

**From:** [Wayne Gatewood, Jr](#)  
**To:** [Wayne Gatewood, Jr](#)  
**Subject:** Scoop for you great Troops, Vets, Families, and Friends - A Peaceful Memorial Day for all  
**Date:** Friday, May 24, 2013 8:04:22 PM  
**Attachments:** [SBA Veteran Pledge Initiative.pdf](#)

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Happy Friday evening all! Wishing everyone well.

*Believe in yourself! Have faith in your abilities! Without a humble but reasonable confidence in your own powers you cannot be successful or happy.*

*Norman Vincent Peale*

**Memorial Day - The Path of The Warrior** - I respectfully ask you all to turn up your sound and watch this heartfelt 6 minute youtube video, if not today, on Memorial Day.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JKqT0-3JV5E&feature=youtube\\_gdata\\_player](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JKqT0-3JV5E&feature=youtube_gdata_player)

**Two future Navy ships named** (one after our great friend, a WW II Veteran, Medal of Honor Recipient, and a great member of the Senate who fought like hell in behalf of his fellow Veterans, Senator Daniel Inouye...may his Soul Rest in Eternal Peace.

<http://www.defense.gov/releases/release.aspx?releaseid=16032> Thanks to Stan Fujii of SBA for getting this to us.

Prayers and blessings for you and your loved ones and for our great Troops and their loved ones everywhere.

Best.....Wayne

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**A MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**Memorial Day 2013**

This weekend, Americans in large numbers will visit our national cemeteries and other final resting places to honor their loved ones, their friends, neighbors, colleagues, even some unknown to them—men and women who gave their lives in defense of our Nation. Memorial Day is a time to reflect on their service and their sacrifice, even as our Armed Forces are performing difficult and dangerous missions in distant lands. They continue to safeguard our American way of life.

Memorial Day is set aside to honor the more than one million of our fellow citizens who have fallen in battle since the founding of our Republic. Their service helped to shape us as a Nation and secured, for us and our friends and allies, our security in a troubled world. Except for their service, we all would be facing different circumstances today. During World War II, American forces literally helped to save the world from tyranny and oppression. Those who marched to the guns in the 1950's saved a Nation. And the most devastating conflict in our history, the American Civil War, preserved a Union that would, within a hundred years, emerge as a world power, dedicated to preserving freedom and liberty. Every generation has done its duty, just as today's 1.37 million members of our Armed Forces are doing theirs under difficult circumstances.

On Memorial Day, their service in uniform stands in contrast to our ball games and backyard barbecues. Our defenders are ordinary Americans performing extraordinary deeds, bearing all the risks for our way of life. In remembering the Fallen, we honor the men and women who kept faith with our enduring principles of “Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.” We remember, as well, those who keep the faith today and honor their patriotism, valor, dedication, and loyalty.

A memorial written by Civil War-era orator, Robert Green Ingersoll, eloquently captures the significance of Memorial Day for all generations of our Fallen:

“They died for liberty—they died for us. They are at rest.  
They sleep in the land they made free, under the flag they rendered stainless ... Earth may run red with other wars, but they are at peace.  
In the midst of battles, in the roar of conflict, they found the serenity of death.”

I join with all VA employees in honoring those who have been called to the Altar of Freedom, in offering prayers for them and their families, who sacrifice still today, and in asking for the Almighty’s continued blessings on this great Nation.

Eric K. Shinseki

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**Memorial Day message from American Legion National Commander Jim Koutz**

Dear Legion Family Members and Friends,

All of us cherish the memories of our fallen comrades, friends or loved ones.

Not a day goes by when I don’t think about the friends I’ve lost. I think about the young 20-somethings I knew from Vietnam who made the supreme sacrifice serving our nation. I think about the heroes from other eras – the Great Wars, Korea, Desert Storm, Iraq and Afghanistan – who gave their lives so all of us could enjoy our freedoms.

This weekend, of course, another Memorial Day is upon us. I hope that you will join me in remembering to honor not only veterans who were close to you but also all of our veterans who gave their all. While the mass media often makes this weekend out to be about barbecues and department store sales, it is up to each one of us to remind our communities about the true meaning of this day.

I also encourage you to take a moment and visit The American Legion’s new web page dedicated to honor and remembrance, [www.legion.org/honor](http://www.legion.org/honor). Scores of wonderful tributes to the men and women who served our nation with honor, courage and dignity can be found there.

