Making New Bedford a Military/Veteran Friendly City



by Michael Silvia

As a former full-time active duty Air Force member and current Massachusetts Air National Guard member, I have experienced cities and towns that are more friendly to military members than others. I'm not talking about the people of a town or city being friendly to military people. I've rarely experience anti-military citizens and very often have had my coffee or meal paid for while in uniform by a complete stranger.

What I define as a military friendly town/city is one where the businesses actively provide discounts or benefits to military members or veterans. It's not uncommon for military members to work long hours, in foreign and extremely dangerous lands. Providing a discount or benefit to military members or veterans is a great way to say thank you and support our troops. When a city or town gets a reputation as military friendly, there is significant benefit to the businesses. Word spreads among military members and these establishments get patronized frequently by military members and non-military members that support the troops. It's a win for the the city, businesses and of course the military members and veterans.



Through NewBedfordGuide.com, I will be leading the effort to make New Bedford a military friendly city. I will maintain a list of businesses that provide a discount or benefit. If you are a business and want to

participate in this program, contact me at info@newbedfordguide.com. If you are a resident of New Bedford and want to help, print this out and give it to some local businesses and ask them to take part in this program.