

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Three Alabama Wounded Veterans to be Honored Today

MONTGOMERY - April 22 — Three severely wounded veterans will be recognized for their service and sacrifice to the United States of America this afternoon following a special educational presentation for graduating case managers of the Veterans Administration. The ceremony is scheduled to take place at 1:15 p.m. at the Veterans Administration Building on Perry Hill Road. Several local dignitaries and government officials have been invited to attend.

Those honored today will include: Lieutenant John Givhan (U.S. Army, retired) who lost his leg in the Vietnam War; Captain Matt Bacik (U.S. Army, retired) who lost his leg in Iraq; and Staff Sergeant Josh Olson (U.S. Army, active duty) who also lost his leg in Iraq. They will each be presented with recently minted Challenge Coins and certificates as a sign of the deep appreciation the citizens of America have for their extreme sacrifice to our country.

Prior to the ceremony, a presentation titled, “The Walter Reed Experience” will be given by Dennis Clark, CPO, president of POINT Health Centers of America and president of Clark & Associates Prosthetics and Orthotics. This special presentation is a riveting, first-hand account of care-planning strategies and treatment rationales used for returning wounded veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan. It provides a glimpse at how these young men and women, who have sustained amputations, meet their physical challenges and master full-time use of their prosthetic devices rapidly and successfully despite multiple medical issues. Clark spent a lot of time working at Walter Reed Army Medical Center when his O&P practice was contracted by the U.S. Department of Defense to provide prosthetic care to wounded soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Today's presentation and awards ceremony are being sponsored by Glenn Crumpton, CPO, CPed and his company, AALOS (Alabama Artificial Limb & Orthopedic Service, Inc.) based in Montgomery. As central Alabama's oldest continually accredited prosthetic and orthotic company, the facility provides prosthetic services for several wounded veterans and has been proactive in issues affecting the well-being of wounded veterans. Crumpton has worked in the O&P profession for more than 25 years and currently serves as president of the Alabama Prosthetic & Orthotic Association, in addition to being the presiding officer for the State of Alabama Prosthetic and Orthotic Licensure Board. AALOS has offices located in Montgomery, Opelika, and Selma.