

## [Post-9/11 Vets Respond to Offensive New York Times Op-ed](#)

**New York, NY (April 16, 2014)** – IAVA Founder and CEO Paul Rieckhoff today issued the following statement after the New York Times published an op-ed linking veterans to hate groups:

“The op-ed published in today’s New York Times is sensational, slanderous and incredibly offensive to veterans. Both the title – “Veterans and White Supremacy” – and an accompanying graphic joining servicemembers with KKK members are shameful. And the piece relies on weak research and sweeping generalizations about veterans. Especially coming right after so much irresponsible journalism that surrounded the Fort Hood shooting, this is stunning and sad to see.

“How could the New York Times publish such a hurtful piece? Veterans deserve answers from the Times – and an apology. After more than a decade of sacrifice, no veteran should have to open the newspaper and read an op-ed linking them to hate groups. In contrast to this op-ed, we should focus on telling the story of veterans doing amazing, inspiring work across the country and addressing the real challenges veterans face, including high rates of suicide and unemployment.”