



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 21, 2013

Dayton Veterans Affairs Medical Center
4100 West Third Street
Dayton, Ohio 45428
News Release
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Kimberly Frisco, Acting Public Affairs Officer
Office: (937) 268-6511, Ext. 1396
Kimberly.Frisco@va.gov

Veterans' Court Has First Trial Run in Montgomery County

DAYTON, OH - Montgomery County Common Pleas Court and the Honorable Judge Adkins held its first Veterans' Court. Judge Adkins called November 20th his "trial run;" the grand opening will be on December 11, 2013 at 9:30 am located in the Montgomery County Courtroom, 41 North Perry Street, Courtroom 1, Dayton, Ohio, 45422. The guest speaker will be retired justice Evelyn Stratton who has been instrumental in establishing Veterans' Courts in the state of Ohio. The Dayton VA Medical Center is extremely excited to see Veterans get a second chance through this opportunity. The Dayton VA's Veterans Justice Outreach Specialists work closely with the courts to ensure Veterans are engaged in treatment at the Dayton VA Medical Center.

Judge Adkins has said that for well over a year "three separate parties had been thinking about having a Veterans' Court including myself. It was not until Elaine Herrick approached me and pushed forward with wanting to have one for our Veterans. The purpose of Veterans Treatment Court is to assist veterans involved in the criminal justice system learn how to live a sober lifestyle and avoid violations of the law." The Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) is a voluntary program that includes regular court appearance before a designed VTC Judge and a treatment plan specifically created for each Veteran.

Elaine Herrick has a compassion for wanting to help Veterans and she says, "If anyone deserves a second and third and fourth chance at getting life right, it is our Veterans and that's what the Veteran's Court does. With the incredible support of the VA, our Veterans will now get the help they deserve and families will be made whole again. The Veterans' Court Advisory Committee has been given the honor of working on a project that gives back to these quiet heroes."

Elaine will continue to be an active participant in the court by being a community member on the Montgomery Veterans' Court Advisory Committee.

Contact:

Edith Thompson, Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist, Dayton VAMC, (937) 268-6511, Ext. 2463
Teresa Sichman, Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist, Dayton VAMC, (937) 268-6511, Ext. 1267
Kimberly Frisco, Acting Public Affairs Officer, Dayton VAMC, (937) 268-6511, Ext. 1396.
Tenisha Smith, Public Affairs Specialist, Dayton VAMC, (937) 268-6511, Ext. 1875.

The media is welcome to attend the event on December 11, 2013.

###