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Department of Elder Affairs Announces Podcast to Honor Florida Seniors

~ *Living the Legacy* shares experiences, preserves history of older Floridians ~

Orlando, Fla. – Today at the annual Florida Conference on Aging, Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA) Secretary Samuel Verghese announced a new initiative to honor Florida seniors. The podcast – *Living the Legacy* – features interviews with Florida elders and shares their life experiences, wisdom, and contributions.

“One of our main goals at the Department of Elder Affairs is to celebrate our elders,” said Verghese. “I’m thrilled to announce *Living the Legacy* and share amazing stories of dedication and sacrifice as we expand our efforts to honor the legacies of our elders.”

With nearly 5 million residents age 60 and older, Florida leads the nation with the highest population percentage of seniors and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. DOEA pays tribute to seniors, not just through services, but also through initiatives like *Living the Legacy* that recognize the numerous contributions of elders to their communities and the state overall.

The first interview, a two-part episode, features Lieutenant General Lawrence Snowden, USMC (Ret.), who shares his experience at the Battle of Iwo Jima in 1945. During the course of his service, General Snowden was awarded the Navy Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, and the Purple Heart. He retired from the Marine Corps in 1979 after 37 years of service.

Living the Legacy is available at no charge at LivingtheLegacy.us. Listeners can also submit the names and stories of Florida elders for consideration for a future interview.

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The Department of Elder Affairs, the State Unit on Aging, serves seniors as they live, contribute, and build legacies in Florida. For more information, please visit elderaffairs.org