

VETERANS FOR CHRIST, INC.  
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## **VA supports women Veteran entrepreneurs in how to obtain government contracts**

WASHINGTON — Graduates from the Department of Veterans Affairs' Women Veteran-Owned Small Business Initiative recently finished the VetBizLadyStart program, paving a way for their future in the federal marketplace.

The inaugural 14-week program, completed in early February, provided women transitioning out of the military, tools and resources to manage and grow their small businesses in government contracting.

Training modules and small group discussions were hosted by successful women mentors from the government and commercial sector. The initiative works to bridge the gap between economic disparities by providing disadvantaged populations equal access to contracts

President of WJM Professional Services LLC Veronica Lane, was one of 20 women Veterans who participated in the sessions.

“I am grateful for completing this program and the opportunity to meet with motivated women Veterans,” said Lane. “My goals were to ramp up and receive four contract awards and apply for an increased line of credit from my business banker — and I was able to accomplish both!”

VA Chief of Staff Tanya Bradsher attended the ceremony. “The graduation marks a step toward fulfilling President Biden’s Executive Order Advancing Racial Equity in Underserved Communities,” Bradsher said. “What better way to answer the call than a program that brings results for our women Veterans, who in turn can use these tools to become successful business contractors, bringing opportunities back to those in their communities.”

The EO aims to identify and remove barriers in the federal government that impact the ability of individuals within underserved socioeconomic categories to seek viable economic opportunities.

According to the Small Business Administration, only 15% out of 2.5 million Veteran-owned business are owned by women Veterans. The Women Veteran-Owned Small Business Initiative, part of VA’s Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, is focused on using VetBizLadyStart to increase awareness of opportunities for women-owned small businesses to increase these numbers.

VetBizLadyStart is a federally funded program and collaborates with the Women’s Business Centers of the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia’s Old Dominion University. Entrepreneurship programs are offered through each organization to assist women in preparing for procurement.

VA intends to propose

9

rare respiratory  
cancers as presumed  
service-connected  
conditions

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VA  U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

DVA intends to focus its rule on the rare respiratory cancers above in Veterans who served any amount of time in the Southwest Asia theater of operations and other locations. VA will invite and consider public comments as part of this process. The publication date of the federal register will occur in the coming weeks.

Once rulemaking is complete, VA will conduct outreach to impacted veterans and survivors to inform them about potential eligear Veteran,

The Department of Veterans Affairs will propose adding certain rare respiratory cancers to the list of presumed service-connected disabilities in relation to military environmental exposure to particulate matter.

When the proposal becomes final, dependents, survivors, and Veterans who had claims previously denied for any of the below respiratory cancers would be encouraged to file a supplemental claim for benefits.

- Squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) of the larynx;
- SCC of the trachea;
- Adenocarcinoma of the trachea;
- Salivary gland-type tumors of the trachea;
- Adenosquamous carcinoma of the lung;
- Large cell carcinoma of the lung;

- Salivary gland-type tumors of the lung;
- Sarcomatoid carcinoma of the lung and;
- Typical and atypical carcinoid of the lung.

Any Veteran who had one of these cancers manifest to a degree of 0% or more at any time during or after separation would become eligible for service-connection.

The Southwest Asia theater of operations refers to Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the neutral zone between Iraq and Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, the Gulf of Aden, the Gulf of Oman, the Persian Gulf, the Arabian Sea, the Red Sea, and the airspace above these locations.

If you are a Veteran who has been diagnosed with one of these conditions, but have not filed a claim, please notify VA of your [intent to file a claim](#).

## **Morgan Freeman**

In his youthful days, the iconic actor with the famous godly and calming voice once served in the US Air Force. He owns his own plane these days but the burning passion for flying began when he was just a boy.



Morgan served for around three years and eight months and even had to give up his scholarship for the Jackson State University programs for a chance to enlist. What began as a penchant for

planes and for flying led him to join the Air Force and to later acquire his own plane as soon as he had the wherewithal. Morgan is, of course, one of Hollywood's most icon actors, featuring in major motion pictures such as *Lucy*, *The Shawshank Redemption*, and *Driving Mrs. Daisy*.

## Mr. T

This is obviously unsurprising. I mean, look at Mr. T, the embodiment of a soldier. But seriously, Mr. T. served in the Military Police Corps back in the 1970s.



**He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.**

**Luke 16:10 KJV**

**YOU TOO CAN BE A MEMBER OF THE VETERANS FOR CHRIST, INC.**

Sign up online to become an associate member. The annual associate membership of \$120.00 which can be used as a tax deduction for supporters. Registration fees can be paid online through our PayPal account. You will get a free VFC T-shirt with your associate membership. Your tax deductible membership fee will support the VFC mission.

All Honorably Discharged Veterans are welcome to come and observe the VFC; feel free to ask questions and learn more. If we don't know the answer we know someone who does. Please browse our web site [www.veteransforchristinc.org](http://www.veteransforchristinc.org). There you'll find information on many subjects of interest to veterans. You'll also find a Newsletter for your branch of service and links to Social Security and many other links with an abundance of information.

Our monthly meetings are on hold until the pandemic is cleared and a vaccine is developed. No meetings are being held at the Wesley Chapel Library at 2861 Wesley Chapel Rd., Decatur, Ga. Our meetings are the fourth Wednesday of every month and start at 6:30 (PM) for approximately one hour and a half, unless otherwise advertised. We will be respectful of your time.

Thank you for your interest in the VFC. We look forward to communicating and fellowshiping with you soon. We are looking for a corporate sponsor for our VFC Gerald Prince College Scholarship which is donated each September at our Anniversary Luncheon

"Be on your guard, stand firm in the faith, being men of courage, be strong." 1Cor 16:13

Sincerely,

*William A. Harris, Jr.*

William A. Harris, Jr., USAF Retired  
President, Veterans for Christ, Inc.

[www.veteransforchristinc.org](http://www.veteransforchristinc.org)

## **Need to contact VA?**

[Veterans Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255](#) and press 1, [Chat](#), or Text 838255

[Homeless Veteran Resources: 1-877-424-3838](#) or [Chat](#)

[White House VA Hotline: 1-855-948-2311](#)

[1-800-MyVA411 \(800-698-2411\)](#) is never the wrong number