



MEDIA ADVISORY

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**WALKER SIGNS RESOLUTION TO CONSOLIDATE
VETERANS' SERVICE OFFICES**

BROWN DEER – County Executive Scott Walker, joined by Secretary for the WI Department of Veteran Affairs, John Scocos, signed a resolution Friday to approve the move of the Milwaukee County Veterans Services office from the Milwaukee County Courthouse to the Zablocki VA Medical Center. The move will occur later this summer.

“By combining our county and state services to one central location for veterans, we are creating a ‘one-stop shop’ to better serve our veterans,” said County Executive Walker.

“This important initiative is very beneficial to the over 75,000 veterans in Milwaukee County -- about 15 percent of the state's veterans,” said Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary John A. Scocos. “This move has been in the works since January of last year and it is through the partnership of Milwaukee County, the federal VA Hospital and Regional Office, and my department that we can continue providing the best services to Wisconsin veterans to help them receive the benefits they've earned.”

Currently, Milwaukee County's Veterans' Service Office only had two full-time employees serving approximately 21% of the veteran population in the State of Wisconsin. Their offices were located at the ground level of the Courthouse, limiting access by older veterans.

“This merger will make obtaining benefits more accessible to our veterans, including easier parking and direct connection to both county and state benefit needs,” said Walker.

Following the announcement, County Executive Walker, in honor of Friday's National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans, joined several community leaders and personalities in visiting close to 500 veterans as they were having lunch at the VA facility.

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