



TEXAS VETERANS COMMISSION

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<http://www.tvc.texas.gov/summit.aspx>

News Release

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The Texas Veterans Commission 15th Annual Veterans Summit will feature Panels on Veterans' Issues, a Two-Day Expo, Veterans Clinics, and Much More

AUSTIN – The Texas Veterans Commission is hosting the 15th Annual Veterans Summit, featuring panels on Veterans' issues, Veterans Clinics and a two-day Expo, on February 12 - 13, 2013, at the Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Road, Austin, Texas.

During this two-day event, attendees will have the opportunity to hear from state, local, and federal officials on Veterans' issues, attend Veteran advocate panels, and learn about programs and benefits available to Veterans in Texas.

“As Texans and Americans, we owe all our military Veterans and their families a profound debt of gratitude for all they have done to keep us safe,” said Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, who will be a keynote speaker during the Summit. “The liberties that we enjoy today have been paid for with the blood and sacrifices of our brave men and women in the United States military. As our Veterans return home from overseas, Texas will continue to be a place that honors our American heroes in word and in deed.”

Tuesday, February 12 is the official start of the Summit:

- Opening Session will begin at 8:00 a.m. with insights from elected officials and advocates for Texas Veterans and their families.
- The Keynote will feature retired Maj. Gen. Mary Saunders, USAF.
- Panels will include the State Strike Force Teams and Fully Developed Claims Teams; industry employers; Veteran education benefits; women Veterans; and Veteran Entrepreneurs.
- Other sessions include criminal justice, mental health, and social media.

During the Summit, a Veterans Expo will be running as well. On Tuesday, February 12 the Expo opens at 1:00 p.m. and will feature over 100 state, local, and federal agencies; Veterans organizations, banks, colleges, and companies that provide Veteran-specific services for Veterans and their families. Participants include the Veteran Land Board

(VLB), The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), USAA, VFW, TexVet, Red Cross, Dell, Toyota, U.S. Department of Defense, University of Texas at Austin, Texas A&M, and many more.

The Summit will continue at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 13:

- Morning panels will feature state and federal legislative staff.
- Breakout sessions will include Veterans Courts, H4TXH, mental health, property tax, media, and outreach.
- The Summit will conclude with a closing session beginning at 10:00 a.m. featuring Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst as the keynote speaker.

On Wednesday afternoon, Veterans will also have the opportunity to attend Claims, Employment, and Education Clinics where staff from the Texas Veterans Commission will be available to provide direct, one-on-one assistance to Veterans.

Over 600 Veterans and their families are expected to attend this free event, and there is no cost to attend the Summit. For more information or to register as an attendee or a vendor, please visit <http://www.tvc.texas.gov/summit.aspx>.

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 disability claims assistance, employment services, education benefits and grant funding. Over 200 skilled counselors in 75 cities 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 services click here: <http://www.tvc.texas.gov/Home.aspx> or all 512-463-5538.

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