

ACVETEO - ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT,
TRAINING AND EMPLOYER OUTREACH

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
January 30, 2024
SUMMARY MINUTES

THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING, AND
EMPLOYER OUTREACH (ACVETEO)

Virtual Meeting

U.S. Department of Labor
Frances T. Perkins Building
200 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20210

PARTICIPANTS:

Gregory Green, ACVETEO, Designated Federal Officer
Kayla Lopez, Vigtory, ACVETEO Chair
James Rodriguez, Assistant Secretary, DOL VETS
Laurel Devine, Director of Communications, DOL VETS
Kellen Leech, Strategic Communications Advisor, DOL VETS
Joe Wynn, National Association for Black Veterans (NABVETS)
Lori Adams, Policy Director & NLx Senior Advisor, National
Association of Workforce Agencies
Jim Lorraine, America's Warrior Partnership
Cody Nicholls, Associate Director for National Security
Programs, University of Arizona
Michael McDermott, Founder and President, Arcadia Group
Mike Hazard, UA Veterans in Piping Program
Jason Kuroiwa, Japanese American Veterans Association
Margarita Devlin, DAS, DOL VETS
Vanessa Myers, DOL Solicitor's Office
Karla Langham, Chief of Staff, DOL VETS
Dana Kelly, DOL VETS

The virtual meeting of the Advisory Committee on Veterans Employment, Training, and Employer Outreach (ACVETEO) took place on January 30th, 2024. After a quick roll call, **Margarita Devlin**, DAS, DOL VETS, gave a quick opening statement thanking everyone for their work, before **Gregory Green**, ACVETEO, Designated Federal Officer, thanked everyone for completing the annual report and gave an update on its status. He explained that as any updates on their recommendations came through he would update them. He then told everyone that the meeting's goal would be to have the subcommittees meet and attempt to establish some ideas for what they might do that year, including what

recommendations they would like to work on.

They then showed a Year in review video, before **Carla Langham**, Chief of Staff, DOL VETS spoke to the group about VETS priorities. She explained that when the Assistant Secretary initially arrived and heard about all the great work the Department of Labor was doing to get military and spouses back into the workforces, his number one priority became to get the story out about all the great work they were doing, which they are doing via LinkedIn and other social media platforms to reach more veterans, continuing educating Congress, and communicating directly with private stakeholders. She then went into detail on some of the steps they have taken to help veterans even more to find employment.

Ms. Langham also added that the Acting Secretary has taken interest in apprenticeships. The goal here is to ensure veterans are receiving proper licensing and education credit for their military education in hopes of getting them into the skilled workforce where there are some large gaps. They are also looking at ways to have military work count in place of formal degrees for private sector jobs, so military subject matter experts can get into open rolls without having to return to school.

Vanessa Myers, DOL Solicitors Office, then spoke about annual ethics for special government employees. She explained that should any questions arise throughout the year, the committee members should be reaching out for guidance. During her presentation, she touched on four topics, including financial conflicts of interest, both

individually and by those whom the committee members have close relationships with, potentially conflicting nongovernment activities that could create confusion as to which party they are acting on the behalf of, especially in regards to paid speaking engagements. She also touched on their ethics regarding testimony as an expert witness, lobbying the government, not acting as a registered agent of any foreign government. She went into detail on the Hatch Act, and the committees' limitations regarding partisan politics, and then discussed bribes, gifts, and salary supplementations.

Ms. Myers also went on to explain about misuse of government resources, especially when it comes to personal gain. She finished her presentation by discussing post-employment restrictions for committee members.

Following **Ms. Myers** presentation, the committee members split up into their subcommittees to discuss their plans for the year. Following the breakout rooms, **Mr. Green** opened up for public comment and receiving none, he adjourned the meeting at 2:02 p.m.