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Labor Dept. representative receives national recognition for veterans' services

PIERRE, S.D. – The S.D. Dept. of Labor (SDDOL) announces Ken Moon of the Rapid City Career Center has been named both the state and national 2007 Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Veterans' Representative of the Year for outstanding service to veterans.

“Ken provides exceptional service when assisting veterans in the Rapid City area and travels as far as Pine Ridge to visit various facilities serving veterans in order to make contact with them,” said Secretary of Labor Pam Roberts. “His devotion and professionalism make him a valuable asset to the Rapid City Career Center and community.”

Moon has been a veterans' representative since August 1996. Each year, he assesses, counsels and refers over 500 veterans in western South Dakota. The goal is to ensure priority and quality service are provided to veterans in gaining meaningful employment. Moon also facilitates the Transition Assistance Program (TAP) workshop at Ellsworth Air Force Base for service members separating or retiring from military service, National Guard and Reserve Components. The TAP workshop educates and assists veterans on employment issues during the transition from military to civilian life. Topics include: personal appraisal, career exploration, effective job searches, interview techniques, job offer reviews, and other forms of support and assistance.

The annual state award was presented May 11 during the DAV state convention in Mitchell by S.D. DAV Employment Chairman Todd Kolden and S.D. DAV Commander Loren Murren. The DAV State Chapter and Moon were notified of the national recognition on June 20.

SDDOL has 14 South Dakota Career Centers and four satellite offices located throughout the state. All of these offices offer services to veterans and eligible spouses, and can assist employers who wish to hire a veteran. For more information, visit www.sdjobs.org.