

Statement by Secretary Napolitano on Veterans Day



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Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Janet Napolitano today joined U.S. Coast Guard Commandant Admiral Thad Allen to participate in a wreath laying ceremony at the Coast Guard Memorial in Arlington National Ceremony.

"Today we pay our deepest respect to the courageous men and women of who have served the U.S. Armed Forces and who currently risk their lives at home and abroad. The tragic events of recent weeks remind us of the tremendous sacrifice those in uniform make every day for our Nation, and I am proud to count the Department of Homeland Security's 47,000-strong veteran workforce and the men and women of the U.S. Coast Guard as colleagues in our mission to protect the country," said Secretary Napolitano.

Secretary Napolitano recently committed to building the Department of Homeland Security's veteran workforce to more than 50,000 by 2012 - part of a series of initiatives designed to strengthen the vital role of veterans to DHS' efforts to secure the country.

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