

News Release

December 15, 2014 Release Number: 3856

Charleston County Veterans Affairs Office has a new home

Office relocation providing more convenient access to public

<u>The Charleston County Veterans Affairs Office</u> has relocated their office, which was previously located at 3346 Rivers Avenue in North Charleston. The office is now located at the Public Services Building (PSB) at 4045 Bridge View Drive in North Charleston.

"We are so excited about the move. The new location will be more convenient for the public since bus service is available directly in front of the building and there is more adequate parking," said Veterans Affairs Director Donald Morillo.

The County will save approximately \$34,599 in expenses per year with the relocation. The Veterans Affairs (VA) Office will continue providing the same services in its new location. The office assists veterans and their dependents in filing applications to determine their basic eligibility and conditions of benefit entitlement as administered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. This includes research, preparation, development, presentation and prosecution of claims submitted to the VA Regional Office in Columbia or the Board of Veterans Appeals in Washington, D.C. Though statemendated, the local VA Office is County-funded.

Responsibilities of the office include:

- Assisting in the preparation and filing of claims with the VA Regional Office and the Board of Veterans Appeals.
- Helping veterans file applications for the review of discharge or the correction of military records.
- Coordinating with other local and state agencies to render advice and assistance to veterans, their dependents and survivors.
- Visiting VA hospitals and nursing homes as well as veterans' homes to explain where to go and who to contact when applying for pension or benefit entitlement.
- Assisting in filing annuity applications for surviving spouses of military and civil service retirees.
- Providing veterans with information about how to obtain a VA home loan.
- Provide applications for obtaining a Certificate of Eligibility which is required to secure a VA Home Loan Guarantee.

For more information on the Veterans Affairs Office, please contact 843-974-6360.

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- written by Natalie Hauff -