



For Immediate Release
March 1, 2013

Central Ohio Veterans – Free Event; Other Assistance for Veterans and Military Available Statewide

COLUMBUS – Are you a military veteran in Central Ohio who needs help with taxes? Free help is available to eligible veterans in downtown Columbus on March 2. Free tax help for eligible veterans and serving military personnel is also available statewide.

Don't miss out this Saturday, March 2, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Downtown High School, 364 S. 4th St. Volunteers from J.P. Morgan Chase in partnership with the Tax Time coalition will provide the help. Veterans whose household income in 2012 was \$60,000 or less are eligible.

Eligible veterans can also get free tax help through April 12 at American Legion Post 430, 3227 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus. Veterans with household incomes of \$60,000 or less in 2012 qualify for this service. Call 2-1-1 to make an appointment for tax help from IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) preparers.

VITA sites throughout Ohio serve eligible veterans and other eligible Ohioans who seek free help preparing their tax returns. Veterans and others 60 years and older can also receive free help at sites statewide operated by volunteers from the IRS Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) program. The VITA income restrictions also apply to TCE.

A tool at <http://irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep/> locates and lists local VITA/TCE site addresses, hours and appointment contact information.

Many military service members can receive free tax help from the Ohio Society of CPAs. The Society's "Operation CPA" is open to any Ohio resident serving in the armed forces outside Ohio or deployed overseas. Spouses and family members of qualified military personnel may also use this service. For information or help, call the Ohio Society of CPAs at (888)959-1212 or e-mail cpanswers@ohio-cpa.com.

Ohio offers a number of tax advantages to military personnel and certain veterans. Military income from service 30 or more days outside Ohio is not taxed by the state. Military retirement and survivor benefits are exempt from Ohio taxation. The Ohio Veterans Bonus is state- and federal tax-free. For more information, visit the Military section of the Ohio Department of Taxation website at http://www.tax.ohio.gov/ohio_individual/individual/military_tax_provisions.aspx.

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For more information, contact - Mike McKinney at 614-728-0235, or Michael.mckinney@dvs.ohio.gov .