



Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D. C. 20530

November 8, 2013

Dear Colleagues,

This Veterans Day, we honor millions of Americans who have served their country, and defended their fellow citizens, as members of the U.S. Armed Forces. Both at home and around the world, these brave men and women have put their lives on the line in order to protect this nation and preserve the freedoms we all enjoy. Every year, Veterans Day provides an important opportunity to recognize the courage and commitment of these extraordinary individuals - including the over 27,000 veterans currently serving at every level of the Department of Justice - and to express gratitude for their contributions, their sacrifices, and the inspiring examples they provide.

Veterans are leaders, patriots, and heroes. They are among our country's most dedicated and selfless public servants. Here at the Department of Justice, veterans serve as agents, attorneys, investigators, and members of our support staff. They occupy positions of trust and leadership, as managers, mentors, innovators, and invaluable contributors to the Department's most vital missions. Especially in recent years, as federal agencies have been called upon to do more with less - and to contend with unprecedented budgetary constraints, significant uncertainty, and even a government shutdown - our veterans have provided the steady and consistent leadership necessary to maintain the Department's focus on our critical objectives. Their specialized training, and the skills they developed as members of our armed forces, have strengthened our ability to advance national efforts to safeguard the employment rights, voting rights, and financial security of countless veterans and military servicemembers across the country.

As we pause to mark this year's observance of Veterans Day, I would like to extend my personal gratitude to every veteran serving this Department. Thank you for your outstanding work, for your dedication to the American people, and for the service that you provide to our nation. I am honored to count you as colleagues, and look forward to all that we will achieve together in the months and years ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eric H. Holder, Jr.".

Eric H. Holder, Jr.
Attorney General