

# NEWS RELEASE

# For Regional Distribution



**For Immediate Release**

**Date:** February 12, 2007

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## **Military Service Members Returning to the Workplace**

*Free seminar on what Employers Can Do to Support Returning Veterans and Their Families*

Nearly half of today's military is in the National Guard and Reserves. This requires a balancing act on the part of service members and their employers in order to manage military requirements, work and family.

Employers' policies and procedures can make a huge difference in the life of returning veterans. Trevor Tompkins applauded his employer's response to his return from Iraq, "When I returned from Iraq, Allied Insurance alleviated stress associated with transitioning back into civilian life by allowing me to come back to work at MY pace."

The Employer Support of Guard and Reserve (ESGR), Iowa Workforce Development and the Des Moines Metro Employer's Council of Iowa are sponsoring a free seminar on the types of support that can be offered by employers to returning veterans and their families. The event takes place Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> from 11:45-1:30 PM at the Iowa Workforce Center at 430 E Grand Avenue. Presenters include Dave Campbell, ESGR Volunteer; Rebecca Coady, ESGR Staff; Katina Mach, Vet Center; Brian McKenzie, Warehouse Operations Supervisor, Perishable Distributors of Iowa; Trevor Tompkins, Allied employee and member of the National Guard; and Tony Smithhart, U.S. Department of Labor.

The ESGR (Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve) can help prevent, reduce and resolve any misunderstandings between service members and their employers. The seminar will focus on:

- Steps to assist returning service members in the office
- Resources available to employers with returning veteran employees and families
- USERRA law updates and other rights and responsibilities employers and returning veterans
- Perspectives from an employee who returned from the war and an employer who hires military veterans.

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