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OHIO VETERANS UNITED ENDORSES TERRY JOHNSON FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE

COLUMBUS, OH – July 21, 2010 – Ohio Veterans United today announced the endorsement of Dr. Terry A. Johnson for State Representative 89th District of Ohio. The announcement was made by Col. Thomas Moe, honorary chair and founding member of Ohio Veterans United.

“Most of what I know about leadership has been learned through my military experiences,” says Johnson. “I will be able to hit the ground running and apply these lessons immediately. I also have an intimate understanding of what it means to serve and I will work relentlessly to support our military and care for our veterans.”

“Col. Johnson understands what it means to serve your country and your community,” according to Tom Moe. “He is a 19 year veteran of the Ohio Army National Guard rising to the rank of colonel, he serves his community as a doctor and as the Scioto County coroner, and also serves the community teaching medical students and medical residents at his hospital, Southern Ohio Medical Center. I got to know Terry when he served as a co-chair of Veterans for McCain in Scioto County. Citizen-soldier Terry Johnson is a credit to his community and will be an effective representative for the 89th District of Ohio,” said Moe.

Col. Johnson has held two military commands, as a medical company commander with an armor brigade and with the Army Guard's Medical Command for seven years. He had three deployments, the first of which was to Baghdad in 2004, where he was in charge of the medical clinic at the US Embassy Annex. He served as Battalion Flight Surgeon with the 1-137th Assault Helicopter BN, Joint Base Balad, Iraq and as Task Force Flight Surgeon at Aviation Task Force Kuwait.

His commendations and medals include: Ohio Distinguished Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, and the Meritorious Unit Commendation with the Second Medical Brigade for service in Iraq.

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Today, Dr. Johnson is the Joint Forces State Surgeon and Army State Surgeon for the Ohio National Guard and is Director of the Family Practice Residency Program at Southern Ohio Medical Center in Lucasville and serves as Assistant Dean, Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine (OU-COM) and Centers for Osteopathic Research and Education as well as Clinical Associate Professor, Family Medicine at OU-COM. Dr. Johnson is also an executive committee member of the Gold Star Family Project.

He is a life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars (Post 3638), a member of the American Legion (William A. Baker Post 363) and a life member of the Society of US Army Flight Surgeons.

Making the announcement was Col. Moe, a retired United States Air Force pilot who fought in Vietnam and spent five years in captivity as a POW. Some of that time was spent at the Hanoi Hilton, where Col. Moe got to know U.S. Senator John McCain. In 2008, Col. Moe campaigned for Sen. McCain during his run for U.S. President.

“Our mission is to educate citizens on the need to maintain a strong military and to help elect qualified veterans and like-minded non-veterans to office,” says Harry Prestanski, executive director of Ohio Veterans United. “We are strong advocates of legislation that fully supports our troops, military families and Veterans and we work to ensure that every military absentee ballot is counted in every election.”

Ohio Veterans United is a voluntary unincorporated, non-profit organization, which is registered as a Political Action Committee with the state of Ohio Election Law Enforcement Commission. It is operated as a federal non-connected, multi-candidate political committee, as defined by the publication "Campaign Guide for Non-connected Committees" of the Federal Election Commission. For more information go to www.ohioveteransunited.org or contact: Ohio Veterans United, 6896 Windwood Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45241 or call 513-207-5101.

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