

NEWS RELEASE

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<u>Kim Delaune with the Nevada Department of Veterans Services</u> <u>Honored as State of Nevada Employee Veteran of the Month</u>

(Reno, Nev.) – The Nevada Department of Veterans Services (NDVS) is pleased to announce Kim Delaune has been named November 2021 *Employee Veteran of the Month for the State of Nevada*.

Kim is a licensed practical nurse who works at the Southern Nevada State Veterans Home (SNSVH) in Boulder City. She is credited with saving lives during the pandemic, but her passion, skill and talent will leave a legacy that will extend far beyond COVID-19.

During the pandemic, Kim served in Clark County on the COVID-19 Task Force (Joint Task Force 17), alongside the Nevada National Guard, from October 2020 to August 2021. She oversaw infection control monitoring at the home and was instrumental in ensuring SNSVH had the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), which is used to protect against the spread of the COVID-19 virus. During this period, Kim remained onsite, seven days a week, at every shift, as the home operates 24-hour-a-day.

Additionally, Kim provided COVID-19 screening in two key areas of the home: the main entrance and the COVID-19 unit. She also monitored the facility for compliance in the following areas: N95 mask fit; proper use of PPE; droplet precautions; cleaning protocols; hand hygiene; proper social distancing; and no crossover of staff from the positive hallway to the presumptive hallway.

Kim performed these duties with the utmost professionalism, dedication, and compassion. As a result of her dedication and commitment to this mission, the residents and staff of the home are safer today and her direction and leadership have led to an improvement in PPE compliance to this day.

Kim first joined the United States Marine Corps in 1997 and served approximately five years in active duty. She stayed in the Marine Corps Reserve until 2005, when she transferred to the Army National Guard. She served in the Louisiana Army National Guard from 2005 to 2010. Kim moved to Las Vegas in May of 2010. She has been serving in the Nevada Army National Guard since 2010. She is currently a Chief Warrant Officer 2 and belongs to the 17th Sustainment Brigade based in Las Vegas, NV.

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"When the pandemic hit, infection control became the center of our attention and Kim did not hesitate to step up to the plate," said Kat Miller, NDVS Director. "Kim demonstrates the passion and dedication of a true public servant, setting a great example as terrific team member for both NDVS and the State of Nevada."

According to her supervisor, Amy Garland, NDVS Deputy Director of the Healthcare Division SAID, "Kim never hesitates to bring her leadership and skill set to table, no matter how challenging the task. We feel she is a tremendous asset and valued member of a very talented NDVS team."

The Employee Veteran of the Month award initiative began in January 2021 and each month an employee veteran is recognized by the Nevada Department of Administration Director and the Administrator of the Division of Human Resource Management.

About the Nevada Department of Veterans Services (NDVS)

NDVS is dedicated to helping Nevada veterans obtain the services and benefits they have earned through military service. In addition to offering benefits counseling and assistance, which includes assistance with filing VA claims at no cost, NDVS manages the Northern and Southern Nevada State Veterans Homes and the Northern and Southern Veterans Memorial Cemeteries. To learn more about NDVS programs or services visit www.veterans.nv.gov and follow us on Twitter @NVDeptVeterans and on Facebook @NevadaDepartmentofVeteransServices

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