The National Veteran Employment Summit
From Candidate to Mutual Success Story

The National Veteran Employment Summit, hosted by The American Legion and Military.com, will bring together senior military and government officials, corporate HR leaders and professionals within the Veterans’ community to address best practices for preparing, supporting and connecting veterans to the organizations that want to hire them.

Together, attendees will have the opportunity to candidly discuss the career landscape facing both veterans and employers, working through the challenges facing both parties in navigating the transition from the military to civilian employment.

The program is paced chronologically through the military transition process. First, looking at the effectiveness of the Transition Assistance Program (TAP). Then hearing from career development program managers and employers and lastly, addressing workplace accommodations aimed at talent retention.

Friday, August 18th
5:30 – 7:00 Evening Reception
Remarks by:

Paul Dillard,
VE&E Chairman,
The American Legion

Employer of veterans award (Small)
Employer of veterans award (Medium)
Employer of Older Workers
Local Veterans Employment Representative of the year (LVER)

Greg Smith,
President
Military.com

Scott L. Wyatt
President
Southern Utah University
Saturday, August 19th
9:00 – 9:30 Opening Session
Welcome by Paul Dillard,
VE&E Chairman,
The American Legion

Master of Ceremony:
Greg Smith,
President
Military.com

Scott L. Wyatt
Opening remarks
President
Southern Utah University

9:30 – 10:00 Matt Miller
Message from the U.S. Department of Labor
Special Advisor to the Secretary
U.S. Department of Labor

10:00 – 11:00 Career Development Programs
Currently, there are more corporate fellowship programs available for service members
while they are still on active duty. This is a look at the ways service members and
veterans can acquire more skills and experience prior to entering the workforce. How
can fellowships and training programs move veterans from transitional employment into
fulltime career opportunities and how can corporations tap into these programs?

Moderator: Liz Mclean
Sr. Advisor HR Programs
Military.com

Thomas L. Dawkins
Workforce Development & Education Director
Microsoft Corporation

Marion Cain
Assistant Director for Readiness
Office of Secretary of Defense

Steve Jordon
Program Manager
Northern Virginia Technology Council: Veteran Employment Initiative

Robert B. Comer
Lead National Trainer/Program Manager
11:00 – 11:50 Transition Assistance Program (TAP)
This is a diverse panel of veterans who have recently transitioned from active duty service. They will discuss their experiences in transition, what helped them, and what did not. They will have the chance to ask questions directly to the administrators of the TAP courses from VA, DOL and DOD.

Moderator: Terry Howell
Director of Strategic Partnerships and Editorial Operations
Military.com

Tim Green
Director of Veterans Employment and Training Services
US Department of Labor

Major George Coleman
Director of Education and Training,
Soldier for Life, DOD

Michael Carr
Assistant Director
VA Benefits Assistance Service

Kaitlin Gray
Assistant Director
The American Legion

Linda Rix
CEO
Avue Technologies Corporation

12:00 – 1:20 Break for Lunch

1:30 – 2:30 Corporate Career
Continuing the discussion on transition, this session focuses on military culture, skill sets, training, applicability of experience, and how these skills are translated from the military to the corporate environment. What are the requisite skills for survival in the corporate landscape: networking, interviewing, and the paradigm shift in how the post 9/11 veterans engage their employers?

Moderator: Karin Childress-Wiley
Director of Veterans Employment
Monster Worldwide Inc.
Cleo Whipple  
Vice President of HR & Risk Management 
Caesar's Entertainment Corporation

Ralph Hernandez  
Military Senior Program Leader 
Amazon.com, Inc.

David Wallace  
Military Relations Project Manager 
Lockheed Martin Corporation

Gregory Pratt  
Military Affairs Relationship Director 
USAA

2:30 – 3:30 Accommodations and the Workplace
Once hired, it is in the employer’s best interest to create a new mission and sense of purpose for the new employee, both through the veteran's work and connection to the company. This is a candid conversation between a Clinical Psychologist and a Human Resources Manager that takes a hard look at the appropriate questions and actions to take in the hiring and retention process.

Colleen Mizuki  
Founder 
Avenir Coaching and Training

Liz Mclean  
Sr. Advisor HR Programs 
Military.com

3:30 – 4:15 Alexander Carrillo  
Call to Action 
Global Security Operations Manager 
Facebook Inc.