

COUNTY OF



ALLEGHENY

RICH FITZGERALD
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Veterans Leadership Program of Western Pennsylvania is hosting its 17th Annual Veterans Day Breakfast on Wednesday, November 11, 2015 at Duquesne University; this year's breakfast will feature Colonel David E. Ristedt, a U.S. Army medical doctor, speaking about post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury from the military perspective; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans Leadership Program of Western Pennsylvania is an independent, nonprofit agency founded in 1982; each year, the organization serves more than 2,400 veterans and their families, makes 8,600 referrals for essential services, and operates one of the nation's most effective veteran employment programs; and

WHEREAS, this year's keynote speech topic is especially meaningful, as brave men and women have now been fighting in Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation New Dawn (OND) for more than 14 years; Pennsylvania has the 4th largest population of veterans in the United States, with Allegheny County having the highest population in Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, many Post-9/11 veterans are having a difficult time transitioning to civilian life; approximately 11-20% of veterans who served in OIF or OEF have post-traumatic stress disorder in a given year; additionally, approximately 53% of separating Post-9/11 veterans will face a period of unemployment; they should know they are not alone; and

WHEREAS, Allegheny County is extremely proud and thankful for our veterans and their service to our wonderful country; we are eternally grateful for their courage and selfless spirit this Veterans Day, and every day.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby proclaim November 11, 2015 as "Veterans Day" in Allegheny County and encourage all residents to show their appreciation to the veterans in our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 11th day of November, 2015.

Rich Fitzgerald

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