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News Release

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Assistant Secretary Duckworth Delivers Commencement Speech at University of Illinois at Chicago

WASHINGTON, DC – On May 7, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Assistant Secretary for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs L. Tammy Duckworth delivered the commencement speech at the College of Applied Health Sciences at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC). She addressed approximately 300 students, their family and friends, and the faculty at the UIC Forum in Chicago.

“You must remain true to the vision of becoming leaders who work with others to build healthy, engaged and vibrant communities,” Assistant Secretary L. Tammy Duckworth said. “Many people who are severely wounded have their initial fears of a life destroyed replaced by the understanding that they can do just about anything. This is only achieved by the high expectations of all the staff that surround them.”

UIC College of Applied Health Sciences is a multi-disciplinary community of health science scholars, educators and students who contribute to the health and well-being of people, particularly those living in an urban environment. The college has a first-of-its-kind disabilities studies PhD program in the world, and their professional therapy program consistently ranks among the top by U.S. News & World Report.

Assistant Secretary L. Tammy Duckworth told the graduates that the Veterans of our country need their help. “The Veterans Health Administration is a leader within the health care industry. We focus tremendous resources on cutting edge technology and research. I encourage you to join us in serving those that sacrifice for our Nation. There is no better reward.”

Charlotte Date, PhD, Dean of UIC College of Applied Health Sciences introduced Assistant Secretary L. Tammy Duckworth. The college is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year.

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