

Heroes FLORIDA VETERAN HEALTH



NOVEMBER 11, 2014



Mission

TO PROTECT, PROMOTE & IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF ALL
PEOPLE IN FLORIDA THROUGH INTEGRATED STATE,
COUNTY, & COMMUNITY EFFORTS.

Vision

TO BE THE HEALTHIEST STATE IN THE NATION.

Values

INNOVATION:

WE SEARCH FOR CREATIVE SOLUTIONS AND MANAGE RESOURCES WISELY.

COLLABORATION:

WE USE TEAMWORK TO ACHIEVE COMMON GOALS & SOLVE PROBLEMS.

ACCOUNTABILITY:

WE PERFORM WITH INTEGRITY & RESPECT.

RESPONSIVENESS:

WE ACHIEVE OUR MISSION BY SERVING OUR CUSTOMERS & ENGAGING OUR PARTNERS.

EXCELLENCE:

WE PROMOTE QUALITY OUTCOMES THROUGH LEARNING & CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCE
IMPROVEMENT.

Veterans

Special Tribute



During Florida's history, the state has grown from a population of thousands to being the third most populous state in the nation with nearly 20 million residents and almost 2 million visitors on any given day. Florida is also currently home to 1.5 million military veterans. More than 231,000 Florida veterans served in the Afghanistan and Iraq conflicts; nearly a half million are Vietnam-era veterans, and; 113,000 served during World War II.

The Florida Department of Health is pleased to present Florida Veteran Health Heroes recognizing our veteran health care professionals. In these pages, we honor those veterans who have tirelessly sought to improve the health and quality of life for the military community and the people of Florida.

I'm a veteran of the United States Army Medical Corps and completed my military career at the rank of Colonel in 2005. It was my honor to help ensure our wounded heroes received the best care in the battlefield in their time of need.

The individuals featured here have performed exemplary service to ensure the health and safety of others while protecting our great country. Their stories bring to life the extraordinary sacrifice of military service.

The Department of Health recognizes the sacrifices made by members of our military and their families. Florida seeks to become the most veteran-friendly state in the nation by providing several licensing support services to ease the transition from military to civilian health care practice.

John Armstrong, MD, F.A.C.S.
State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health for Florida

Our Heroes



Joyce P. Fiedler, M.D.

Colonel Joyce Fiedler, M.D., served in the United States Air Force for nearly twelve years, holding such positions as Residency Trained Flight Surgeon, Flight Medicine Flight Commander, and Chief of Medical Staff. Prior to retirement on October 1, 2014, Colonel Fiedler worked as the Flight and Operational Medicine Flight Commander at Eglin Air Force Base where she managed a clinic of 26 staff who provided care to 934 flyers, special operations personnel, and their families. During her military tenure, Colonel Fiedler was deployed overseas four times to Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, and Afghanistan. In addition, she received numerous military awards and decorations, including the Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal. Colonel Fiedler is a graduate of the Chicago Medical School, Board Certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine, and licensed in the State of Virginia.

On July 3, 2014, Colonel Fiedler received the first health care license issued under Florida's VALOR System (Florida Veterans Application for Licensure Online Response System). Governor Rick Scott and State Surgeon General Dr. John Armstrong presented the license to Dr. Fiedler at a Veterans Service Award Ceremony in Pensacola, Florida. Since retiring, Colonel Fiedler has become an independent consultant and plans to be commissioned into the Air Force Reserves.



Orland K. "Lance" Armstrong, D.C.

Dr. Orland K. "Lance" Armstrong is the first recipient of the Florida Board of Chiropractic Medicine Outstanding Service Award. Dr. Armstrong was selected for this award based on his support of the local veteran community. For many years, Dr. Armstrong has provided free health care to veterans in the Cocoa Beach area. He established an on-site chiropractic treatment room at the 45th Medical Group at Patrick Air Force Base, where he volunteers eight hours every week. "Dr. Armstrong best fits the spirit and long-term commitment of the Board to a better community through action," said Board Chair, Kevin Fogarty, D.C.

Dr. Armstrong graduated from the University of Central Florida with a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics, where he was also the United States Air Force ROTC Cadet Commander. He has received numerous commendations for his service as a Captain, B-52 Flight Instructor of Radar Navigation/Bombardier at Wurtsmith Air Force Base, where he served until his military career ended in 1992. Dr. Armstrong actively practices chiropractic medicine at Armstrong Chiropractic in Cocoa Beach.

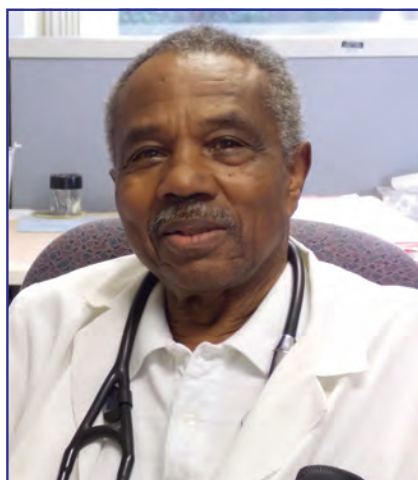
*Dr. Orland K. "Lance" Armstrong is no relation to State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health, Dr. John Armstrong.



