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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Benton Ridge resident recognized for service to local veterans**

***FINDLAY, Ohio (May 16, 2016)*** – On Friday, May 13, Military Veterans Resource Center (MVRC) presented Dawn Williamson with their Volunteer Service Award for her service to Hancock County's veterans as a tax counselor. The recognition ceremony took place at 11 a.m. at AMVETS Post 21, located at 423 Trenton Ave. in Findlay.

Military Veterans Resource Center partnered with the Ohio Benefit Bank during the 2016 tax season to offer free tax filing assistance to veterans and families. Williamson was one of eight MVRC tax counselors across the state that helped vets file their taxes free of charge.

"Dawn completed 61 tax returns and helped veterans claim over \$60,000 in refunds this year," said MVRC Director of Operations Tim Taylor. "She also saved veterans in the Findlay area about \$12,000 in tax filing fees, which is a lot of money back into the pockets of our veterans."

According to Williamson, her number of tax appointments doubled this year from 2015, but she'd like to see even more vets utilize the service in 2017.

"I like doing taxes and I don't think people should have to pay a \$600 fee to get their taxes filed," said Williamson. "Two of my appointments cried when they saw their refund, and that made me feel good because they weren't expecting it when they walked in for their appointment."

A resident of Benton Ridge, Ohio, Williamson worked at H&R Block as an Enrolled Agent for 18 years before volunteering with MVRC. 2016 is the third year Williamson has volunteered with MVRC as a tax counselor.

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