

## PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Kasey Knutson, Public Information Officer, 509-962-7515

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### **Kittitas County has Veterans Services Officer Available**

Kittitas County Public Health Department (KCPHD) is pleased to announce the addition of a Veterans Services Officer (VSO) to the services offered by KCPHD. Timothy Paxton, the new VSO, is available to assist veterans along with their dependents and survivors. The VSO is available Monday through Friday at the Morris Sorenson building located at 507 N Nanum Street in Ellensburg, Washington.

The Kittitas County VSO can assist with emergency funds for qualifying veterans, coordinating resources, and information about veteran benefits like financial support, employment, healthcare, and more. Additionally, the VSO can assist with vouchers. Vouchers are for low income Veterans for food and fuel. Vouchers for low-income single individuals are \$2,000 for the year or \$2,250 for a married individual. Voucher assistance is available Monday to Friday from 10 am to 3pm, however the voucher assistance program is based on set monthly funding through county tax revenue and cannot be guaranteed. Documentation of financial need and military service through form DD214 are both required.

Timothy Paxton was hired in mid-September as the first VSO in Kittitas County. Mr. Paxton grew up in Renton, Washington and joined the military in 1993. Mr. Paxton retired in 2016 with 23 years of service, including combat deployments. According to Mr. Paxton, “there is a lot of misinformation out there and I am looking forward to providing efficient and responsive help to our veterans in need.”

To get connected with the VSO, please either call 509-933-8325, or email [VSP@co.kittitas.wa.us](mailto:VSP@co.kittitas.wa.us), or visit KCPHD’s front desk. Anyone interested in working with the VSO will need to provide discharge paperwork to verify military service.

General information about services and resources can be found at [www.dva.wa.gov](http://www.dva.wa.gov). Please stay tuned for future Kittitas County Veteran Services Program updates from KCPHD. Information will be provided via press releases on the county website at [www.co.kittitas.wa.us](http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us) and via KCPHD social media at [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/kittitaspublichealth).

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