

Mankato, MN—Today, Congressman Tim Walz released the following statement welcoming home the First Brigade Combat Team with the 34th Infantry Division, better known as the Red Bulls, after a yearlong deployment overseas.

“You set the example for the rest of us,” said Walz. “I know how difficult a deployment overseas can be, away from family, friends, and the lives you put on hold to serve this nation. I thank you for your brave service and welcome home.”

If you are a Red Bull experiencing issues with your military benefits, an existing VA claim, or other service or separation related issues, Congressman Walz’s Rochester staff may be able to help you. The Rochester office can be reached at 507-206-0643 or toll free at 1-877-486-9259.

In addition, these resources are also available to you: your County Veteran Service Officer should be your first stop when looking for assistance in filing for possible benefits. From their homepage you may click on their CVSO directory link and locate the one from your county. Go to [www.macvso.org](http://www.macvso.org)

If you are currently unemployed or seeking a new job, visit [www.PositivelyMinnesota.com/Veterans](http://www.PositivelyMinnesota.com/Veterans) which can help connect you with prospective employers.

Veterans Linkage Line: 1-888-Link-Vet or 1-888-546-5838

The hotline is open Monday – Friday from 7:00 am – 9:00 pm, Saturday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, and Sunday 9:30 am – 3:30 pm for veterans and their families. During business hours, experts will provide information on veterans’ benefits, health care, education, and reintegration. If calling during non-business hours and it is regarding a mental health emergency the Veterans Linkage Line will refer you to call the National crisis hotline at 1-800-273-talk or 1-800-273-8255.

To submit a question or to chat with a real person online, please visit [www.minnesotaveteran.org](http://www.minnesotaveteran.org)

rq

###