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## Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **First Veterans Performance Incentive Awards to be Presented at Veterans' Job Fair Nov. 10 in Anchorage**

JUNEAU, Alaska—Alaska will present its first Veterans Performance Incentive Awards during the opening ceremony of the Alaska Veterans' Job Fair, celebrating November as "Hire a Veteran Month." Award recipients are recognized for providing outstanding employment services to veterans or for improvement and modernization of their methods of service delivery.

The fair will be opened by Gov. Sean Parnell on Wednesday, Nov. 10 at 10 a.m. in the Muldoon Job Center, 1251 Muldoon Road in Anchorage. The fair runs until 3 p.m.

The 2010 recipient of the Veterans Performance Incentive Award is Gary J. Darby, who recently retired as manager of the Muldoon Job Center. The award recognizes his commendable efforts on behalf of veterans of the State of Alaska and the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development veterans' employment and training programs.

Honorable Mention Awards will be presented to Veterans Representatives Matt Barndt from the Kenai Peninsula Job Center, Pamela J. Walton from the Eagle River Job Center and Walter W. Watts, Jr. from the Fairbanks Job Center.

Awards will be donated to local charities in honor of the recipients.

- \$4,000 to United Way of Anchorage for services to homeless veterans – in honor of Gary J. Darby
- \$500 to American Legion Post No. 20 in Kenai for scholarships to local veterans to attend Kenai Peninsula College – in honor of Matt Barndt
- \$500 to the United Way of Anchorage on behalf of services to homeless veterans – in honor of Pamela J. Walton
- \$500 to the North Pole Lions Foundation Inc. for veterans' services – in honor of Walter W. Watts, Jr.

Selection criteria were based on performance or activities from July 2009 through June 2010. The selection committee was chaired by Thomas Nelson, director of the Alaska Department of Labor's Employment Security Division.

Funding for the awards is provided from the Jobs for Veterans State Grant, Veterans' Employment and Training Service, U. S. Department of Labor and administered by ESD.

Nomination information is available from J. Allan MacKinnon ([Allan.MacKinnon@Alaska.Gov](mailto:Allan.MacKinnon@Alaska.Gov) or 907-465-5955). Nominations for 2011 Awards will be accepted through 5 p.m. on June 30 and may be submitted by mail at Veterans Program, ETTU, P.O. BOX 115509, Juneau, AK 99811-5509 or fax 907-465-8753.

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Governor's Proclamation "Hire a Veteran Month"

<http://labor.alaska.gov/news/2010/2010-11-01-veterans-proclamation.pdf>