Some of these tributes were contributed by the veterans themselves, or their family members. It’s easy – and free – to add your story, or your family’s legacy, to this growing collection of American military history. Just visit [www.legiontown.org](http://www.legiontown.org) to submit a story, or read more about how to participate [here](#) or [here](#).

Thank you for what you do every day – for veterans, their families and the communities in

which they live. May our fallen never be forgotten.

For God and Country,

James E. Koutz  
National Commander

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**From: SBA Veterans Business – Stan Fujii**  
**Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2013 12:45 PM**  
**Subj: New SBA Lending Initiative Helps Veterans Become Entrepreneurs**

## **SBA VETERANS PLEDGE INITIATIVE**

**WASHINGTON** – The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) today announced the SBA Veteran Pledge Initiative, a commitment by its top national, regional and community lenders to collectively increase their lending activity to veterans by five percent per year for the next five years.

Often times, veterans face challenges in raising capital or have trouble receiving a conventional loan. With the support of SBA's top 20 national lending partners, and approximately 100 additional regional and community lending partners across the United States, SBA expects to assist an additional 2,000 veterans obtain loans to start or expand small businesses by increasing lending by \$475 million over the next five years. This equals a five percent increase above historic veteran lending activity by the SBA.

Also, please look for a blog by Associate Administrator Rhett Jeppson's, which will be posted on the SBA Community webpage later today (<http://www.sba.gov/community>).

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**From: VFW, Joe Davis, Director of Public Affairs**  
**Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2013 1:34 PM**

**Stolen Valor Act Passes Congress!**  
*VFW-supported legislation now heads to president*

**WASHINGTON (May 23, 2013)** — The national commander of America's largest and oldest major combat veterans organization is applauding Congress this week for passing the Stolen Valor Act of 2013, which now heads to the White House for the president's signature.

John E. Hamilton, a triple Purple Heart recipient who leads the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, said Congress followed the roadmap laid out by the U.S. Supreme Court when they overturned the Stolen Valor Act of 2005 last year. In their writings, the high court suggested any future legislation had to be narrower in focus than just to penalize people for simple lying, which they ruled as protected speech in a 6-3 decision.

“Now the new language is bullet-proof,” said Hamilton, “because the focus is on the intent to profit from the lie, to obtain money, property or something of a tangible benefit, which is what con artists have been doing throughout history.”

The VFW-supported legislation was introduced by Rep. Joe Heck and Sen. Dean Heller, both from Nevada. H.R. 258 passed overwhelmingly in the House on Monday by a vote of 390-3.

The Senate passed its companion, S. 210, last night by unanimous consent.

Not every combat award is covered, but the ones most worn by wannabe heroes will be protected once the bill becomes law. Protected are the Medal of Honor, service crosses, Silver Star, Purple Heart, and combat badges such as the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Combat Action Badge, Combat Medical Badge, Combat Action Ribbon and Combat Action Medal. The maximum punishment under the bill would be a \$100,000 fine and up to one year in jail for each offense.

"The VFW is very pleased with Congressman Heck and Senator Heller and all their co-sponsors," said Hamilton, who served in Vietnam as a Marine Corps rifleman. "We want all con artists to pay a very severe penalty — and a very public price — for daring to steal the valor of those too few who survived and of the great many who did not."

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**News Release**

**For Immediate Release**

**Miller, McCarthy Introduce VA Backlog Task Force Bill**

**WASHINGTON, DC** – Today, Chairman Jeff Miller (FL-01) and House Majority Whip Kevin McCarthy (CA-23) introduced legislation that would establish an independent task force or commission to analyze VA's disability benefits claims processing system. The task force would be charged with examining the root causes of VA's backlog and providing solutions for ending it by 2015.

After decades of mismanagement, VA is buried under a mountain of backlogged disability benefits compensation claims. Nearly 900,000 veterans are waiting for a claims decision — a process that takes nine months on average, but in some cases takes years. VA leaders have repeatedly pledged to end the backlog by 2015, but many in the veterans community are skeptical the department is on track to meet that goal.

Under the bill, the task force would provide recommendations for improving VA's claims processing operations within 60 days of its first meeting and continually help the department refine its claims processing efforts until VA's backlog is eliminated.

