



# BARSTOW COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*Public Information Office*

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Date: 3/18/15  
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**FREE Assistance to Veterans at Barstow Community College**

**Mobile Service Office will be at BCC North Parking Lot on March 25<sup>th</sup>.**

Barstow, CA – The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Mobile Service Office will be hosted by the local chapter of the Student Veterans of America at Barstow Community College (BCC) next Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM (0800-1600). The DAV van will be located close to the north parking lot of the BCC campus and will provide assistance for all Veterans and their families, free of charge. The local chapter of the Student Veterans of America and Barstow Community College are proud to be able to offer this free service to the Veterans in the Barstow area.

The Counseling and Student Services Department on campus is helping to organize this event. Rich Johnston, one of the Counselors on campus, said, “We believe that our Veterans should be given opportunities to apply for the benefits earned by their service.” The BCC District’s Superintendent and College President, Dr. Deborah Dithomas, and the members of the Board of Trustees support this effort. Partnering with The DAV Mobile Service Offices is a great way for the College to help Veterans in our community. President DiThomas expressed appreciation to the College faculty and staff, the Student Veterans, and the DAV Service Officers for being willing to provide these services on campus during this all day event.

Housed in a fleet of well equipped “offices on wheels” DAV’s Mobile Service Offices (MSOs) travel to smaller towns and rural communities across the country. Aided by Department and Chapter Service Officers, the MSO program provides support to veterans developing, filing and winning claims for benefits administered under federal, state and local laws. National Service Officers counsel and assist with the development of evidence, completion of required applications and prosecution of claims, bringing benefit and services education to veterans and their families where they live. The DAV has assisted with over 340,000 claims being filed across the country in 2014. More information about the DAV and the services that it provides may be found at [www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org). Information about Student Veterans of America may be found at [www.studentveterans.org](http://www.studentveterans.org).

Barstow Community College is an accredited, open access institution of higher learning committed to providing our students, community, and military population with the educational tools needed to achieve personal goals and professional growth. To learn more about the college and the services provided to the community of Barstow, please visit our website: [www.barstow.edu](http://www.barstow.edu)