

MILITARY AND VETERAN INTERIM COMMITTEE 21 JULY 2016



Military and Veteran Interim Committee

21 July 2016

San Juan College

Farmington, NM

- ▣ **New Mexico Department of Veterans Services
New Initiatives and Programs**
 - **Women Veteran Program**
 - **Transportation Summit**
- ▣ **Agency Update**

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- ▣ **Women Veteran Program**
 - **SGM (Retired) Melanie Suazo**
 - **27 Years New Mexico National Guard**
 - **Working with Women Veterans of New Mexico, Women Veterans of the Southwest LC, VA Hospital Women's Clinic**
 - **Will seek out women veterans across the state to:**
 - ▣ **Identify Women Veterans not registered with DVS or VA**
 - ▣ **Identify Unique Issues facing women veterans**
 - ▣ **Develop a plan to best serve women veterans and their families**

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▣ **Transportation Summit**

- ▣ 2 August 2016, New Mexico Veterans Memorial (9:00 am - 3pm)
Sponsored by NMDVS and Raymond G Murphy Medical Center
- ▣ Mission: To promote coordination and marketing of all of the transportation options for veterans in the state of New Mexico, to identify gaps and barriers in transportation and to create a “One Stop Shop” where veterans can find solutions to their transportation challenges.
- ▣ Anticipate 70 participants, representing federal, state, county, tribal, and non-profit entities with a mission to transport veterans
- ▣ Solution Focus on networking, reducing duplication of effort, and identifying areas within New Mexico with sparse or no veteran transportation coverage

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- **Agency Update**
 - **FY 17 Budget**
 - **13% cut from FY 16**
 - **Agency seeking supplemental funding**
 - **Need to cut direct services to veterans**
 - **Mesilla Valley of Hope Las Cruces**
 - **Veteran Service Organizations**
 - **Travel and outreach**
 - **Vacancies in Gallup, Rio Rancho, and Valencia County**
 - **Reviewing all support contracts**
 - **Cancellation of Women's Conference, Wellness Conference, Annual Training**

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▣ **Questions**