



## Marion County Board of County Commissioners

McPherson Governmental Campus

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District 1 - Craig Curry, Commissioner  
District 2 - Kathy Bryant, Chairman  
District 3 - Matt McClain, Commissioner  
District 4 - Carl Zalak III, Vice Chair  
District 5 - Michelle Stone, Commissioner

January 21, 2025

Dear CEO/Human Resource Partner in Marion County,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Marion County Board of County Commissioners to make you aware of a new initiative our local Vet Resource Center is doing to support veterans in our community in regards to cancer screening. Thanks to a generous grant from our Community Services Department and the Marion County Hospital District, the Vet Resource Center is now able to offer **FREE early warning cancer tests to veterans** who have been exposed to burn pits and toxins during their service.

Over 500,000 cases of cancer have been diagnosed among the 4.2 million veterans who have served, with more than 100,000 veterans having tragically passed away as a result. While the Veterans Administration regularly provides cancer screenings for elderly veterans and those showing symptoms, this new initiative expands access to the Galleri® test to veterans of all ages, as long as they have had exposure to harmful substances during their service. The Galleri® test is a \$950 multi-cancer early detection test that scans for more than 50 types of cancer. It is available at **no cost** to eligible veterans in Marion County through funds provided by a \$50,000.00 Marion County Community Development Block Grant and a \$300,000 grant from the Marion County Hospital District.

The Galleri® test offers a simple blood draw that can detect cancers in their earliest stages, giving veterans the best possible chance for successful treatment. We ask that you please pass this information on to your employees who are veterans so that they are made aware of this service. More information can be found at [www.VetResourceCenter.com](http://www.VetResourceCenter.com) and the registration form for the test can be found at: <https://orios.org/>.

We are deeply grateful for the invaluable service provided by our local Vet Resource Center and wholeheartedly support their ongoing efforts to ensure that veterans in our community receive the care and attention they deserve.

Bob Levinson and Steve Petty, the dedicated leaders from the Vet Resource Center, have been instrumental in spearheading this initiative. They will be reaching out to you in the coming weeks, however, if you would like to talk to them sooner to arrange a convenient time to meet, please contact Bob at 352-250-9699 or Steve at 352-390-0704.

Thank you for helping share this important information with your employees and for standing with us in support of our veterans.

Sincerely,

Kathy Bryant  
Chairman  
Marion County Board of County Commissioners

*Empowering Marion for Success*

[marionfl.org](http://marionfl.org)