



Jim Doyle, Governor  
John A. Scocos, Secretary

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## Attention Newsroom—News Release

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### **Veterans Benefits Information Fair to be held at Fort McCoy on September 2**

(MADISON) -- Veterans can apply for an array of state and federal benefits at one convenient location during a **Veterans Benefits Information Fair** sponsored by the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) in partnership with the Fort McCoy Retiree Office on **Friday, September 2 – from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.**, at **Fort McCoy, Wisconsin**, in the **Rumpel Fitness Center, Building 1122**.

The *Veterans Benefits Information Fair* is being held in conjunction with the annual Ft McCoy Retiree Appreciation Day. Activities for the day include briefings in the morning at Building 905 followed by the benefit fair in the afternoon at Building 1122 at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin.

"The Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs outreach includes working with partnering agencies (federal, state and local) to help ensure our veterans of all ages and their families receive the benefits they deserve and to welcome and reintegrate returning Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom veterans back home to their communities," said Secretary John A. Scocos.

The *Veterans Benefits Information Fair* being held at Ft McCoy will have over 60 providers on hand. The information fair is part of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs "I Owe You" outreach campaign and the "Mission: Welcome Home," program to assist veterans of all ages. In addition to reaching out to older veterans the fair will also provide an opportunity for recently returned servicemembers from Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom and their family members to learn about and apply for benefits and services earned.

The information fair is the fourth of six veterans benefits outreach events hosted by the state this year. Previous events were held in Kenosha, LaCrosse, and Platteville, with others to be held in Green Bay on September 21 and Milwaukee on October 14 - 15. At this "one-stop" shop for benefits, veterans, retirees and service members can:

- Establish eligibility for state veterans benefits (veterans are advised to bring their **DD form 214**).
- Apply for benefits, such as VA health care and prescription drug benefits, disability compensation and pension, personal loans, home mortgage loans, home improvement loans and education or job training grants.
- Receive information on retiree benefits and services.
- Receive assistance in obtaining military medals and records.
- Learn what the Wisconsin Veterans Homes in Union Grove and King offer: affordable assisted living, activities, and a friendly environment.
- Find out about employment opportunities.
- Pre-register for burial in state veterans cemeteries.
- Obtain information about nursing care and aging services.

(more)

Attendees should allow ample time for entry through the Main Gate at Ft. McCoy located on Highway 21 between Tomah and Sparta, Wisconsin. If your travel plans include Ft McCoy in the near future stop by on September 2, 2005 and learn first hand about the various benefits and services available to all veterans and those specific to Wisconsin. Parking, admission and refreshments are provided free-of-charge!

For more information about the Veterans Benefits Fairs, call 1-800-WIS-VETS (1-800-947-8387) or go to the WDVA web site at [www.dva.state.wi.us](http://www.dva.state.wi.us). Or contact a local County Veterans Service Office or Tribal Veterans Service Office.