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Monday, October 14, 2024

For immediate release

County Commission of Veteran Affairs appoints Mandy Coates as VA director

Johnson County, IA – The Johnson County Commission of Veteran Affairs has selected Mandy Coates as the new Veteran Affairs director following the resignation of the previous director, Gary Boseneiler.

In her new role as director, Coates serves on the Johnson County Commission of Veterans Affairs and manages the Veterans Affairs office located in the Health and Human Services Building in Iowa City. The commission strives to assist all honorably discharged veterans and their dependents living in Johnson County by connecting them with local, state, and federal benefits.

Coates joined the United States Army Reserve shortly after graduating from high school. In 2003 she was deployed to spearhead the war in Iraq completing a 15-month tour. She returned to the States, completed her reserve time as a sergeant, and took a position in the private sector in human services. She moved career fields and worked for the railroad while attending Mount Mercy University, earning her bachelor's degree in business administration with a minor in human resources. Coates welcomed twins while working full-time and completing school in 2012. She became a stay-at-home parent and began her role as a Commissioner with Johnson County Veterans Affairs in 2015. In 2023, Coates started her career as a County Veteran Service Officer. She also serves as a Selective Service Local Board Member and strives daily to advocate and support veterans and their families throughout Johnson County.

A statement released by the Commission on Friday commended Coates' dedication, leadership, and passion for supporting veterans. "Mandy brings a wealth of experience and a deep commitment to ensuring that our veterans receive the care and resources they need. We are confident that under her guidance, the County will see significant strides in enhancing programs and services for those who have served our Country," the statement read.

Those seeking services can contact the Veterans Affairs office at 319-356-6049 or email va@johnsoncountyiowa.gov regarding any questions or to set up an appointment. Regular business hours are Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. More information can be found at their website: https://www.johnsoncountyiowa.gov/department-of-veterans-affairs.

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