



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: December 20, 2017

Veterans Complete Certification Training at Chicago State University

CHICAGO, IL (December 18, 2017) – Commanders with the 3rd District American Legion, a national, nonprofit organization that assists veterans, completed training and received certification at a recent meeting hosted at Chicago State University's Gwendolyn Brooks Library.

"I am a volunteer at the Veterans Resource Center at Chicago State University, and the assistance we have received from Chicago State University has been nothing short of amazing," said Robert Davis, commander of the American Legion Post#800. "The South Side, where CSU is located, has a lot of veterans struggling to find social services. Chicago State, through its Veterans Resource Center has been a kind of hub for holding meetings and a key player in helping to create positive change. We want to make the transition from military life to civilian life as easy as possible for all veterans."

Ronald Carter, coordinator for Veterans Affairs at Chicago State, added that the Resource Center is also working to help veterans find better housing. "In Englewood, there's the Hope Manor housing complex for veterans, and there are similar housing complexes across the country," said Carter. "We hope to duplicate that model in Roseland with new housing by September 2018."

The 3rd District is comprised of 19 branches on Chicago's South Side and each branch commander must complete training before managing a branch. Each month on the first Saturday, the 3rd District meets at CSU to discuss ways to help veterans living on the South Side. According to Robert Davis, commander of the American Legion Post#800, there are 3,500 veterans living in the Roseland community on the Far South Side.

The American Legion Post#800 will cosponsor the third annual "Feed the Veterans" event from 6-11 p.m. on Friday, December 22 at the Heritage Plaza Banquet, 1500 W. 95th St. in Chicago.

"This is a free event for veterans to connect with other veterans, enjoy good food, and receive lots of goodies," said Carter. "We are a brotherhood of peace keepers and nation builders. We want all veterans to make their way to us."

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About Chicago State University:

Chicago State University (CSU) is a public, comprehensive post-secondary institution that provides access to higher education for students of diverse backgrounds and educational needs. CSU fosters the intellectual development and success of its student population through a rigorous, positive, and transformative educational experience and is committed to teaching, research, service and community development including social justice, leadership and entrepreneurship. Founded in 1867 to meet the demand for a trained teaching force, Chicago State University (CSU) was originally recognized as the Chicago Teachers College. Today it is home to Illinois' oldest College of Education and stands distinctively as the state's oldest public university. CSU has traditionally maintained a record for graduating the highest percentages of Black American students in Illinois and has recently established global competitiveness as one of its four core priorities. It is currently celebrating its 150 year anniversary.

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