



October 23, 2013

## Post-911 War Vet Seeks Collection Industry Grant to Further Education

*With Less Than Three Weeks Left in Drive, a Profile of a Hero*

**Collingswood, NJ:** ARming Heroes ([www.armingheroes.org](http://www.armingheroes.org)), the collection industry's charity for military veterans, today shared the story of one hopeful applicant seeking financial support through the **No Debts for Vets** grant program, which has disbursed tens of thousands of dollars to the creditors of America's veterans since 2009.

For Jay Thompson, a soldier in the U.S. Army who served honorably in Iraq in 2005 and Afghanistan from 2007 through 2008, it's been a constant struggle every day to get his civilian life back on track since his discharge. When Jay was called to war as a result of his unit's deployment, he was forced to drop out of college and put his dream of higher education on hold. Upon returning home, faced with increased expenses, mounting debt from creditors, no college degree, and a weak job market, he settled for a low-paying job that doesn't even manage to cover his monthly expenses. He wants nothing more than to rekindle his dream of pursuing a college degree, and subsequently secure gainful employment, but with his current financial situation, that dream remains beyond his reach. To further complicate matters, the Post 911 GI Bill will only cover 60% of his tuition, so the remaining 40% will have to come through additional student loans. Jay's grant application is currently under review, and a decision is expected in November.

Jay Thompson is just one example of the kind of applicant seeking a grant this year from ARming Heroes. Hundreds of unemployed, underemployed, and disabled veterans have applied, all hoping for a grant to help fill the gap between income and expenses, for needs that are largely unmet by government programs or even by other military charities. Stories about past grant recipients like [Jacob Gayer and Daniel Smith](#) remind us all how rewarding this program can be.

The fourth annual [No Debts for Vets Charity Fundraising Drive](#), which runs from September 11<sup>th</sup> through Veterans Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>, has already raised thousands of dollars, most of which will be disbursed through direct grants payable to the creditors of grant recipients, just in time for the holidays. Tax deductible donations are being accepted online at [www.armingheroes.org](http://www.armingheroes.org) and via mail to PO Box 353, Collingswood, NJ 08108, payable to ARming Heroes.

Many companies in the industry have chosen to raise money for veterans by incentivizing their people to give to this worthy cause in exchange for dress



down days or for other benefits management might think of. This is the single biggest way those in the collection industry can help our cause. Those interested in holding an employee fundraiser should contact the organization through [www.armingheroes.org](http://www.armingheroes.org).

### **About ARMinG Heroes**

ARMinG Heroes was founded and began operating in March, 2009. The organization's mission is to serve the needs of U.S. military veterans, including their spouse and children. ARMinG Heroes fills a charitable niche by linking people identified with employment, credit, and financial counseling needs with the accounts receivable management industry, an industry uniquely poised to help in these areas. Persons interested in volunteering their time and others interested in applying for benefits or pledging other forms of support are encouraged to contact the organization at [www.armingheroes.org](http://www.armingheroes.org).

### **What Can I Do Right Now to Help?**

- Visit [www.armingheroes.org](http://www.armingheroes.org) and donate now.
- **Friend** us and post this article to your page on **Facebook**.
- **Tweet** about this article on **Twitter**.
- Join our group on **LinkedIn**, the **ARMinG Heroes Veterans Charity Supporter / Assistance Center**.
- Comment on this article online and ask us to contact you.
- Forward this article via email to your key contacts.
- Print this article and fax it to your local congressional office and ask them to post our website on theirs as a resource for vets.