

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Whitestone Group Adds 79 Veterans to its Payroll

Columbus, OH — Oct. 17 — The Whitestone Group headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, announced today that the company has added 79 new workers with military service to its payroll this year, bringing the number of its veteran employees to 350. Whitestone, a physical security company based in Columbus, Ohio, provides physical security for federal facilities in the United States and its Territories.

This increase was generated by the addition of several new security contracts awarded to Whitestone this past year including two awards this month. The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency jointly awarded a 5 year contract to secure their facilities at Research Triangle Park in North Carolina. Whitestone also was awarded a 5 year contract by the Department of Energy to provide security services for the agency's National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) facilities in Albuquerque, New Mexico. "We already have several security contracts with these agencies and this was just a natural progression for us," said John D. Clark, Whitestone's President and CEO.

Several other contracts were awarded to the company within the last year to include seven new contracts with the Federal Aviation Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency in Cincinnati; a 5 year renewal for the Department of Energy at two locations in Colorado; the Department of Energy's Sandia National Labs in New Mexico and California; and a 5 year renewal with the U.S. Treasury Department in Washington D.C. "These awards gave us the opportunity to offer many additional sources of employment including the 79 jobs for our distinguished veterans," Clark said.

Mr. Clark, a service-disabled veteran himself, said he finds that veterans bring many different skill sets and

experiences to the table, such as leadership, discipline, teamwork, advanced knowledge, supervisory skills and the ability to multitask.

Mr. Clark cited a Department of Labor article showing that unemployment among veterans who served since 2001 is 9 percent, down from 9.9 percent a year ago, but still two percent above the national average. The same article reported in August 2013, 40 percent of veterans reported serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, or both. These veterans had an unemployment rate of 10.2 percent.

"Whitestone is pleased we have the capacity to impact these employment figures. But there is still much work to do in this area. I've always found that veterans make great employees because of their training and call-to-duty spirit," Clark added. "We find that our recruitment and retention efforts are much more successful with this talented group of people."

"More often than not," said Clark, "veterans already have the necessary training, background and experience required of force protection, counter terrorism and intelligence officers as well as Cyber Analysts, Physical Security Specialists, TSCM Specialist and other classifications of employees for most of our federal contracts. We are proud of these men and women who answered the call to serve our country to ensure the preservation of our freedom and way of life."

Whitestone always has many employment opportunities for veterans, law enforcement officers, security professionals and others. Visit their website at www.whitestonegroup.us and click on Careers for a current listing.

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