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NEWS RELEASE

COUNTY JUDGE ED EMMETT UNVEILS RESOURCE DIRECTORY FOR RETURNING VETERANS *Guide Offers Help With Housing, Health Care and Employment*

Harris County Judge Ed Emmett today unveiled a comprehensive 50-page resource guide for returning veterans needing private or public assistance with housing, transportation, employment, health care and many other issues.

Emmett released the guide at the Second Returning Veterans Summit this afternoon at the George R. Brown Convention Center. The summit, hosted by Emmett and Houston Mayor Bill White, is part of a joint city-county effort to ease the transition home for thousands of veterans of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

“Our returning veterans represent the very best our nation and our county have to offer,” Emmett said. “We owe it to them to ensure that their transition back to civilian life is as easy as possible. This really is a basic governmental responsibility – to assist the men and women who left their homes and families when their country called.”

The directory, entitled “Navigating the Road to Services for Returning Veterans,” lists hundreds of governmental, nonprofit and faith-based organizations that provide financial, legal and educational services. Emmett assigned members of his staff to coordinate and produce such a directory shortly after the first Returning Veterans Summit in June.

“I hope we can show our veterans that our concern and our gratitude to them don’t end with their initial welcome home,” said Emmett. “I want the county to continue working with veterans and their families to make the transition home as smooth and as seamless as possible.”

Veterans and their families can obtain copies of the resource directory, including fold-out wallet sized versions, beginning next week at the county Veterans Service Office Web site at www.cedd.hctx.net or by calling the office at 281-876-6600.