

STATE OF FLORIDA

FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

CITRUS, HERNANDO, LAKE, MARION AND SUMTER COUNTIES



Daniel B. Merritt, Sr. Chief Judge David M. Trammell
Trial Court Administrator

PRESS RELEASE WWW.CIRCUIT5.ORG

MARION COUNTY VETERAN'S COURT

JUNE 11, 2012

County officials, judges, community members, and veterans will be gathered at the Marion County Judicial Center on Wednesday, July 25, 2012 at 10:30am in Courtroom 1 to celebrate the opening ceremony of the new Veteran's Treatment Court — a specialty court for veterans involved in the criminal justice system that provides accountability while linking veterans to needed treatment and services.

Veteran's Treatment Court will help veterans who are struggling to reintegrate into civilian life after returning from the front lines of war by focusing exclusively on veterans and their unique circumstances. The program will be equipped to help veterans suffering from substance abuse and mental health issues, including Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI). These "signature injuries" of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, PTSD and TBI, can make it more difficult to reintegrate into civilian life and potentially trigger behaviors that draw veterans into the criminal justice system.

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