



# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Law Firms Offer Free Representation to Disabled Soldiers**

The Disabled American Veterans is pleased to announce a unique partnership with three prominent national law firms that have agreed to provide free legal representation for injured soldiers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in navigating the military's disability evaluation and rating system.

The law firms, LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae, King & Spalding and Foley & Lardner contacted the DAV after learning that many service members with disabilities are faced with navigating the disability evaluating and rating process without the benefit of representation. "The law firms wanted to know if there was something they could do to help protect the rights of those injured soldiers who have given so much of themselves to protect us," said Ronald L. Smith, DAV deputy general counsel.

"The DAV has decades of experience with the military's disability evaluation and rating process," said Smith. "Our professionally trained benefits counselors have considerable expertise in reviewing service medical records and representing clients before military Medical Evaluation Boards and Physical Evaluation Boards. And the DAV has agreed to provide attorneys with these law firms some training and guidance regarding the unique nature of the military disability rating system."

"Our attorneys are very pleased to be able to be of service in this way to these heroes who have been of such service to all Americans," said Elizabeth Sandza, Pro Bono Director for LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene and MacRae, LLP's Washington, D.C. office, which was just named Pro Bono Firm of the Year by the D.C. Bar.

"King and Spalding is honored to partner with Disabled American Veterans to represent America's veterans as they navigate the disability claims process. Soldiers returning from military service deserve every benefit to which they are entitled under the law, and this program will ensure that each veteran is properly represented in those proceedings," said Wick Sollers, Managing Partner of King & Spalding's Washington, D.C. office. "King and Spalding has a long and proud tradition of serving the community through its pro bono activities. More than two-thirds of our attorneys perform pro bono work on behalf of a variety of clients, including: Victims of domestic violence, American workers who lose jobs to overseas competition, Gulf Coast residents displaced by Hurricane Katrina, Immigrants seeking political or religious asylum, Indigent criminal defendants, and Tenants facing eviction."

"The professionals at Foley & Lardner LLP take our responsibility for pro bono and community service very seriously. We are excited to be part of this very worthwhile endeavor and will strive to provide representation of the highest quality to folks who have, by their dedication and service to our nation, sacrificed so much," said Steven C. Lambert, chair of the Pro Bono Committee in Foley & Lardner's Washington D.C., office.

The 1.3 million-member Disabled American Veterans, a non-profit organization founded in 1920 and chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1932, represents this nation's disabled veterans. It is dedicated to a single purpose: building better lives for our nation's disabled veterans and their families. For more information, visit the organization's Web site [www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org).

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