

Press Releases

November 11, 2016

ATTORNEY GENERAL MADIGAN HONORS VETERANS DAY & OFFERS RESOURCES FOR VETERANS & SERVICE MEMBERS

Chicago — Attorney General Lisa Madigan today honored Veterans Day and reminded Illinois veterans, service members and their families about the resources her office provides to ensure they receive the federal and state benefits they have earned for their service and see that their legal rights are upheld.

Madigan's Military and Veterans' Rights Bureau advocates for service members and veterans and investigates and pursues cases of fraud against members of the armed services. Veterans, service members and their families can contact Madigan's Military and Veterans Rights Hotline for help at 1-800-382-3000 or 1-800-964-3013 (TTY) or through Madigan's <u>website</u>.

"We owe a debt of gratitude to the veterans and service members who have served our nation and risked their lives to safeguard our freedom," Attorney General Madigan said. "My office's Military and Veterans Rights Bureau is dedicated to helping our veterans, service members and their families understand and exercise their rights."

The Military and Veterans Rights Bureau provides assistance in various matters including mediating landlord-tenant disputes for service members facing Permanent Change of Station orders that conflict with lease agreements; mediating financial transaction disputes, such as fraudulent credit report entries or erroneous debts; safeguarding employment and accommodations for veterans with traumatic stress; and obtaining compensation owed to veterans or service members on military leave from their primary employer for annual guard/reserve training.

This year, Madigan is also highlighting traumatic stress as an important issue facing veterans and service members. While traumatic stress can be long lasting and disruptive, there are many resources to help veterans live healthy and productive lives. Veterans suffering from traumatic stress have important rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act and similar state laws. These laws protect the rights of veterans and service members in many ways, including ensuring access to employment and accommodations. For help, contact the Bureau's Hotline at 1-800-382-3000 or read Madigan's <u>brochure</u> on your rights when facing traumatic stress.

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