Task force members would be appointed by members of Congress and the Obama administration and would include a delegate from VA. The bill would also require task force members to solicit input from representatives from the veterans service organization community and private-sector leaders in fields such as claims processing, logistics, electronic records and product tracking.

"Government bureaucrats under both Republican and Democrat administrations created the backlog, so it's only natural to solicit outside help from the private sector and the VSO community in working toward a solution. By creating a task force of private industry leaders, VA and VSO officials, we hope to establish a revised evidence-based process that will help VA break its claims backlog once and for all in 2015, just as department leaders have promised." **Miller** said.

"The entire country is counting on VA to end the backlog by 2015, and Congress is committed to holding the department accountable until they achieve that goal. Our veterans

deserve the care they earned while protecting and defending our country, and continued failure by the VA cannot and will not be tolerated.” **McCarthy** said.

"As Memorial Day approaches, it's clear that there is no roadmap from the White House to bring the VA backlog to zero. Veterans need a comprehensive, inter-agency approach to solve the disgraceful backlog. IAVA strongly supports Chairman Miller's bill to proactively establish just such a coordinated effort to get the VA the help it needs on the backlog and to bring outside players to the table to assist in that effort. The enormous success of the roundtable with private industry experts convened by the Chairman last week is an example how the VA can greatly benefit from an expansion of this approach," said **Paul Rieckhoff**, CEO and Founder of Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America.

[Read the text of the bill here.](#)

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## **DOD CONTRACTS AWARDED MAY 23, 2013**

### **NAVY**

**Exelis, Inc.**, Clifton, N.J., is being awarded a \$125,724,964 modification to a previously awarded firm-fixed-price production contract (N00019-12-C-0002) to exercise an option for the manufacture and delivery of 62 AN/ALQ-214(V)4 On-Board Jammer Systems, under Full Rate Production Lot 10, for installation on the F/A-18 aircraft. Work will be performed in Clifton, N.J. (31 percent); San Jose, Calif. (26 percent); San Diego, Calif. (11 percent); Rancho Cordova, Calif. ( 5 percent); Mountain View, Calif. (4 percent); Hudson, N.H. (2 percent); West Springfield, Mass. (2 percent); and various locations within the United States (19 percent); and is expected to be completed in November 2015. Fiscal 2012 and 2013 Aircraft Procurement Navy funds in the amount of \$125,724,964 are being obligated on this award, none of which will expire at the end of the current fiscal year. The Naval Air Systems Command, Patuxent River, Md., is the contracting activity.

**L-3 Communications Corp.**, Madison, Miss., is being awarded a \$53,002,714 indefinite-delivery requirements contract for logistics services support of the TH-57 aircraft fleet. Services to be provided include repair and/or overhaul of aircraft, engines, avionics and related components. Work will be performed at Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Milton, Fla., and is expected to be completed in June 2014. No funds are being obligated at time of award. Funds will be obligated against individual delivery orders as they are issued. This contract was competitively procured via electronic request for proposals; five offers were received. The Naval Air Systems Command, Patuxent River, Md., is the contracting activity (N00019-13-D-0007).

**BAE Systems U.S. Combat Systems**, Minneapolis, Minn., is being awarded a \$15,350,000 modification to previously awarded contract (N00024-09-C-4137) for manufacture and delivery of propulsor systems in support of the Virginia-class submarine requirements. Work will be performed in Louisville, Ky., and is expected to be completed by May 2015. Fiscal 2013 Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navyfunding in the amount of \$15,350,000 will be obligated at time of award. Contract funds will not expire at the end of the current fiscal year. The Naval Sea Systems Command, Washington D.C., is the contracting activity.

**International Marine and Industrial Applicators LLC**, Bremerton, Wash., is being

awarded a \$12,512,448 modification to previously awarded indefinite-delivery/indefinite-quantity contract (N4523A-12-D-0003) to execute delivery order (0005) for the procurement of long-lead time material in support of the CVN 74 docking planned incremental availability. Work will be performed in Bremerton, Wash., and is expected to be completed by June 2014. Fiscal 2013 Operations and Maintenance, Navy funding in the amount of \$12,512,448 will be obligated at time of award, and the contract funds will expire at the end of the current fiscal year. Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Wash., is the contracting activity.

