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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Free income tax filing assistance for veterans

COLUMBUS, Ohio (Jan. 19, 2017) – Military Veterans Resource Center (MVRC) is partnering with the Ohio Benefit Bank to offer free income tax filing assistance to military veterans and spouses who fall within certain income guidelines.

Couples filing jointly must have an adjusted gross income of \$95,000 or less for the 2016 tax year. Everyone else must have an adjusted gross income of \$65,000 or less.

Veterans will need to bring a valid photo ID, their DD-214 (or other evidence of military service), and their income tax records. Those who do not bring the necessary documentation will not be able to file. A full list of required documents is available at milvetsrc.org/taxes.

Refunds may take longer to reach veterans due to the implementation of the Protecting Americans From Tax Hikes (PATH) Act which requires the the IRS to hold tax refunds for people claiming the Earned Income Credit (EIC) and the Additional Child Tax Credit until at least Feb. 15. New identity theft and anti-fraud measures may also cause delays.

Along with tax assistance, veterans can also apply for the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) which helps eligible Ohioans pay their home energy bill.

The free tax filing service is available until April 18 at MVRC's Columbus office, located at 1395 E. Dublin-Granville Rd., Suite 350. Contact Dixie Bishop at 614-636-4634 or dixie.bishop@milvetsrc.org; Doug Schultz at 614-636-4362 or doug.schultz@milvetsrc.org; and/or Velecia Lucketta at 614-636-4622 or velecia.lucketta@milvetsrc.org for details.

The Ohio Benefit Bank is a program of the Ohio Association of Food banks.

Military Veterans Resource Center helps veterans develop self-reliance and independence by providing access to the resources they need to successfully manage life transitions. MVRC is based in Columbus and operates four centers throughout Ohio. For additional information, please visit www.milvetsrc.org.

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