

## HELP FINDING EMPLOYMENT FOR MILITARY MEMBERS



One particular website, recently established, was unveiled by the Governor Earl Ray Tobmlin on Wednesday. The website will be aimed particularly to military members who are returning home after a deployment and will be in search of employment. The main goal of the website is to help military members and veterans find employment as soon as possible after returning to civilian life. These jobs will mostly be jobs that provide health benefits and also work with the veterans to help them further their education if they want to. The website is [www.wvmilitaryconnection.org](http://www.wvmilitaryconnection.org), and it is a combination of an assortment of agencies who are forming together to help military members receive the assistance they need, especially for finding jobs in an economy that is growing at such a slow pace, with unemployment numbers still at a higher than average rate. All types of businesses and companies will be able to post up information about their company, along with any job opening and opportunities that will be available to the military members specifically. This is ideal for military members who will be coming home from deployment shortly and are unaware of what their future will look like in terms of employment. Lieutenant Col Joel Miltenberger worked very hard to help set up the employment part of the website. He is also the program coordinator for the WV National Guard's Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. Miltenberger says, "(The website) makes the transition a lot easier when they search for companies looking for those skill sets." James Hoyer, the State Adjutant General James Hoyer has said that many troops are finding problems finding employment after returning back to their hometown and leaving a war zone. He says that the new website will play a major part in helping military members feel welcome back into society, back to civilian life. Hoyer says, "I've talked to a lot of my folks who come back and they get a little bit frustrated because they don't have quite the control they did in those jobs that they had in uniform." He also says, "This provides that broad spectrum of services." Miltenberger has said that the website has been in operation for nearly two months and there are many military members who have already had success with the website. He says that there are a lot of companies who are searching for employees with the skills that many military members have and the website helps them find one another. He says, "I really think this is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to success." He also says, "As we grow the program, I believe we will see a big reduction in unemployment in armed forces here in West Virginia."

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