**Insitu, Inc.**, Bingen, Wash., is being awarded a \$7,921,386 delivery order against a previously issued basic ordering agreement (N00019-12-G-0008) for field service representatives in support of the Scan Eagle Unmanned Aerial Systems. Work will be performed in Bingen, Wash., and is expected to be completed in September 2013. Fiscal 2013 Operations and Maintenance, Navy funds in the amount of \$7,921,386 will be obligated at time of award, all of which will expire at the end of the current fiscal year. The Naval Air Systems Command, Patuxent River, Md., is the contracting activity.

## **ARMY**

**CUBIC Applications Inc.**, San Diego, Calif., was awarded a \$75,756,647 modification (P00135), to a previously awarded cost-plus-award-fee contract (W911S0-07-C-0007), for combat training services in support of the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La. The cumulative total face value of this contract is \$680,548,301. A combination of fiscal 2013 Operations and Maintenance funds and fiscal 2013 Procurement funds are being obligated on this award. The Army Contracting Command, Fort Polk, La., is the contracting activity.

**Jorge Scientific Corp.**, Arlington, Va., was awarded a \$45,202,735 modification (P00015), to a previously awarded cost-plus-fixed-fee, Foreign Military Sales (FMS) contract (W911QX-12-C-0011), for the design and development of new doctrine and training methodologies for the Legacy Program. This FMS contract is in support of Afghanistan. The cumulative total face value of this contract is \$175,629,240. Work will be performed in Afghanistan. Fiscal 2013 Procurement funds in the amount of \$16,557,000 are being obligated on this award. The Army Contracting Command, Adelphi, Md., is the contracting activity.

**Fidelity Technologies Corp.**, Reading, Pa., was awarded a firm-fixed-price, multi-year contract with a maximum value of \$26,000,000 for the procurement of power distribution illumination systems and electrical systems. Performance location and type of appropriation will be determined with each order. One bid was solicited, with one bid received. The Army Contracting Command, Alexandria, Va., is the contracting activity (W15P7T-08-D-A007).

**Orion Marine Construction Inc.**, Tampa, Fla., was awarded a firm-fixed-price contract with a maximum value of \$6,975,000 for maintenance dredging services in Concordia Parish, La. Fiscal 2013 procurement funds are being obligated on this award. The bid was solicited through the Internet, with seven bids received. The Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans, La., is the contracting activity (W912P8-13-C-0026).

## **AIR FORCE**

**Northrup Grumman Systems Corp.**, Rolling Meadows, Ill., is being awarded a \$26,000,000 firm-fixed-price contract to modify and install two Airbus A319CJ Head of State aircraft with Large Infrared Countermeasures system including hardware, support equipment and services. Work will be performed at Rolling Meadows, Ill., and is expected to be completed by March 31, 2016. This contract was a sole source acquisition. The contract involves foreign military sales to Germany. The contracting activity is Air Force Life Cycle Management Center Aircraft Survivability Division, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. (FA8625-13-C-6590).

## **DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY**

**Oceanic Medical Products, Inc.**,\* Atchison, Kan., has been awarded a maximum \$50,000,000 modification (P00008) exercising the third option year of a five year base contract (SPM200-06-D-B203) with five one-year option periods for anesthesia systems and related components and accessories. The contract is a fixed-price with economic-price-adjustment, indefinite-delivery/indefinite-quantity contract. Location of performance is Kansas with a May 22, 2014 performance completion date. Using services are Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and federal civilian agencies. Type of appropriation is fiscal 2013 through fiscal 2014 Defense Working Capital funds. The contracting activity is the Defense Logistics Agency Troop Support, Philadelphia, Pa.

**Northrop Grumman Systems, Warner Robins, Ga.**, has been awarded a maximum \$11,926,211 firm-fixed-price contract. This contract is for aircraft low voltage power supply. Location of performance is Georgia with a December 2020 performance completion date. Using service is Air Force. Type of appropriation is fiscal 2013 Air Force funds. The contracting activity is the Defense Logistics Agency Aviation, Robins Air Force Base, Ga., (SPRWA1-13-D-0004).

\*Small Business

U.S. Department of Defense  
Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs)

On the Web: <http://www.defense.gov/Contracts/>

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Godspeed.....Wayne

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*"The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional as to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their Nation." - George Washington*