



## NEWS RELEASE

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Salute To Veterans, Inc.

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### SALUTE TO VETERANS, INC. EMPOWERS VETERANS AND THE COMMUNITY

New Program Links Veterans, Service Providers, and Community Members

**Tampa, FL, October 25, 2010** – Community activist Bob Samuels, President of Salute To Veterans, Inc. (STV, Inc.) and his team are pioneering a service initiative that links veterans to resources that may help them to create sustainable lifestyles. STV, Inc. is pleased to have Congresswoman Kathy Castor as our Honorary Chairperson for ***The First Annual Salute to Black Veterans: “Empowering Tampa Bay’s Veterans Through Education & Information.”*** This free community event is set for Saturday, November 6, 2010 and opens with complimentary breakfast at 7:00am; educational workshops focused on veteran health care, benefits, and entrepreneurship starting at 8:30am; and a 4:00pm “*Salute to Veterans*” ceremony featuring The Tuskegee Airmen, The Buffalo Soldiers, Staff Sergeant Evelyn Johnson who served in the 688<sup>th</sup> Central Postal Directory Battalion – the only all African-American, all female unit to serve overseas, and several other influential military figures. “Salute to Veterans is all about serving as an educational gateway that connects veterans with valuable resources that may significantly enhance their lives,” says Bob. The event will be held at the Dale Mabry Campus of Hillsborough Community College: 4001 West Tampa Bay Boulevard, Tampa, Florida 33614. This event is free to the community; veterans and community members may register online at [www.SaluteTampaBayVeterans.org](http://www.SaluteTampaBayVeterans.org) or call 813.231.4362, ext. 305.

Together with collaborative partners Hillsborough Community College and Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa, Inc., STV, Inc. will offer a series of activities, specifically for veterans, which will include workshop presentations and health forums focused on enhancing and making a difference in the lives of the under-served veteran population in the Greater Tampa Bay community.

The passion of STV, Inc.’s purpose resonates deep within the Executive Board: President Bob Samuels has served as an advocate for community issues and has been in the forefront of creating and revolutionizing programs to extensively educate the public. Lloyd “Fig” Newton, a retired United States Air Force four-star General, was the first African-American pilot to fly with the United States Air Force Thunderbirds. Tonja Brickhouse is a retired United States Air Force Colonel who served as Chief of Air Transportation Division, Headquarters Air Mobility Command at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois. Retired United States Air Force Colonel Irvin Lee now serves as the Public Works Director for the City of Tampa. W.H. “Bill” McCloud served in the Army Corps of Engineers for 20 years and served as the Army’s Chief Engineer for maintenance on power generation, rail equipment, and marine equipment – the highest ranking warrant officer position in the United States Army. Bill now serves as Senior Vice President for one of the largest transportation companies in the world.

*For a complete schedule of events and descriptions of educational workshops, visit [www.SaluteTampaBayVeterans.org](http://www.SaluteTampaBayVeterans.org). To schedule media visits or board interviews, please call STV, Inc.'s Public Relations contacts or email [STVNews@SaluteTampaBayVeterans.org](mailto:STVNews@SaluteTampaBayVeterans.org). STV, Inc. has a commitment of partners and sponsors including the Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa, Inc., Hillsborough Community College, the New York Yankees, Hillsborough County Public Schools, TECO Peoples Gas, Veolia Transportation, Manatee County Rural Health Service, Marriott Waterside, and Hyatt Regency. STV, Inc. will empower veterans through education and information. Our mission is to serve as a major portal through which veterans receive valuable information, resources, and services and to help facilitate feedback to various agencies that provide veteran services. STV, Inc.'s mission-critical objective is to actively communicate information to veterans through the use of community resources as well as other communication media. For more information about STV, Inc.'s services, call 813-231-4362, ext. 305.*

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