

**Board of Chosen Freeholders**

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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**DATE: February 11, 2019****Contact: John E. Lanza, Freeholder Deputy Director**John.lanza@co.hunterdon.nj.us

Hunterdon Officials Remind Veterans 'It's Your Benefit' \$3000 NJ Tax Exemption Available Again

Hunterdon County Freeholder Deputy Director and Veterans' Liaison, John E. Lanza, and Sheriff Fred W. Brown, a U.S. Navy Veteran, have announced an 'It's Your Benefit' public information campaign to remind Veterans that they are again eligible for a \$3000 exemption when filing their state income tax forms for 2018.

Lanza said, "We are renewing the effort begun last year by Freeholder Matt Holt and County Clerk Mary Melfi, to make sure all Hunterdon County Veterans know they are eligible for this deserved and significant tax break when they complete their 2018 tax forms. Our Veterans have sacrificed so much to protect the freedom and liberty of the people of our nation, ensuring Veterans are aware of this benefit is the least we can do."

Sheriff Brown stated, "Unlike some other Veterans' benefit programs in the State, all who have served in our military qualify for this benefit, regardless of the period served. I encourage my fellow Veterans to avail themselves of this greatly warranted tax break."

The exemption can be found on NJ Form 1040, Line 9. Veterans must provide a copy of the Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, DD-214, with the tax filing. More information can be found here <https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/military/vetexemption.shtml>.

Veterans who provided documentation last year do not have to do so again.

Those who do not have a copy of their DD-214 should contact Hunterdon County's Veterans Services Officer, Richard Booth, at rbooth@co.hunterdon.nj.us or calling (908) 788-1361 to help retrieve a copy.

Lanza and Brown said the County will be distributing 'It's Your Benefit' information to the various Hunterdon County Veterans' organizations, as well as working with VSO Booth to distribute a Veterans Newsletter with information on the tax exemption, as well as other Veterans' benefits.