

NEWS

Senator Siplin Commemorates Veterans

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**Contact: Monica Harris
407-297-2071**

Orlando – On the eve of Memorial Day, May 24, 2003 Senator Gary Siplin (D – FL) will host a Veteran Workshop to educate veterans, active enlisted, and their families on the benefits and services that are available to them.

Florida has over 1.7 Million Veterans; many of them are homeless and/or unemployed. The Florida Department of Children and Families has estimated that as many as 17,500 veterans are homeless on any given night. These numbers are sure to raise due to troops returning from the Iraqi War. “We hope to attract all veterans to this workshop to let them know that help is available. This workshop will help them to learn about several different services and benefits that they can utilize” said Senator Siplin. If veterans have questions involving claims there will be representatives available to assist them.

Among the speakers at the workshop there will be top Florida VA officials such as Director of Florida Department of Veteran Affairs, Warren “Rocky” McPherson, Regional Department of Veteran Affairs Service Director, Brent Gibbard, Orange County Veteran Service Program Service Officer, Mike Dixon, and a representative from the VA Orlando Medical Center. The University of Central Florida’s Student Financial Assistance Department, Workforce- Veteran Service Programs, and branches of the United States Armed Services will also be available. Former Iraqi Prisoner of War, Shoshana Johnson has been asked to phone in blessings and encouragement to fellow veterans that are attending the workshop.

The workshop will encompass information regarding health care, nursing homes, medical claims, VA home loans, hospitals, small business opportunities, and recruiters from branches of the United States Armed Forces.

Our goal is to honor and educate our veterans, active enlisted, and their families on Saturday May 24th, 2003.

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