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# **Joint Base Lewis-McChord WorkSource Affiliate Office Receives NASWA Award - July 24, 2018**

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## **For Immediate Release**

*JBLM WorkSource presented with NASWA's Mark Sanders Award for outstanding service to veterans, especially those with significant barriers to employment*

WASHINGTON – Recently at the National Association of State Workforce Agencies' (NASWA) 2018 Veteran's Conference, Washington State's Joint Base Lewis McChord (JBLM) WorkSource Affiliate office was presented with the prestigious Mark Sanders Award. NASWA's Mark Sanders Award is bestowed yearly upon one individual or group in the U.S. who provide exceptional workforce and/or job market assistance to veterans, especially those with significant barriers to obtaining and retaining employment.

One of the largest military installations in the U.S. Army, JBLM has assisted more than 6,000 separated service members annually with transitioning to civilian life. Services provided include planning for future civilian employment, industry-specific training, counseling and mentoring, internships, work experience opportunities, out-of-area job search, and relocation assistance. To date, over 60 percent of veterans who have been served by JBLM have chosen to remain in the area.

“The Mark Sanders Award for Exceptional Service to Veterans is one of NASWA's most prestigious national awards, as well as most important, as it recognizes those who have provided outstanding service to the men and women who protect our freedom,” said Scott B. Sanders, Executive Director of NASWA. “I cannot think of a better team than Joint Base Lewis-McChord's WorkSource to receive this award. We applaud their tireless efforts to assist our nation's heroes in their transition to civilian life and jobs.”

Sanders also noted the JBLM team has also provided intensive career and transitional services to over 400 veterans with significant barriers to employment to date, which includes more than 200 wounded warriors.

NASWA's prestigious Mark Sanders Award is named in honor of Mark Sanders who, during his career with the California Employment Development Department and in leadership positions with the National Association of State Workforce Agencies, was untiring in his efforts to promote excellence in services to Disabled Veterans.