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OHIO VETERANS UNITED ENDORSES MIKE DOVILLA FOR OHIO HOUSE DISTRICT 18

BEREA, OH – April 15, 2010 – Ohio Veterans United today announced the endorsement of Mike Dovilla for Representative in the 18th House District of Ohio. The announcement was made by Col. Thomas Moe, honorary chair and founding member of Ohio Veterans United. “Following a thorough review of candidates’ backgrounds, experiences, and positions on issues, especially concerning Veteran’s issues, we believe that Michael Dovilla shares our core values, including being a staunch and effective supporter of Veterans,” says Moe.

“As a U.S. Navy veteran you have served this country with honor,” says Moe. “Including active duty with the Navy on a 12-month deployment in Iraq in 2007-2008. As Deputy Officer-in-Charge, you led a 25-person, Baghdad-based intelligence headquarters for Combined Joint Task Force Troy, the counter-improvised explosive device brigade in Iraq.”

For “exceptionally meritorious performance,” Dovilla was awarded the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the third highest award granted by the U.S. Department of Defense. He has served in reserve assignments with the Chief of Naval Operations and the Office of Naval Intelligence. Currently you serve as an intelligence officer assigned to a U.S. Forces Japan reserve unit located in Akron.

Dovilla began his public service career in the federal government’s Presidential Management Fellows program, serving at the U.S. Departments of State and Defense and earning the State Department’s Meritorious Honor Award for “sustained superior performance” in overhauling the Department’s strategic planning processes. He also served in the executive and legislative branches of the federal government in Washington, D.C. and in 2009, he was named an American Marshall Fellow by the German Marshall Fund of the United States.

Dovilla is a member of American Legion Post 91 in Berea, and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3345 in Strongsville.

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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 and founding member 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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