



News Release

FROM: Chambers of the Chief Judge
19th Judicial Circuit
Lake County
Waukegan, Illinois 60085-4359

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Waukegan, Illinois

LAKE COUNTY SET TO PARTICIPATE IN ITS 8TH VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT

Chief Judge Jay W. Ukena announced that various partners in the Lake County legal community and the County of Lake will again work together with the Library of Congress on its Veterans History Project, being held on the morning of Monday, November 11, 2019 in the Lake County Courthouse.

Veterans are encouraged to register for the opportunity to be interviewed by volunteers and have their oral histories recorded by official court reporters who will produce written verbatim transcripts. The typed transcripts will be archived at the Library of Congress, making accessible the personal accounts of American veterans so that future generations may hear directly from the soldiers. A copy will also be provided to the veteran.

“As time goes on, more and more war veterans pass and the details of their time of service and that of their comrades is lost. War veterans are often hesitant to talk about their own experiences because of a sense of humility, but their details are crucial to our history and a testament to the sacrifice and bravery of others. The events they experienced, and their memories need to be preserved so that generations to come will better understand the realities of war,” said Chief Judge Jay W. Ukena.

Veterans who served in the U.S. military, in any capacity, from WWI to the present, regardless of branch or rank, and are no longer serving are eligible. VHP accepts the stories of veterans as defined by the Department of Veterans Affairs: “A person who served in the active military service and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable.”

Civilian defense workers who were actively involved in supporting war efforts (war industry workers, such as “Rosie the Riveter,” USO workers, civilian flight instructors and pilots, medical personnel, etc.) are also invited to share their valuable stories.

Registration for the event is required. Any veteran interested in being interviewed or anyone interested in volunteering to assist in this project, please contact Brian McClain by calling 847-377-3733 or bmccclain3@lakecountyil.gov.

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