



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF, ARMY RESERVE
2400 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-2400

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE
AND
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

SUBJECT: Expand Outreach Support for Army Reserve Soldiers and Families

1. PURPOSE.

a. To establish a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that describes the parameters of association between the United States Army Reserve and the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW).

b. The VFW has long believed in a strong national defense that depends in large part on the ability of the United States military to protect and defend the United States and its allies. The VFW and Army Reserve recognize the benefits of a non-binding MOU between them.

2. SCOPE.

a. All parties recognize the value of a relationship between the Army Reserve and Veteran Services Organizations will enhance our capabilities to provide additional quality of life services and support to all members of the Army Reserve and their families.

b. The Army Reserve Communications Directorate will establish the lines of communication with the National Headquarters of the VFW and will serve as the conduit for subordinate commands.

c. The Army Reserve will request each Army Reserve Family Programs Director contact the VFW State Headquarters within their boundaries to establish awareness and a working relationship.

d. Each State and local VFW Post will be encouraged to contact the Army Reserve Family Programs Director within their boundaries to establish a working relationship with the family services representative.

3. LIMITS.

a. The United States Army Reserve, in accordance with the Joint Ethics Regulation (JER), is prohibited from endorsing or implying to endorse a non-Federal entity, event, product, service or enterprise. All parties recognize that this MOU is not of that intent and, that it is not intended to violate any existing laws, regulations, or policies of either party.

SUBJECT: Expand Outreach Support for Army Reserve Soldiers and Families

b. All parties agree that this agreement is not binding and may not be enforced against the other party by any legal or equitable suit or action. The parties have entered into this agreement merely to give form and structure to their relationship.

c. The parties understand and agree that this MOU does not preclude the US Army Reserve from entering into MOUs or other types of agreements with other non-profit organizations or non-federal entities. All parties agree that in all situations the JER controls.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES.

a. The United States Army Reserve will:

(1) Provide the VFW an updated list of RRSCs and Family Programs staff.

(2) Advise Family Program staffs and volunteers of the ability to share informational materials such as bulletins, brochures, and newsletters where applicable as a means to obtain information regarding VFW activities, programs, initiatives, and special community events in local areas of Army Reserve Soldiers and their families.

(3) Inform Army Reserve Family Volunteers of the opportunity to liaison with VFW volunteers to enhance quality of service for families and communities at large.

(4) Inform Army Reserve Family Coordinators to include VFW volunteers as appropriate in Family Program Training events to foster the building of a stronger volunteer base.

(5) Inform Army Reserve Soldiers and families of the various programs available to them through the VFW such as Youth Leadership Seminars, scholarship initiatives, Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service, grants for emergency relief, and Dependents State/Federal entitlements. This list is not all-inclusive,

(6) Inform Army Reserve Soldiers and families of the opportunity to make use of VFW and Ladies Auxiliary Volunteers and VFW Service Officers during Soldier Readiness Processing and Home Station Reunions when applicable to support Service Members and their families.

b. VFW will:

(1) Provide an updated list of State/Department Headquarters and Post Commanders, to include contact information for each Commander, Adjutant and Military Assistance Program Manager.

(2) Encourage all VFW Departments to promote community support for all mobilizations and demobilizations.

SUBJECT: Expand Outreach Support for Army Reserve Soldiers and Families

(3) Encourage all VFW Posts, where appropriate, to serve as an extension POC for Army Reserve Family Programs offices coordinated through each RRSC Family Program office.

(4) Encourage VFW members to provide information on Army Reserve-VFW relationship activities.

(5) Provide a link from the VFW website to the Army Reserve and the Army Reserve Family Programs web portal.

(6) Encourage advocacy and support of the ESGR Ombudsman program that works to provide mediation services to employers and members of the Army Reserve.

(7) Encourage volunteers to cross train with Army Reserve volunteers to enhance the volunteer base in support of Army Reserve Soldiers and Families.

(8) Encourage the use of VFW Veterans Affairs Service Officers as a vehicle to assist any veteran, or their dependants in obtaining state or federal entitlements.

(9) Encourage VFW posts to open their facilities for families of service members to gather for socialization or organized meetings.

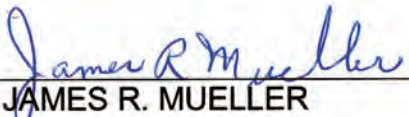
5. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** The effective date of this agreement is as of the signing below and will remain in effect until terminated by either party.



JACK C. STULTZ
Lieutenant General, USA
Chief, Army Reserve

Aug 30, 2006


(Date Signed)



JAMES R. MUELLER
Commander-in-Chief
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the
United States

August 30, 2006

(Date Signed)



ALLEN "GUNNER" Kent
Adjutant General
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the
United States

AUG 30TH 2006

(Date Signed)