



VA | Defining
HEALTH CARE | **EXCELLENCE**
in the 21st Century

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 9, 2019

Carl Vinson VA Medical Center

www.Dublin.VA.gov

Media Contact:

Scott Whittington (478) 274-5440

Scott.Whittington@VA.gov

Dublin VA welcomes soldier, walking across America

Dublin, Ga – There are multiple ways some Veterans are bringing awareness to Veteran suicide, homelessness, drug addiction and PTSD among others. One Veteran decided to put his ‘boots on the ground’ and walk across America.

“We need to look out for one another and fix this problem,” said Specialist John Ring, a Georgia National Guard soldier regarding Veterans helping Veterans. But Ring wants communities to come together to help organizations that support Veterans. “The more people helping, the better off the Veterans will be.”

Ring began walking from Tybee Island October 1, headed for Santa Monica, Calif. Along the way he hopes to meet new people to include his fellow Veterans. The trip will be nearly 2,500 miles. By car, that’s a little over 39 hours. By foot, it will take a little longer – about 120 days.

Ring will be visiting the Carl Vinson VA Medical Center Thursday, October 10 at 1 p.m. to take a lap around the facility. He asked if Veterans, community members and staff would join him. He will continue his journey to the west coast Friday. You can follow his journey on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/buddywatchwalk> or search Buddy Watch Walk – Pier to Pier.

For media inquiries and schedule interviews, please contact Carl Vinson VAMC Chief of Communications and Stakeholder Relations Scott Whittington at 478-272-1210 ext. 5440 or via email at Scott.Whittington@VA.gov.

###