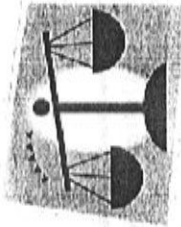


VA Justice Outreach Process

- Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) is a VA based program working with local law enforcement and courts, to provide eligible Veterans the treatment they need.
- The process begins by identifying Veterans in the legal system. The Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist will work with the Veteran to determine if they are eligible for VA care.
- After the Veteran is determined to be eligible, the needs of the Veteran will be assessed. This includes assessment for medical and mental health care, housing and substance abuse treatment.
- If the court imposes supervised treatment rather than jail time, the Veteran's needs will be evaluated and services coordinated by the Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist through the VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System.



The Veterans Justice Outreach Program works with Justice Involved Veterans.

A Justice Involved Veteran is any Veteran who has contact with the Judicial System, Law Enforcement or the Jail System.

Department of Veterans Affairs

Healthcare for Homeless Veterans



Mary Ann Moss, LCSW
Veteran Justice Outreach
Specialist

Capital Hill Building
350 Capital Hill
Reno, Nevada 89502

Phone: 775-324-6600

Original: Mental Health Service 04-2011
VJIEC Approved 01-2011



Veterans Justice Outreach Program

VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System



"Providing World Class Care and Service to America's Heroes."

Veterans Justice Outreach



The Veterans Justice Outreach Program has three focus areas:

Courts and Attorneys

The Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist provides information and education about Veteran related issues including Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Traumatic Brain Injury, and available VA services.

The Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist works with Specialty and Diversion court systems in the development of policy and procedure for Veterans Court.

Law Enforcement

The Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist provides training to local law enforcement on Veterans' issues and helps to develop strategies to work with Veterans.

Jails

The Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist provides communication with jails to identify Veterans who are in custody and helps Veterans get into services upon their release.

Veterans Justice Outreach Initiative Purpose:

"To help eligible Veterans within the Criminal Justice System gain access to Veterans Health Administration medical, mental health, and substance abuse treatment."

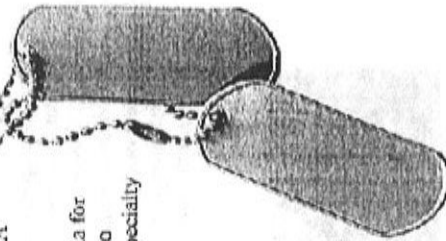
The Department of Veterans Affairs has committed to help prevent Veterans from going to jail or prison and to reduce repeated offenses among Veterans through the Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) Program.

What a Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist Can Do:

- Serve Veterans of all eras who are eligible for VA benefits
- Assess Veteran's health care needs and identify appropriate VA and non-VA services
- Refer and link Veterans to VA and non-VA services
- With the Veterans permission, provide the court with the Veterans treatment progress including:
 - Attendance
 - Treatment Goals
 - Discharge Plans

What a Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist Can't Do:

- » Perform "forensic psychiatric and psychological evaluations" for the court
- » Accept "custody" of the Veteran
- » Guarantee Veteran acceptance to Veterans Courts
- » Write forensic court reports or complete Diversion paperwork
- » Advocate for legislation
- » Serve Veterans not eligible for VA benefits
- » Decide criteria for admission into Veteran or Specialty Courts



Brief Overview of Veterans Court
Second Judicial District Veterans Court is a specialty court designed to treat veterans with mental illness and/or substance abuse issues within the criminal justice system.

A. Team Approach

Veterans Court works as a team including Specialty Courts Officers, The VA, and Parole and Probation.

General Requirements of Veterans Court

-Veterans Court is a minimum of a year long program, starting with your first court appearance. You will attend court weekly to begin with.

-All participants are required to check in with Specialty Courts Officers a minimum of 3 times a week to start with.

-All participants with a mental illness are required to see a psychiatrist and take any medications that have been prescribed. If there is question of compliance with this you may be required to take them daily with your Specialty Courts Officer.

-Your treatment plan will involve attendance to groups, possibly one on one counseling 12 step groups, and educational goals.

-If on probation attend all appointments with your Probation Officer. Usually monthly.

-Participants are subject to random alcohol and drug testing regardless of substance abuse history.

Employment

-You are allowed to work however you should plan to have the same expectations. Those who are not working and can work will be expected to start working before they graduate from the program.

Housing

-We have a Veteran Justice Outreach Liaison that works at the VA to meet with you to explore your options and make referrals.

Legal Information

-Cases come to Veterans Court in all different ways. Some cases are dismissed after completing the program and some do not. This is something you should discuss with your attorney prior to being sent to Veterans Court.

-If your case is a domestic violence case you will have to attend domestic violence classes before you can graduate.

If your case is a DUI case you will need to fulfill the requirements of counseling and Victim Impact Panel before you can graduate.

-If you have restitution to pay you will need to make payments towards this throughout your time in Veterans Court in order to graduate.

-All participants have a Public Defender assigned to them while they are in Veterans Court.

-Non compliance with Veterans Court can result in sanctions. Possible sanctions include increased supervision, change in treatment plan, community service or jail.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Specialty Courts Officer:

Julie Vann (775) 325-6641

Public Defender

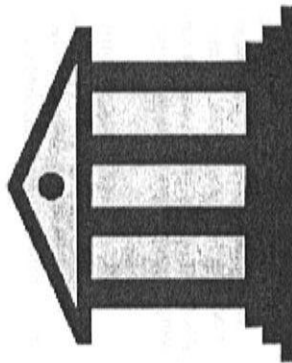
Jennifer Rains (775) 337-4810

**Veterans Justice Outreach
Specialist:**

Mary Ann Moss (775) 324-6600

Parole and Probation:

Laurie Vela (775) 684-2340



Washoe County Veterans Court

75 Court St. Room 126
Reno
Reno, NV 89501