

# NORFOLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 3, 2025

**Sheriff Patrick McDermott thanks the many veterans and volunteers who took part in the Norfolk County Sheriff's "House to House for Heroes" veterans' outreach in Town of Norfolk  
*Saturday's event honored all veterans who have served***

Norfolk, MA – The Norfolk County Sheriff's Office hosted a veterans-focused "House to House for Heroes" on Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, involving volunteers who visited the homes of some 350 veterans in Norfolk to deliver information about the important resources and new benefits available to them.

House to House for Heroes in Norfolk started with a special ceremony at the Town of Norfolk Fire Department, located at 117 Main Street, before volunteers headed out to connect with veterans, in partnership with the Norfolk Veterans Service Office, and with the assistance of the American Legion, Post 335, Norfolk.

U.S. Navy Veteran Jim Schweitzer was recognized during Saturday's as the event's honorary Chairman. Mr. Schweitzer is a Vietnam War veteran who served on the aircraft carrier, USS Ranger for six years. Mr. Schweitzer has lived in Norfolk for 40 years, and coached Babe Ruth and American Legion baseball for 28 years, while owning a local insurance and financial services company.

"On this day, we honored all who have served, while focusing our attention on veterans in the Town of Norfolk," said Sheriff McDermott. "The selfless service, patriotic duty, and unwavering dedication of our veterans should never be forgotten,"

Volunteers delivered a packet of information that included a letter thanking the veterans for their service, helpful information about how to apply for assistance and health benefits from Veterans Affairs, details about housing and employment opportunities, information about newly available state benefits, as well as contacts for many veteran-based agencies.

The Hero Act, signed by the Healey-Driscoll Administration last August, affects hundreds of thousands of veterans across Massachusetts, and the Norfolk County Sheriff's Office wants to make sure they are aware of these landmark new benefits, which include:

- A recent increase in the Disabled Veteran Annuity
- Expanded access to behavioral health treatment
- An allowance for cities and towns to double property tax exemptions
- Expansion of the definition of Veteran Dependent
- Protection of the sales tax exemption
- Codified medical and dental assistance benefits

Norfolk is the second of several House to House efforts by the sheriff's office in 2025, with other future events planned in Canton, Walpole, and Foxborough.

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