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Press Release

District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey Honored by Department of Defense for Extraordinary Support of Employees who Serve in the Massachusetts National Guard and Reserve

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(Canton, MA) – Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), an agency of the Department of Defense, announced today that Norfolk County District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey was honored with a Patriot Award in recognition of extraordinary support of his employee (s) who serve in the Massachusetts National Guard and Reserve.

According to Earl Bonett, ESGR Massachusetts Chair, "The Patriot Award was created by ESGR to publicly recognize individuals who provide outstanding patriotic support and cooperation to their employees, who like the citizen warriors before them, have answered their nation's call to serve."

District Attorney Morrissey was nominated for being highly supportive of the Reserve Service by his Reserve Component member, Assistant District Attorney and First Lieutenant Arthur Czugh, who nominated him for the award. Supportive supervisors are critical to maintaining the strength and readiness of the nation's National Guard and Reserve units."

"We are fortunate to have attorneys with prior service and those, like First Lt. Arthur Czugh, who serve in the Guard and Reserve," District Attorney Morrissey said. "They consistently bring an elevated sense of purpose and mission to our work. It is both a duty and a privilege to support them as they serve."

The Norfolk District Attorney's Office prosecutes more than 15,000 criminal complaints each year arising out of 27 cities and towns. District Attorney Morrissey has kept combatting the opiate epidemic and impaired driving a focus of his community outreach and education efforts. He worked with the judiciary to establish the state's first Veterans Treatment Court in 2012. The son and nephew of WW II veterans, Morrissey has received past recognition for his work, first in the Massachusetts legislature and now as District Attorney, including the Department of Defense Teamwork Award, the Quincy Vietnam Combat Veterans Award and the Marine Corps League Certificate.

As the 1.3 million members of the National Guard and Reserve continue to perform an increasing number of unique missions with America's borders and beyond, ESGR will continue to be the resource for the employers of citizen warriors. ESGR advocates relevant initiatives, recognizes outstanding support, increases awareness of applicable laws, and resolves conflict between employers and service members. More information about ESGR Employer Outreach Programs and volunteer opportunities is available at www.esgr.mil, or by calling (Christine Deveau, 339-202-4816 Volunteer Support- Technician) (VST).