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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DD-214s available free of charge

Unscrupulous businesses should be reported to MVAA

LANSING, Mich. – Veterans throughout Michigan are being warned of unscrupulous businesses charging fees to obtain copies of free military service and discharge records.

Veterans and family members are reminded that discharge paperwork, including DD-214s and other forms, is available free of charge through the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency, county veterans service offices and accredited veterans service organizations.

“No veteran should pay for copies of his or her discharge papers,” MVAA Director Jeff Barnes said. “These records are earned through military service, and it is unethical to ask for payment to obtain a DD-214.”

Veterans should be wary of certain websites, which charge \$90 to \$150 to obtain copies of DD-214s and other free military records through their “expedited service.”

“Please look out for yourselves and for vulnerable family members who are veterans, and spread the word that discharge documents and benefits assistance should be free of charge,” Barnes said. “Often, MVAA is able to provide needed paperwork within a day and within hours for military funeral honors.”

Veterans should contact MVAA at 800-MICH-VET (800-642-4838) or visit the ["Find a Benefits Counselor" page](#) on MichiganVeterans.com to receive free assistance. Veterans who encounter companies charging fees for DD-214s or other military paperwork are encouraged to report these efforts to MVAA.

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About the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency: MVAA serves as the central coordinating point for Michigan veterans, connecting those who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces, and their families, to services and benefits throughout the state. Learn more at [MichiganVeterans.com](#) or call 800-MICH-VET (800-642-4838).