in cases of need. County veterans service offices in each of Ohio's counties assist veterans in applying for these benefits.

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