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News Release

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VA Celebrates African-American Veterans throughout February

WASHINGTON —Today the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced several events in celebration of African American History Month.

“All of our Veterans have a story to tell,” said VA Secretary Dr. David J. Shulkin. “It’s an honor to be able to celebrate the accomplishments of African-Americans who, despite myriad challenges, have made a profound, lasting impact in the story of our nation.”

This year’s national theme is “[African Americans in Times of War](#),” which calls attention to the heroic contributions of African Americans during the nation’s military conflicts, from the Revolutionary War to present-day operations.

[VA Center for Minority Veterans](#) (CMV) in partnership with Blacks In Government and the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Braintrust will host a reception at the African American Civil War Museum located at 1925 Vermont Ave., NW, on Feb. 21 from 5:30-8 p.m.

The event will include a reception, a showing of short films celebrating African- American Veterans, an update on the CBC Veterans Braintrust and a four member panel of Veteran speakers with an opportunity for questions. The event is free and open to the public. Attendees must register at the following link: [CMV Reception](#).

In continued celebration of African American History Month, Barbara Ward, director of Center for Minority Veterans, will moderate a roundtable discussion on the Vets Speaks radio program hosted by the Kentucky National Association for Black Veterans. The roundtable is scheduled for Feb. 12, from noon to 12:30 p.m.

Additionally, CMV, in partnership with Women In Military Service For America Memorial Foundation and The Center for Women Veterans, will host a luncheon at the Women’s Memorial located at Arlington National Cemetery on Feb. 27, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event will feature guest speaker, Verna Jones, *executive director of the American Legion*, followed by a series of short films celebrating African-American women Veterans. This event is free and lunch will be provided. Attendees must register at the following link: [CMV Luncheon](#).

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