



Pennsylvania Department of the

AUDITOR GENERAL

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Auditor General DePasquale Seeks Solutions to Help Veterans Make Smooth Transition to Civilian Workforce

LANCASTER – Auditor General Eugene DePasquale today led a roundtable discussion focused on solving the challenges many veterans face in finding employment opportunities after leaving the military.

“We owe it to the women and men who served to provide all available resources to help them find good jobs in Pennsylvania,” DePasquale said. “As the son of a veteran, I witnessed the struggles my father faced returning to civilian life after service in Vietnam.”

DePasquale is following up on his [audit of the state’s workforce development system](#) completed earlier this year. He also serves as a member of Gov. Wolf’s Keystone Economic Development and Workforce Command Center, which is working to improve the state’s efforts to match workers with employers.

Today’s discussion was held at Thaddeus Stevens College. Participants scheduled to take part included:

- Nathaniel Smith, vice commander, PA Veterans of Foreign Wars
- John Getz, adjutant, PA Veterans of Foreign Wars
- Robert John, department commander, PA American Legion
- Dr. Edward Timmons, Knee Center for the Study of Occupational Regulation at Saint Francis University
- Alanna Wilson, vice president of public affairs, Knee Center for the Study of Occupational Regulation at Saint Francis University
- Dr. William Griscom, president, Thaddeus Stevens College
- Michael DeGroft, dean of enrollment services, Thaddeus Stevens College
- Gilbert Durand, legislative director, PA Department of Military and Veteran Affairs
- Andrew LaFratte, William Penn fellow, Department of State
- Laryssa Gaughen, director of grassroots operations, Concerned Veterans of America
- Mary Kipple, retired veteran, Concerned Veterans of America
- Robert Anderson, veteran outreach program specialist, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Lancaster Office
- Richard Boyer, veterans employment representative, PA Department of Labor & Industry CareerLink Lancaster
- Hector Rodriguez, employment outreach coordinator, Fort Indiantown Gap
- Stephen Lew, veterans project leader, Disability Rights PA

“There are direct links between military work experience and the skills sought by civilian employers,” DePasquale said. “I want Pennsylvania to become the model for how every state treats veterans when they transition to the civilian labor force.”

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