Dean Aufderheide, Ph.D.

Dr. Dean Aufderheide spent his childhood years in the United States and Europe, where he was raised in a military family. In 1976, he enlisted in the United States Air Force and was sent to the Defense Language Institute. After completing training to be a Chinese-Mandarin linguist, he was stationed in South Korea. Dr. Aufderheide was commissioned as a Captain in the United States Army in 1987 and completed his clinical psychology internship at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, D.C. He served as Chief of Psychology at an Army hospital during the Persian Gulf War. After honorable discharge from the military, he entered private practice in clinical psychology and neuropsychology consultation in 1992. His practice included neuropsychological consultation and evaluation, forensic evaluation and community mental health consultation, while serving as a clinical professor with the University of West Florida. In 1995, Dr. Aufderheide began his career in the criminal justice system where he rose through the ranks to be appointed as the statewide Director of Mental Health Services for the Florida Department of Corrections. In 2010, Dr. Aufderheide was appointed by the Governor to Florida's Board of Psychology, was re-appointed in 2012, and currently serves as Vice-Chairman.

Dr. Aufderheide has over twenty-five years of leadership experience and management of behavioral health care systems in military, government and private care systems. He is the author of numerous professional publications and has conducted over 60 peer-reviewed lectures and keynote presentations at national conferences and international forums. A nationally recognized expert on criminal thinking and correctional mental health, he has served as a consultant to state correctional systems as well as the federal and foreign governments. Dr. Aufderheide remains involved in a variety of veterans initiatives including the Florida Veterans Foundation, Vets4Energy, and Vet Events Tally.



Morris Carter, M.D.

The founding member of the Flagler County Medical Society, Dr. Morris Carter, chose to enter the field of medicine after serving in the U.S. Air Force as first lieutenant.

In the early 1970s when the Department was known as the Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services (HRS), Dr. Carter worked for the Florida Migrant Health Program. He provided medical care for migrant farm workers in Putnam, St. Johns and Flagler counties. In an effort to see all patients, Dr. Carter often kept his doors open after hours.

Following his work with the migrant community, Dr. Carter became the jail physician for Flagler County by request of the county sheriff. In 1976, he started to provide family medical care at the Bunnell Medical Clinic as the first African American doctor to practice in Flagler County. During this time, Dr. Carter was also named the county medical director, a title he still holds today. In 1981, he opened his own family medical practices in Bunnell and Crescent City, and worked until 2012.

In 2001, the Flagler County Health Department initiated the Morris Carter Award of Excellence in honor and recognition of Dr. Carter's achievements. The annual award is presented by Dr. Carter to the employee who exhibits the characteristics he embodies: professionalism, teamwork and excellence. In celebration of his 80th birthday and for all of his contributions to Flagler County, the street where his office and the health department are located was named Dr. Carter Boulevard.

Continuing his legacy and working for the Florida Department of Health in Flagler have always been very important to him. "I feel an obligation to the health department and the patients," Dr. Carter said.



Robert Pickard, M.D.

Dr. Robert Pickard, Retired United States Army Colonel, was elected National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the USA (JWV) at its 118th Annual National Convention in Richmond, Virginia on August 23, 2013. Founded in 1896 by Jewish Civil War veterans, JWV serves veterans throughout the country by advocating for veterans' rights and benefits at the national, state, and local levels.

Dr. Pickard graduated from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois and was awarded a Bachelor of Medicine degree. He received his M.D. from Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago, Illinois in 1965 and interned at the University of Miami at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami. Dr. Pickard served in active duty from 1966-1968 during the Vietnam War and was stationed at RAF Chicksands Dispensary in the midlands of England as the Medical Officer for a Security Service base. After being discharged as a Captain from the United States Air Force, Dr. Pickard returned to the University of Miami Medical School for a residency in general surgery, later specializing in ear, nose, and throat surgery. He began his practice of medicine and surgery in South Miami and Coral Gables in 1972. Dr. Pickard joined the Florida National Guard and served a total of 22 years in active National Guard service, retiring as a Colonel O6 in 2000.

Dr. Pickard devotes a great deal of energy, caring, and passion to his community. He is a life member of Post 243 in Coral Gables where he previously served as Post Commander. At the national level, Pickard has held positions as National Adjutant, Chairman of the Vietnam Veterans Committee, a member of the National Executive Committee, and Past Editor of The Jewish Veteran. Dr. Pickard currently serves on the Florida Board of Hearing Aid Specialists.

Following 9/11, Dr. Pickard founded the "Tribute to the Military 5K Run/Walk/Race, Inc.," a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to helping veterans and their families in need for over 13 years.



