



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Gustavo Rivera

Senator Gustavo Rivera Inducts Don Thomas to the New York State Veteran's Hall of Fame

GUSTAVO RIVERA June 6, 2013

| ISSUE: **VETERANS**

Bronx, NY – Senator Gustavo Rivera (D-Bronx) will induct Don Thomas to the New York State Veteran's Hall of Fame for his exemplary service on behalf of our nation and community at the Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Group's Award Ceremony on Sunday, June 9, 2013.

The PTSD Group will be honoring 20 veterans, including Mr. Thomas, that have distinguished themselves both in military and civilian life during their annual award ceremony. The PTSD Group is comprised of approximately 50 veterans who provide support for those struggling with PTSD in the community.

Mr. Thomas joined the Army and Aircraft Artillery branch of the military to help his mother raise his five brothers and sisters in 1949. During the three years that he served, Mr. Thomas engaged in a number of military conflicts, including the Korean War.

After returning home, Mr. Thomas turned his attention to pursuing a career in singing. His talent as a R&B and jazz artist gave him the opportunity to be the lead singer for a famous R&B group called the Drifters that became known for their songs "Under the Boardwalk" and "Up On the Roof".

Today, Mr. Thomas still shares his passion for singing with his community, performing in local establishments when given the opportunity. Mr. Thomas' service, both in military and civilian life, have helped make our nation and community a better place.

WHAT: Senator Gustavo Rivera to Induct Don Thomas to the New York State

Veteran's Hall of Fame at the PTSD Group's Award Ceremony

WHO: Senator Gustavo Rivera

Don Thomas, New York State Veteran Hall of Fame Inductee

WHEN: Sunday, June 09, 2013

2:00 PM -8:00 PM

*Ceremony will begin at 3:00 PM

WHERE: Claremont Community Neighborhood Center

489 East 169th Street

Bronx, NY 10456

*** To schedule an interview with Senator Gustavo Rivera or Mr. Don Thomas during the Awards Ceremony, please contact Annalicia Finol at 954-775-5219 or by email finol@nysenate.govzxc**