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Arapahoe County welcomes new Veterans Service Officer

Jorge Arredondo to assist veterans and dependents with obtaining federal benefits

LITTLETON, CO --- The Arapahoe County Veterans Service office welcomes a new Assistant Veterans Service Officer to assist veterans and their dependents seeking federal benefits.

The Board of County Commissioners appointed Jorge Arredondo as Assistant County Veterans Service Officer Oct. 3. Arredondo will assist veterans with filing for benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, such as service connected disability, pension, burial benefits, VA health care and education benefits.

Arredondo joins Veterans Service Officer T.J. Westphal, who has served thousands of veterans and dependents and helped to recover millions of dollars in awarded claims since his appointment in 2013. In 2016 alone, the office recovered more than \$3.6 million in Veterans Affairs claims for 5,685 U.S. Armed Forces Veterans and their families living in Arapahoe County.

Arredondo, an Army Veteran, served multiple tours of duty in Iraq, including many as part of a special operations unit. Following active duty, he earned a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and Political Science from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. While in college, he served as the president of the Student Veterans Organization, a chapter of the national Student Veterans of America organization that works to maximize education benefits for Veterans.

Arredondo has more than four years' experience working with veterans, including two years as a State Veteran Service Officer in Colorado. He is currently pursuing a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Colorado. Arredondo is bilingual.

Arapahoe County is home to more than 50,000 veterans, 40,000 veteran dependents and 15,000 active military at Buckley Air Force Base.

The Arapahoe County Veterans Service Office is located at 1690 W. Littleton Blvd., Suite 110, Littleton, 80120. To learn more or make an appointment with the Arapahoe County Veterans Service Office, call 303-738-8045 or visit www.arapahoegov.com/VeteransService.

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