*The Florida
Department of Health
salutes our veterans
for their hard work
and dedication.*

Armed Forces

Health Care Licensing Support Services

The Florida Department of Health is committed to honoring veterans, members of the military, and their families. We are sensitive to the many challenges military families face when required to relocate.



Florida Veterans Application for Licensure Online Response System (VALOR)

If you are a military veteran seeking licensure in a health care profession, Florida now offers expedited licensure processing. In order to qualify, you must apply for the license six months before or six months after your honorable discharge from the United States Armed Forces. There is no application fee, licensure fee, or unlicensed activity fee for veterans who qualify for this type of license.

Military Veteran Fee Waiver

If you are a military veteran, you may be eligible for a waiver of the initial application and licensure fees for all health care professions. Your application must be submitted within 60 months of discharge from any branch of the United States Armed Forces. The initial license fee, initial application fee, and initial unlicensed activity fee will be waived for veterans returning from service. This waiver does not include examination fees.

Reimbursement for Veterans' Professional Examination Costs

The Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs will reimburse eligible applicants for the cost of licensing and certification examinations, not to exceed \$2,000 per test. These licensing and certification examinations must be generally deemed necessary to pursue a trade or profession. Please see <http://www.fdva.org/saa/LiCert.asp> for potential reimbursement for examination costs.

Temporary Certificate to Practice in an Area of Critical Need

If you are an active duty member of military veteran who served at least ten years in the United States Armed Forces, you may be eligible to practice in an area of critical need. This certificate limits you to practice in designated areas of critical need, and is only available to physicians who have a license in another jurisdiction of the United States. There is no application fee for physicians seeking this certificate. This certificate is not limited to physicians who will not receive compensation for their service.

Renewal Exemption

You may be eligible for exemption from certain license requirements if you meet the following requirements:

- You are an active duty member, of the spouse of an active duty member, of the Armed Forces of the United States
- You hold a Florida license as a health care practitioner that is in good standing
- You were entitled to practice or engage in your profession prior to joining the Armed Forces

If exempt, you will not be required to renew your license, pay license renewal fees, update your address, or perform any other license maintenance act. The exemption extends through the duration of your active duty service and for a period of six months after discharge.

The spouse of an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States may be exempt from all license renewal requirements as long as the licensee is absent from the state because of his/her spouse's active duty assignment.

This license does not permit you to practice your profession in the private sector for profit.

Initial Licensure Fee Waiver for Military Spouses

If you are a spouse of a military veteran, you may be eligible for a waiver of the initial application and licensure fees for all health care professions. Your application must be submitted within 60 months after your spouse's honorable discharge from any branch of the United States Armed Forces. The initial license fee, initial application fee, and initial unlicensed activity fee will be waived for you at the time of your spouse's discharge, provided you apply for licensure within 60 months after your spouse is discharged from any branch of the United States Armed Forces. This waiver does not include examination fees.

Temporary License for Military Spouses

If you are a spouse of an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States, you may be issued a temporary license to practice your health care profession in Florida. The purpose of the temporary license is to allow you the opportunity to work in your respective profession while your spouse is assigned to a duty station in Florida. If you desire to practice beyond the expiration of the "temporary license," you should begin the regular licensing application process as soon as possible.

The temporary military spouse license is valid for one year. To qualify for a temporary license, your spouse must be on active duty and assigned to a duty station in Florida and you must hold a valid license as a health care professional in another state, the District of Columbia, any United States territory or possession.

To apply for a license or learn more about licensing option for veterans, members of the military, and their families, visit www.floridahealth.gov/licensing-and-regulation/armedforces/active-duty/index.html.

Our Commitment

Veterans who used the fee waiver system saved more than \$40,000.

The Division of Medical Quality Assurance (MQA) seeks to create a veteran-friendly regulatory environment to encourage military service members to choose Florida for their health care practice after active duty. A fee waiver program began in fiscal year 2013-2014 to ease most of the financial burden of applying for licensure, and participation grew each quarter. The number of veterans who used the fee waiver system quadrupled from the first quarter to the fourth quarter, saving those applicants more than \$40,000.

With the beginning of fiscal year 2014-2015, Florida lawmakers expanded the program as part of the Florida GI Bill, extending the fee waiver period to 60 months after honorable discharge and including military spouses. In addition, an expedited process was developed for veterans who apply within 60 days of honorable discharge.

An awareness campaign for the expedited process, called VALOR: Veterans Application for Licensure Online Response, aims to significantly increase the number of veterans applications received by the end of calendar year 2014 and issue licenses for all qualified initial applications within one day. MQA is committed to helping ease the transition of military health professionals into civilian life, and seeks to encourage them to practice in Florida by making the licensure process one that reflects our gratitude for their service.

Fee Waiver Applications Approved Fiscal Year 2013-2014

First quarter	30	\$4,420.00
Second quarter	55	\$8,003.00
Third quarter	97	\$10,964.00
Fourth quarter	120	\$17,324.00
Total	302	\$40,711.00

Military Fee Waivers Approved
Fiscal year 2013-2014

