

## Warren County Veterans Service Officer's Report for May 2014

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Spring has at last sprung...I think???

- **Disability Claims Backlog Reduced by 44 Percent Since Peaking One Year Ago:**  
WASHINGTON – One year after the backlog of pending disability compensation claims peaked at over 611,000 in March 2013, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has reduced that number by approximately 44 percent to 344,000 claims – a reduction of more than 267,000 – while at the same time improving the accuracy of the decisions being made on Veterans' disability claims. Additionally, on average, Veterans are waiting 119 days less for a decision than they were at this time last year. Visit the following link for the entire presser: <http://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2532>
- **Newly launched Employment Center available on [www.ebenefits.va.gov](http://www.ebenefits.va.gov):**

The First Lady highlighted the Employment Center in her remarks today at a military and Veteran employment event in Fort Campbell, Kentucky. The Department of Veterans Affairs worked closely with our federal partners to develop the Employment Center, which is the single federal source for Veterans looking for new career opportunities in the private and public sectors, as well as Servicemembers transitioning to the civilian workforce, military spouses and dependents looking for employment opportunities, G.I. Bill® beneficiaries transitioning from training to the job market and employers looking to connect with high quality applicants. This new site integrates multiple tools and resources for both job seekers and employers, including the Veterans Job Bank.

If you or someone you know is a ***Veteran, Servicemember, military spouse or a dependent*** who is either unemployed or looking for a different career opportunity, I strongly encourage you to check out the new Employment Center. Once on the site you will be able to use the Skills Translator to translate your military skills to civilian skills or skip directly to building a resume with the Resume Builder tool. Resumes created on the site will be available for viewing by both private and public sector employers who are specifically looking to hire Veterans. Please, visit [www.ebenefits.va.gov](http://www.ebenefits.va.gov) and click on the Employment Center tab on the top navigation bar to create and post your resume. This will ensure that employers looking to hire Veterans like you have access to your resume online.

If you are an ***employer*** who is interested in learning more about the valuable benefits of hiring a Veteran, military spouse or dependent, or connecting directly with these men and women, I also encourage you to check out the new Employment Center and create a free profile. The new Employment Center provides employers with the ability to make a hiring commitment, post jobs, and search a bank of posted resumes from verified Veterans, military spouses and dependents.

**Upcoming Events with VA Benefits incorporated into the presentations:** Check website for more info.  
**How NOT to Pay for Services – Offered by The Glens Falls Home (Ageless Opportunities)** on May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30PM  
**PTSD Group – Offered by the VetCenter** in So. Glens Falls, 10AM on Fridays, call for appointment 518/626-5136  
**Home Buyer Seminar – offered by Coldwell Banker Prime** on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 6PM