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**Contact:** Carrie Blewitt  
202-683-3216  
[cblewitt@qorvis.com](mailto:cblewitt@qorvis.com)

## **AAMCO Repairs Colorado Veteran's Van as Part of "50 Cars in 50 States" Program**

*Denver Vietnam War veteran enjoys free auto repairs from AAMCO of Lakewood center*

**HORSHAM, Pa.** – [AAMCO](#), the world's largest chain of transmission specialists and leader in total car care, continued its *50 Cars in 50 States* initiative by repairing the car of a Vietnam War veteran in Colorado through its partnership with the [Military Order of the Purple Heart](#) (MOPH).

Richard Turja is a U.S. Army veteran from Denver. He was awarded the Purple Heart for serious injuries he sustained in combat during the Vietnam War. Mr. Turja relies on his 2002 Dodge van to attend job interviews and drive to medical appointments at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, but his financial situation and the failing condition of his vehicle have prevented him from doing so. The MOPH Region 5 commander nominated Mr. Turja to participate in AAMCO's program.

"This is a blessing. I could never have imagined something like this. I thank AAMCO, the Purple Heart and those who have stepped up. I am just amazed by it," said Mr. Turja.

Mr. Turja picked up his newly repaired van on April 26 from the AAMCO of Lakewood service center, at 8808 West Colfax Avenue, where the repairs were provided free of charge. After Mr. Turja dropped off his van in March, AAMCO technicians conducted a thorough diagnostic inspection to determine all repairs needed. Ultimately, they rebuilt the transmission, repaired the rear brakes, tuned up the engine, fixed the front end suspension and wheel bearings and performed additional adjustments to ensure his vehicle will continue to serve him for years to come.

"It's an honor to give back to our nation's veterans who have sacrificed so much for our freedom," said Steve Fielder, AAMCO of Lakewood owner. "My team here at AAMCO was proud to help Mr. Turja get back on the road safely."

In celebration of its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, AAMCO partnered with the MOPH to give back to America's veterans in communities across the country. Through the *50 Cars in 50 States* program, AAMCO is repairing the cars of 50 combat veterans, with the goal to repair one in each state to commemorate 50 years of total car care service.

### **About AAMCO**

[AAMCO](#) is the world's largest chain of transmission specialists and a leader in total car care services.

AAMCO has over 900 automotive centers throughout the United States and Canada. Established in 1962, AAMCO centers are proud to have served more than 45 million drivers. For more information, visit [www.AAMCO.com](http://www.AAMCO.com).

**About the Military Order of the Purple Heart**

The organization now known as the "[Military Order of the Purple Heart](#) of the U.S.A. Inc.," (MOPH) was formed in 1932 for the protection and mutual interest of all who have received the decoration. Chartered by the Congress, The MOPH is unique among Veteran Service Organizations in that all its members were wounded in combat. For this sacrifice, they were awarded the Purple Heart Medal. With grants from the MOPH Service Foundation, the MOPH and its Ladies Auxiliary promote Patriotism, Fraternalism, and the Preservation of America's military history. Most importantly, they provide comfort and assistance to all Veterans and their families, especially those requiring claims assistance with the VA, those who are homeless, and those requiring employment assistance. Through the VAVS program, MOPH volunteers provide assistance to hospitalized veterans at VA sites and State Veterans Homes.

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