

Subject: Deborah Mullens media advisory

LEGISLATIVE INTERIM COMMITTEE CONDUCTS FIRST MEETING VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

CHARLESTON – The Legislature’s Select Committee on Veterans’ Affairs will be using teleconferencing technology to discuss issues facing women service members, veterans, and family of service members with the wife of the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman.

Deborah Mullens, who has been married to Admiral Mike Mullen, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, for 40 years, will share her experiences and observations regarding life in the military with the 13-member joint House-Senate Committee from in Washington DC. The committee meeting will take place 9 a.m. Wednesday at the West Virginia National Guard Facility.

“We are very honored to have Mrs. Mullens addressing us on these important issues for returning veterans,” House Co-Chair Barbara Fleischauer said. “It will be interesting to conduct a meeting using videoconferencing. Now that the House of Delegates and Senate are equipped to stream audio of committee meetings live so that citizens can listen in, we are looking forward to using this type of technology to connect to speakers who are out of state.”

Also during the meeting, the committee will hear from Toney Colagrosso of TRICARE on his company’s healthcare program.

Members of the media are welcome to attend.

The following is the tentative schedule for the meeting:

- 8:00- 8:15: Committee members to meet on Greenbrier Street, adjacent to the Governor’s Drive to board the transportation to the WVNG facility;
- 8:15-8:30: We will depart the Capitol for the WVNG facility;
- 8:30-9:00: Welcome by the WVNG and last minute preparations for the VTC with Mrs. Mullen;
- 9:00-9:30: Meeting is called to order with Mrs. Mullen over VTC;
- 9:30-10:00: Second half of the meeting featuring Tony Colagrosso on TRICARE;
- 10:00-12:00 (or earlier): Windshield tour of the updated facilities at the ANG;
- 12:00 (or earlier): Members returned to the Capitol.