



Department of  
Veterans Services

John R. Kasich, Governor  
Chip Tansill, Director



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## **Ohio Veterans Services offers free consultants to help businesses hire and retain veterans**

*Want to thank a veteran? Hire One!*

One of Ohio's best-kept workforce secrets is our military veterans and their hard-working spouses. That's why the Ohio Department of Veterans Services (DVS) is proud to announce three new regional workforce consultants who train Ohio employers on the many benefits of employing and retaining veterans and military spouses.

The three consultants – Ryan Blackburn, Daniel Semsel and Joseph Trevino – offer employers free training in military culture, veteran recruitment and retention, and establishing veterans' resource groups. They also share best practices in workforce development.

"We are focused on strengthening Ohio's business climate by increasing economic opportunities for military families," said DVS Director Chip Tansill. "Our workforce consultants are the latest resource in Ohio's toolkit to connect employers with veteran talent."

Workforce consultants help employers access:

- The Veteran Business Support Centers
- Free online recruiting services through [OhioMeansJobs.com](http://OhioMeansJobs.com)
- Tax credits
- GI Bill Benefits for apprenticeships and on-the-job-training
- Registration for a Military-friendly business status

Meet the new veteran workforce consultants:



### Central and Southeast Ohio

**Ryan Blackburn** (former USAF staff sergeant) was an Operations Intelligence Analyst with the Air Force from 2004-10. He had two deployments to Iraq and one to Afghanistan. He also had assignments in Germany and Italy. After receiving his honorable discharge from the military, Blackburn worked in the finance and real estate industries and also utilized his post-military education benefits to pursue a degree at The Ohio State University. Employers should contact Ryan at [Ryan.Blackburn@dvs.ohio.gov](mailto:Ryan.Blackburn@dvs.ohio.gov) or by calling him directly at 614-296-5892.

### Southwest Ohio

**Dan Semsel** (USAF colonel, retired) is a veteran of Operations Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom with five deployments under his belt. Before joining DVS, Semsel led the Veterans and Employers Connection in partnership with Goodwill Easter Seals Miami Valley. He also served as Vice Commander of the 88th Air Base Wing at Wright-Patterson AFB in Ohio from July 2011 until his retirement from the service in May 2013. The 88th Air Base Wing is the largest in the Air Force with more than 5,400 officers and enlisted Airmen, Air Force civilians and contractor employees. In total, Wright-Patt is home to more than 27,000 employees – military and civilian. Employers should contact Dan at [Daniel.Semsel@dvs.ohio.gov](mailto:Daniel.Semsel@dvs.ohio.gov) or 614-296-7882.

### Northern Ohio

**Joe Trevino** (U.S. Army major, retired) logged 20 years of military service. He served in Vietnam with the 4th Psychological Operations Group. He followed that tour of duty with 10 more years of active service and several more as a reservist before retiring. His work in the private sector included managerial stints with LTV Steel Corporation, the Premier Industrial Corporation, Cole Vision Corporation and Lennox International. Employers should contact Joe at [Joseph.Trevino@dvs.ohio.gov](mailto:Joseph.Trevino@dvs.ohio.gov) or 614-296-8548.

Veterans looking for work can access a military skills translator to build their civilian resume or to match their military occupation code (MOC) to Ohio's in-demand jobs and much more at [OhioMeansVeteranJobs.com](http://OhioMeansVeteranJobs.com). For in-person job search assistance, veterans can visit any OhioMeansJobs center where they will receive VIP service. Just make sure to tell the front desk that you are a veteran or current service member.

*Note: headshots of our workforce consultants are available upon request.*

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