Press Release...



From the Office of State Representative La Shawn K. Ford

For Immediate Release:

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For More Information: State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford (773) 378-5902

Rep. Ford Hires Veteran Jonathan Tate to be Eighth District Community and Veterans Outreach Coordinator

OAK PARK – State Representative La Shawn K. Ford (D-Chicago) announced today the hiring of Jonathan Axel Tate as the Eighth District Community and Veterans Outreach Coordinator. Mr. Tate will be based at Rep. Ford's Suburban Constituent Service Office at 816 S. Oak Park Avenue, Oak Park. Mr. Tate brings both military and civilian experience to his new position.

Mr. Tate has served his country in both the United States Air Force and the United States Army. He is currently serving in the Illinois Army National Guard.

"The unemployment rate among our nation's military veterans is a serious issue," said Ford. "We owe it to the men and women of our armed forces to provide sufficient work opportunities for the next transition of their careers. Mr. Tate has served and continues to serve our great country, and I feel confident that his military experience can help improve outreach to veterans and the entire Eighth District," Ford added.

According to the Department of Labor, one in three veterans is out of a job in the last quarter of 2011. Rep. Ford seeks to increase the number of veterans who are employed, and he has introduced the Veterans State Employment Plan (HB3787) that looks to improve overall state employment and services to veterans in Illinois. The bill has bipartisan support, with 48 co-sponsors.

For more information, please call one of Ford's constituent service offices; call the Oak Park office at 708-445-3673 or the Chicago office at 773-378-5902.