



OFFICE OF HUMAN SERVICES & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS: VETERANS SERVICES

PEOPLE FOCUSED

On a daily basis, Veteran Services counsels and assists veterans and their dependents with processing benefit claims and obtaining other benefits entitled to them through the United States Department of Veteran's Affairs and other Federal Government Agencies. The Division also serves as the Veteran Liaison for the local and outlining communities.

Leon County Veterans Services Division has a strong relationship and continually partners with other organizations that assist our veterans. These agencies include: American Red Cross, Florida Department of Veteran Affairs, Florida Veterans Foundation, VET Center, Veteran Service Organizations, Vet Village, FSU Collegiate Veterans Association, VA Outpatient clinic, and Workforce Plus. The Division and its community partners meet on a monthly basis to share information on Veteran programs and to address the current needs of our Veteran community.

Master Sergeant Jan Carey, a 21-year veteran of the United States Marine Corps, serves as Leon County Veteran Services Officer. MSgt Carey is accredited as a Veteran Services Officer by the Florida Department of Veteran Affairs, the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.



Jan Carey

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Veteran Services
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PERFORMANCE DRIVEN

VETERANS HELPING VETERANS

- In Veteran Services, the County understands that behind every claim is a veteran in need, in FY11 the Division:
 - » Assisted over 2,004 veterans and dependents in person and over 18,000 by phone or mail.
 - » Facilitated claim actions resulting in Leon County veterans receiving more than \$8.1 million in new awards this year.
 - » The Board of County Commissioners has continued to support and fund the Leon County Active Duty Grant Program to offset financial obligations for active duty service members and their families. For FY11, the County distributed approximately \$70,000 to 69 applicants through the Military Grant Program.
- The transition from active military to civilian life can often be difficult for veterans. Veterans Services receives separation papers of all veterans that designate Tallahassee as their home of record, or the place that they will be relocating to after separation. To introduce Veteran Services to these veterans, "Welcome" letters are sent to let them know where the division is located and the services provided.
- With the understanding of the importance to increase and foster strong relationships with veterans, the Division participates and supports numerous veteran service organizations. The Division Director serves on the Board of Veterans Events in Tallahassee (VET Inc.) which organizes and executes the annual Leon County Veterans Day Parade.

- The division actively promotes the programs and services available to veterans by attending and participating in events throughout the community. For example, the Division provided Veteran Benefits presentations for "Senior Days" at all senior centers in Leon County. Additionally Veteran Benefits presentations were provided to deploying and returning Reserve and Guard units at various events.



Did You Know

Leon County is home to approximately 18,500 veterans.