

<b>TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT NOTICE</b>	<b>NO.</b> 28-09
	<b>DATE</b> January 29, 2010

**TO:** STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES  
STATE WORKFORCE LIAISONS  
STATE WORKFORCE ADMINISTRATORS  
STATE UI DIRECTORS  
STATE AND LOCAL WORKFORCE BOARD CHAIRS AND DIRECTORS  
COMPREHENSIVE AND AFFILIATE ONE-STOP CAREER CENTERS  
VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE  
STATE APPRENTICESHIP DIRECTORS  
INDIAN AND NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRAM GRANTEEES  
DISABILITY PROGRAM NAVIGATOR GRANTEEES

**FROM:** JANE OATES /s/  
Assistant Secretary  
Employment and Training Administration

RAYMOND M. JEFFERSON /s/  
Assistant Secretary  
Veterans' Employment and Training Service

**SUBJECT:** Announcement of Employment and Training Administration's  
New Video and Information Brief on Promoting the Employment of  
Disabled Veterans Through the One-Stop Career Centers

1. **Purpose.** To announce the availability of a new video and informational brief to promote the employment of disabled veterans through the One-Stop Career Center system.
2. **Background.** There are over 33 million working age people with disabilities. Only 22.6% of persons with disabilities are participating in the labor force. Persons with disabilities represent an untapped labor source. According to the U.S. Census in 2007, of the 23.6 million military veterans in the United States, 6 million had disabilities. In addition, an increasing number of disabled veterans will be returning from combat in Afghanistan and Iraq with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), and other mental and physical disabilities resulting from their tours of duty. If the One-Stop Career Centers are to meet the challenges of serving the increasing number of disabled veterans seeking employment services,

there needs to be collaboration and coordination between the public workforce system partners and programs that serve disabled veterans.

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA), in cooperation with the Social Security Administration, established the Disability Program Navigator (DPN) initiative in 2003 to better inform people with disabilities about the work support programs available at the Department of Labor's One-Stop Career Centers. The goals of the DPN initiative are to expand the capacity for the One-Stop Career Centers to provide seamless, comprehensive, integrated, and accessible services that promote meaningful and effective employment outcomes of people with disabilities. A new position, the DPNs, was established in One-Stop Career Centers. The DPNs guide One-Stop Career Center staff in helping people with disabilities to access and navigate the various programs that impact their ability to gain and retain jobs.

The DPN initiative was implemented in 2003 in fourteen states and today has grown to include approximately 450 DPNs in forty-two states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. It has stimulated innovation and transformation in the workforce system through the development and implementation of promising practices to help expand the capacity of the public workforce system to serve customers with disabilities and promote their effective and meaningful employment outcomes. It is ETA's goal to disseminate these effective practices to the workforce system to promote knowledge sharing and the replication of these successful strategies in local workforce investment areas throughout the country.

A central focus of the DPN initiative is to develop partnerships to leverage resources to promote education and career pathways of One-Stop Career Center customers with disabilities, including disabled veterans. In the One-Stop Career Centers, the local DPNs work closely with the Local Veterans Employment Representatives (LVER) and Disabled Veterans Outreach Program (DVOP) staff to coordinate resources to promote meaningful and effective employment of disabled veterans. This reflects the close partnership on the national level between ETA and VETS on a myriad of issues impacting the employment of veterans and their spouses, including Priority of Service and Base Realignment and Closings.

- 3. Content.** The newly available video is entitled, "Coordinating Quality Employment Services to Disabled Veterans." This video highlights how the DPN, working with the DVOP, facilitated the One-Stop Career Center to become a universally accessible, welcoming service delivery site, where all people, including people with disabilities, receive integrated, seamless, and accessible services that ultimately result in employment. The video tells the story of how a disabled veteran, with post-traumatic stress disorder and other disabilities, received services at the One-Stop Career Center that resulted in a job.

The accompanying information brief is entitled, "Promising Practices-Quality Employment Services to Disabled Veterans." This information brief highlights the DPNs' successful strategies by partnering with the DVOP and LVER staff to provide access to the full array of services available to disabled veterans through the public workforce system. The video and information brief are available on the Workforce3One's new Web site, "Disability and Employment," at: <http://disability.workforce3one.org/>. This Web site has many resources to promote the employment of disabled veterans.

4. **Action Requested.** Disseminate the availability of these resources to your systems' stakeholders.
  
5. **Inquiries.** All inquiries should be addressed to Randee Chafkin, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, at (202) 693-2723 or [chafkin.randee@dol.gov](mailto:chafkin.randee@dol.gov) .