

The Virginia Department of Veterans Services



101 North 14th Street, 17th Floor • Richmond, VA 23219 • www.dvs.virginia.gov

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Jeb Hockman, 804.482.8497 (Jebhockman@dvs.virginia.gov) or
Tina Parlett-Calhoun, 804.371.0441 (Tina.Parlett-Calhoun@dvs.virginia.gov)

Experiences Of Women Veterans In Combat To Be Explored In Special Program At Virginia War Memorial

*Women Warriors: Grace and Grit Will Feature Virginia Women Veterans
And Experts on Role of Female Soldiers in Wartime*

(Richmond) Discovering how Virginia women veterans of all races and backgrounds have experienced combat will be the topic of *Women Warriors: Grace and Grit* – a special program and panel discussion Saturday, March 23 at 1:00 p.m. at the Virginia War Memorial in Richmond.

Presented by Capital One to commemorate March as Women’s History Month and March 17-23 as Virginia Women Veterans Week, the U.S. Army Women’s Museum at Fort Lee, the Virginia Department of Veterans Services, and the Virginia War Memorial are hosting this free event.

Dr. Francoise Bonnell, Director, the U.S. Army Women’s Museum at Fort Lee, will serve as moderator for *Women Warriors: Grace and Grit*.

Panelists will include Professor Amelia Underwood, U.S. Army veteran and Adjunct Professor of Military Science at James Madison University; Audrey Ross, Member, Chesterfield Historical Society African-American Committee; Gail Taylor Black, U.S. Army veteran, Citizen Soldier for Life Counselor and Trustee, U.S. Army Women’s Museum; and Tamika Harris-Smith Director of Software Engineering at Capital One and U.S. Marine Corps veteran.

The public is encouraged to attend this event. A light reception and opportunity to meet the panelists will follow the program.

As parking is limited at the Virginia War Memorial due to expansion construction, additional free parking will be available at the VHDA surface lot at 601 South Belvidere Street next door to the Memorial and at the Afton Chemical Corporation lot at Belvidere and Spring Streets on March 23. The Memorial is located at 621 South Belvidere Street, Richmond, 23220.

For more information about *Women Warriors: Grace and Grit*, please visit www.vawarmemorial.org/event/women-warriors-grace-and-grit-presented-capital-one

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or www.facebook.com/events/222306388124667/ , or call the Virginia War Memorial at 804.786.2060.

About the Virginia War Memorial

The mission of the Virginia War Memorial is to *Honor Veterans, Preserve History, Educate Youth and Inspire Patriotism in All*. Dedicated in 1956, the Memorial includes the names of the nearly 12,000 Virginia heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice during World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf and the Global War on Terrorism. Situated on nearly five acres overlooking the James River at 621 South Belvidere Street in Richmond, the Virginia War Memorial is a division of the Virginia Department of Veterans Services and serves as an integral part of its mission in support of all Virginians who served in our military. More at www.vawarmemorial.org .

About the U.S. Army Women's Museum at Fort Lee

Established in 1956, the U.S. Army Women's Museum at Fort Lee (AWM) is the only museum in the world dedicated to preserving and sharing the history of the contributions of women to the Army. Through its exhibits and programs, the Museum tells the story of female patriots who have served our nation from the American Revolution to the present. The Museum's mission is to conserve and preserve a repository of artifacts and archives pertaining to the service of women in the U.S. Army. The Museum also serves as an educational institution, providing military history training to soldiers, veterans and the civilian community. The Museum is located at 2100 "A" Adams Avenue, Fort Lee, Virginia. For more information, visit awm.lee.army.mil

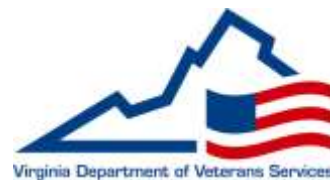
About VDVS

The Virginia Department of Veterans Services (VDVS) operates 32 benefit offices throughout the state that assist military veterans and their families in filing claims for federal veterans benefits; two long-term care facilities offering in-patient skilled nursing, Alzheimer's/memory care, and short-term rehabilitation for veterans; and three cemeteries that provide an honored final resting place for veterans and their families. VDVS provides veterans and family members with direct linkages to services including behavioral healthcare, housing, employment, education and other programs. The Department also operates the Virginia War Memorial, the Commonwealth's monument to honor the memory and sacrifice of Virginia's men and women who served and fought to defend our way of life from World War II to the present. For more information, please visit www.dvs.virginia.gov.

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