



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 30, 2018

Contact: Tiffany Daniels
Phone: 512.597.7129
Email: tiffany.daniels@wfscapitalarea.com

Workforce Solutions Capital Area Recognized for Commitment to Hiring Veterans with “We Hire Vets” Award



Front row: Cesiah Kessler, Regional Vice President at Manpower and member of Workforce Solutions Capital Area Board of Directors; Tamara Atkinson, Chief Executive Officer of Workforce Solutions Capital Area; and Ruth R. Hughs, Commissioner Representing Employers. Second row: Tony Ramirez, Region Manager – Central Texas for Texas Veterans Commission; Tim Shatto, Director of Employment Services for Texas Veterans Commission; and Bob Gear, Director of the Texas Veterans Leadership Program.

AUSTIN – Workforce Solutions Capital Area has earned recognition for committing to hiring veterans with the “We Hire Vets” award from the Texas Workforce Commission. Today, 25 percent of Workforce Solutions Capital Area Board employees are veterans.

“We are honored to be the first workforce board in the state of Texas to receive this recognition, and we value the integrity, hard work and respect of our team members who have served in uniform,” said Tamara Atkinson, Chief Executive Officer of Workforce Solutions Capital Area. “Our veteran team member’s dedication to service continues today in their day-to-day work serving communities in the Austin and Travis County area.”

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Workforce Solutions Capital Area Board's veteran employees served in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Air Force Reserve, and have a combined 39 years of service.

The Texas Workforce Commission, with the Texas Veterans Commission and Texas Workforce Solutions Offices, launched the "We Hire Vets" employer recognition program in July 2017. Employers whose workforce is composed of at least 10 percent military veterans are eligible for recognition, which includes a display decal for employers' storefronts and an electronic decal to display on employers' websites. The "We Hire Vets" program is part of the Texas Workforce Commission's Texas Operation Welcome Home initiative.

"Veterans bring a level of leadership, integrity, and honor to a company that will strengthen any business," said Ruth R. Hughs, Commissioner Representing Employers. "I want to congratulate Workforce Solutions Capital Area for making the commitment to hiring and retaining our nation's heroes."

Supporting Texas veterans is part of Workforce Solutions Capital Area's mission. Veterans receive priority for job and training referrals at Workforce Solutions Capital Area's three Career Centers. Career specialists at the centers are specifically trained to help veterans of the U.S. military to achieve maximum employment and training opportunities.

Workforce Solutions Capital Area also participates in the annual Hiring Red, White & You! job fair in November, a statewide effort to connect Texas veterans with employers ready to hire. Learn more about how [Workforce Solutions Capital Area serves veterans](#).

More than 500,000 employers do business in Texas. In 2016, there were about 1 million veterans in the Texas labor force, according to the Texas Workforce Commission.

About Workforce Solutions Capital Area

Workforce Solutions Capital Area Workforce Board is the publicly-funded workforce board for Travis County. Through strong partnerships and strategic collaborations, Workforce Solutions is leading the region's workforce system in the development of a world-class workforce. For more information, visit www.wfscapitalarea.com.

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