

VETERANS TREATMENT COURT MENTOR CONFERENCE

NASHVILLE

JUNE 23 & 24, 2014

Come be part of an emerging judicial court program designed to address the needs of Veterans. The backbone of this specially designed court is made up of volunteer mentors who are engaged and committed to assisting fellow Veterans in need. We are seeking mentors to be trained to help Tennessee's justice-involved Veterans who find themselves in criminal courts.

On June 23 & 24, 2014, the Administrative Office of the Courts will be offering training for mentors in Nashville, Tennessee. Hotel room, per diem, and mileage will be paid for in return for your participation.

WHAT IS VETERANS TREATMENT COURT?

Veterans may struggle with a unique set of issues such as homelessness, unemployment, posttraumatic stress, brain trauma, anxiety, depression, or chemical dependency upon returning home. Unfortunately, these issues may lead to situations in which Veterans find themselves facing criminal charges. Veterans Treatment Courts are rehabilitative courts designed to specifically work with Veterans to address Veteran-specific issues. A key component to the success of the Veterans Court is the Veteran mentor who is assigned to the individual going through the program.



WHAT IS THE ROLE OF A MENTOR IN VETERANS COURT?

The mentor is to serve as the emotional support and encouragement for the Veteran going through the program. Mentors also can provide assistance with VA benefits. Finally, the mentor can help the Veteran comply with the judge's orders such as attending court on time, dressing appropriately, etc.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTATIONS FOR A MENTOR?

- Participate in and lead mentoring sessions when assigned by the judge
- Be supportive and understanding of the difficulties the Veteran clients is facing
- Assist the Veteran client as much as possible to resolve the veteran's concerns around the court
- Assist the Veteran client on how to access and Navigate the Veterans Affairs system
- Be supportive and helpful to other Veteran mentors
- Communicate with the court coordinator and judge

PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN THE APPLICATION BELOW TO
THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS BY MONDAY, MAY 19, 2014

Name of Applicant: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____ County: _____

Do you currently serve as a mentor in a drug court? _____
If so which one _____

In what branch of the armed services did you serve? _____

What years did you serve? _____

Please have the Judge in the Court you intend to volunteer sign your application

Presiding Judge's Signature or Coordinator Signature

Date

Please attach to this application one letter of reference from someone in your community.

Mentor's Pledge

- I can commit to attending the mentor training June 23 & 24
- I will participate fully in the mentor training.
- I will participate in my area's Veteran's Treatment Court.
- I am an honorably discharged Veteran of the United States Armed Forces.
- I have not been convicted of a felony within the last 10 years.

Mentor's Signature

Date

Please return application by **Monday, May 19, 2014** to:
Administrative Office of the Courts Attn: David Weed
511 Union Street, Suite 600
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
Fax 615-741-6258; or email document to david.weed@tncourts.gov.

Sixty applicants will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. We look forward to working with you.