



SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS

As a retired Commander of the Naval Reserves with more than 27 years of service, including active duty, Attorney General Terry Goddard understands the needs of Arizona's nearly 600,000 military Veterans. Terry knows that the service and sacrifices of Arizona Veterans can never truly be repaid, but will ensure that the men and women who have served in uniform will always have access to the services and support they have earned.

EDUCATION

Education has always been a keystone issue to Terry. As a beneficiary of the GI Bill himself, he is a strong supporter of expanding and improving education benefits for Veterans in Arizona. Although military service among Arizona residents is above the national average, Veterans' benefits in our State are underutilized. Terry will work closely with college campuses to build a supportive system for Veterans to make sure that: 1) they receive the services they earned and 2) reach their educational goals. University programs that actively assist Veterans in completing their studies are critically important. Terry will expand the reach of those programs in each of the three state universities.

Further, the Goddard Administration will support legislation to grant in-state tuition status for all Veterans discharged under honorable conditions.

JOBS FOR VETERANS

Even in today's recession, there is no reason any Veteran should ever go jobless. Terry Goddard supports expanding programs like Troops to Teachers and Helmets to Hardhats, which help Veterans reintegrate and transition back into society. Terry will champion hiring preferences for Veterans who apply for state jobs, and the Goddard Administration will establish the goal for 3% of state contracts to be set aside for Arizona Veteran-owned businesses.

Terry understands that employing Veterans is key to his plan to restore Arizona's shattered economy and budget. Terry also advocates restoration of job training dollars that were eliminated in an ill-advised move by the current governor and state legislature.

VETERANS TREATMENT COURTS

Terry Goddard strongly supports integrating and establishing Veterans Courts throughout the state. He will see to it that Veterans receive fair treatment and the services they earned

through carefully monitored court ordered rehabilitation and counseling in order to overcome the ill effects of service related problems such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder or Traumatic Brain Injuries. The Veterans Courts can better evaluate and rehabilitate Veterans who have stumbled in entering the civilian world and deserve our community's full support in order to complete their transition to civilian life after fighting for our freedoms.

HEALTHCARE

A third of Veterans are currently at risk of developing mental-health problems, and far too many Veterans are not enrolled in the VA system. Outreach programs must be expanded to better educate and inform Veterans about the VA resources available to meet their healthcare needs. Transportation to VA facilities should also be provided for Veterans living in our rural communities. In addition, the Goddard Administration will assemble the resources of the Department of Health Services, Department of Veterans Services, VA hospitals, Arizona's state universities and the community college system to train Veterans as healthcare professionals.

VETERANS' HOMES

Arizona is currently eligible for five state Veterans' homes under the current federal-state formula, yet Arizona has only one in operation and one under construction in the Tucson area. One of our top priorities, as our economy finally recovers, is to push Congress to provide the necessary funding to begin work on three more Veterans' homes offering service to Veteran populations statewide. We owe our Veterans nothing less. The homes are also important to the economic success of our State. Because each client in each home receives federal funding through Medicare/Medicaid, the VA or Social Security, they ensure the employment of hundreds of healthcare workers and providers.