



More than 1,200 Jobseekers Attend 10th Annual *Heroes 4 Hire* Job and Career Fair

WETHERSFIELD, March 25, 2014 – More than 85 exhibitors and 1,200 jobseekers turned out at East Hartford’s Rentschler Field Ballroom today for the 10th Annual *Heroes 4 Hire* Job and Career Fair, and with many employers reporting promising leads, this may be the most successful event in the history of the series.

“Employers at today’s event have been extremely pleased with the experience and work-ready qualities that our veterans can bring to the workplace,” said State Labor Commissioner Sharon P. Palmer. “Many companies wait for this event because they know it’s a great opportunity to support our troops and an excellent opportunity to meet with veterans who have obtained skills while in the military or in college. Their backgrounds make them well-suited to take on positions that require discipline, organization and strong leadership skills.”

ESPN of Bristol, a company that has an ongoing *Heroes Work Here* initiative, noted that it currently has over 100 openings that they hope to fill with veterans, “We are a huge supporter of veterans and of programs to assist them,” said Diane Larivee of ESPN. “We hope to fill many of our openings today with great candidates.”

“Today we’re looking for veterans to fill a good number of our openings because they bring great skills to our workplace,” added Courtney Wengenroth, a human resources specialist at Yarde Metals in Bristol.

“It’s very rewarding when there are so many employers eager to hire our veterans,” Palmer said. “The *Heroes 4 Hire* Career Fair is always a special event because it reflects Connecticut’s ongoing commitment to return the favor, even in a small way, to the men and women who represented this country in the military.”

This year’s *Heroes 4 Hire* Fair was sponsored by the Connecticut Department of Labor, Connecticut and federal Departments of Veterans Affairs, Travelers, CBS Radio and local chambers of commerce. Approximately 125,000 jobseekers and 2,100 companies and organizations have taken part in past *Heroes 4 Hire* events since they were first organized to help veterans connect with Connecticut employers.

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