For immediate release

HEADLINE: **Digital Archives Provides Online Access to Indiana Civil War Soldiers Database**

INDIANAPOLIS (May 25, 2010) – Historians, researchers and others interested in Indiana's Civil War history can now search for specific individuals who served during the conflict through the new Indiana Civil War Soldiers Database available at www.IndianaDigitalArchives.org. The database contains over 213,000 individual records compiled by volunteers and staff from the Indiana State Archives and the Friends of the Indiana State Archives.

Compilation of the Indiana Civil War Soldiers Database began in 1913 when the Indiana General Assembly appropriated $4,700 for a comprehensive index detailing the service of Indiana Civil War soldiers. The Indiana Digital Archives has now published the information online. Each record contains information about a soldier's age, muster in and out dates and location, company, regiment, and any additional available notes. These notes may include ranks, transfers, desertion information, punishment, mortality status and cavalry or battery unit.

"The Civil War Soldiers Database adds a tremendous new resource to the Indiana Digital Archives, providing historical resources never before available to Hoosiers and the world," said Jim Corridan, State Archivist and Director of the Indiana Commission on Public Records. "The Indiana Digital Archives simplifies the process of searching the State Archives' holdings by enabling researchers to instantly access records from their own home, saving them time and money."

The Civil War Soldiers Database, like all records in the Indiana Digital Archives, has several search features designed to enhance the customer's experience. The People Search feature allows patrons to enter a surname and search through over 2 million records in 20 different collections in just seconds. More targeted research can be performed by choosing one of several variables and data limiters available through the "Detailed Search" option.

The Indiana Digital Archives was released in November 2009 as an online platform connecting researchers to millions of digitally indexed records of collections housed within both the Indiana State Archives and other governmental units. The Digital Archives simplifies the process of searching the Archives' holdings by providing online listings of commonly sought-after materials such as death, prison, military, and naturalization records. In addition to common records, the Digital Archives houses several

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more specific record series containing rare indices like slave registers, a growing collection of orphanages, Department of Correction prisoner records, Indiana School for the Deaf admission registers, the Social Security death index, Marion County wills, and Indiana Lands records. A complete list of collections available within the Indiana Digital Archives is available at http://www.indianadigitalarchives.org/Collections.asp.

Remember to visit IndianaDigitalArchives.org often as its online platform is continually updated with new indices and resources. Please contact an Indiana State Archives collection specialist at (317) 591-5222 or arc@icpr.in.gov for research assistance if you experience difficulty locating specific items or for additional information on records found within the Digital Archives. Once a record is located online patrons can request copies through email.

The Indiana Digital Archives is operated by the State Archives Division of the Indiana Commission on Public Records. The result of a cooperative partnership made possible by a grant from the Library of Congress and administered by the Washington State Archives, the Digital Archives has more than 2.5 million searchable records online. Other partners include the states of Alaska, California, Colorado, Idaho, Louisiana, Montana and Oregon.

About the Indiana State Archives
The Indiana State Archives collects records of historical value from all branches of Indiana state and local government, including governmental history, census and naturalization records for families, selected medical, military and criminal records, records of land ownership, maps, blueprints and photographs. Visit the Collections Page for a detailed listing of these resources, including links to online exhibits and electronic indexes of select records.

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For more information, please visit icpr.IN.gov or IndianaDigitalArchives.org

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