**NEWS RELEASE:**

## VETERAN SERVICES

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November 4, 2024

**El Paso County Names Debo’ A. Wakefield**

**as 2024 Veteran of the Year**

**EL PASO, TX —** The El Paso County Commissioners Court announced Debo’ A. Wakefield as the 2024 Veteran of the Year on November 4, 2024, in recognition of her extraordinary service to both the country and the El Paso community. Selected through a rigorous process led by the El Paso County Veterans Advisory Board, the Veteran of the Year award honors a former military service member whose community contributions exemplify leadership, generosity, and ongoing dedication to supporting local veterans.

Ms. Wakefield’s military journey began with the Women’s Army Corps, where she served as a Medical Assistant before advancing to a surgical technician role. Over 21 years, she rose to the rank of Sergeant First Class, later dedicating herself as a travel nurse and heading to El Paso to continue her career. Known for her active involvement in local charities, Ms. Wakefield volunteers at food banks, collects essentials for women’s shelters, and participates in scholarship fundraisers. She is a member of the Buffalo Soldier Motorcycle Club and the Silhouette Civic and Social Club. Through her work with Aloha Medical Mission, she also travels to Honduras to provide surgical support to underserved communities.

As the 2024 Veteran of the Year, Ms. Wakefield will serve as El Paso County’s ambassador, representing the community and promoting the county’s designation as the Veterans Capital of the USA. Throughout the year, she will engage with various organizations, supporting regional veterans’ initiatives and highlighting El Paso’s commitment to honoring those who served.

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