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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SHERIFF LINKS MILITARY VETERANS AND QUINCY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN UNIQUE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

DEDHAM, MA, Nov. 1, 2017 - With the approach of Veterans Day, Norfolk County Sheriff Michael G. Bellotti and Quincy High School Principal Lawrence Taglieri are thrilled to announce a new program that links American military service veterans with high school students and provides students the chance to learn from the vets' stories of commitment and service to their country.

"This intergenerational program is an opportunity for young people to learn about sacrifice, hard work, friendship, courage and commitment. The veterans don't even need to use those words, but their stories communicate the concepts, and the students recognize them when they hear and see them," Sheriff Bellotti said.

Principal Taglieri said, "We are excited about the prospect of our students meeting local veterans and learning in some considerable depth about their experiences in serving our country. Many students know veterans from their own families or neighborhoods, but this program puts them in touch with veterans they have never met and encourages them to delve more deeply into their individual stories. This will certainly be a unique learning experience."

Called "YOUTH AND VALOR: From the Greatest Generation to the Latest Generation," the program will link five veterans - two from World War II, one from the Korean War and two from the Vietnam War - with 10 Quincy High School students. During an introductory meeting, the veterans and students will be grouped in trios consisting of one vet and two students. The veterans will be encouraged to recount their personal stories ranging from boot camp to combat to friends made and friends lost and anything else they deem important. The students will take notes and prepare written stories based on their interviews. They will read their stories at a luncheon honoring the participants later in the school year.

"The Norfolk Sheriff's Office has run similar inter-generational programs in the past and found that they always produce unexpected benefits for both the young people and the seniors," Sheriff Bellotti said. "This is our first such program specifically involving veterans, and we think it will be especially enlightening and memorable."
