



TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION

Contact Information

Duncan McGhee
1700 N. Congress, Suite 800
Austin, Texas 78711-2277
512-936-6677 / Fax 512-475-2395
duncan.mcghee@tvc.state.tx.us

Press Release

For Immediate Release: November 10, 2011

Release No. 20111110-01

Legislators Recognized for Leadership for Veterans

AUSTIN – The Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) has recognized nine legislators for their outstanding efforts to support of Texas Veterans and their families. Acknowledging that a grateful nation never rests in honoring its sacred contract with the men and women who have provided for our national defense, these legislators worked tirelessly to ensure that Texas Veterans would have the access they deserve to claims assistance, employment services, education benefits, grant-funded services, and temporary and permanent housing.

Together, these nine legislators not only ensured that the budget for the Texas Veterans Commission was maintained, but expanded the role of the Texas Veterans Commission in serving Veterans by transferring funding for Housing4TexasHeroes and funding a new Women Veterans Coordinator. These legislators also passed several bills into law that protect and enhance funds and programs benefitting Texas Veterans.

"Theodore Roosevelt once proclaimed; 'A man who is good enough to shed his blood for his country is good enough to be given a square deal afterwards,'" said Thomas Palladino, executive director of the Texas Veterans Commission. "The vision and leadership demonstrated by these nine legislators were critical to ensuring the Veterans of this great state, and their families, continue to receive the absolute best services possible."

Legislative Leadership Award Recipients

State Senator Steve Ogden
Chair, Senate Finance Committee

State Senator Tommy Williams
Member, Senate Finance Committee

State Representative Jim Pitts
Chair, House Appropriations Committee

State Representative John Otto

Chair, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Articles I, IV & V

State Senator Leticia Van de Putte

Chair, Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs & Military Installations

State Senator Wendy Davis

Member, Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs & Military Installations

State Representative Joseph Pickett

Chair, House Committee on Defense & Veteran Affairs

State Representative Ralph Sheffield

Vice Chair, House Committee on Defense & Veteran Affairs

State Representative Joe Farias

Member, House Committee on Defense & Veteran Affairs

"I am incredibly honored to receive this award of recognition for legislative leadership on Veterans' issues from the Texas Veterans Commission. There is not a finer agency in the State of Texas, nor one that performs work that is as important. When it comes to the Veteran community in Texas, I will always work on their collective behalf to ensure that their voice is heard in the Legislature. It comforts me to know that the TVC approaches their work with equal dedication and commitment to the veterans of this great state," said Leticia Van de Putte, Chair, Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs & Military Installations.

Texas Veterans Commission

The mission of the Texas Veterans Commission is to advocate for and provide superior service to Veterans and their families in the areas of claims assistance, employment services, education benefits and grant funding. Across the agency's four program areas, more than 270 skilled counselors provide one-on-one guidance to Veterans and their families to ensure they receive all of the benefits to which they are entitled.

For more information about the Texas Veterans Commission, visit www.tvc.state.tx.us.

-- ### --