

**Attachment B:  
Volunteer Mentoring  
Program  
Information Sheet**



## **Buffalo Veteran's Court Diversion Project Mentoring Program Information Sheet**

### **Mission Statement**

The Mission of the Veteran's Mentoring Program is to support the veteran through their readjustment to civilian life, to assist the veteran navigate through the court, treatment, and VA systems, and to act as a friend and ally through this difficult time.

### **Vision Statement**

The Vision of the Veteran's Mentoring Program is that "No Veteran is left Behind."

Having veterans participate as mentors is an important part of the Buffalo Veteran's Treatment Court as there is a bond that occurs between veterans around the values that are shared and the sacrifices that have been made.

The Mentoring Program offers support and encouragement for veterans in the court system by spending one-on-one time with the veteran after they appear during the proceedings of the Veteran's Specialty Court. These mentoring sessions usually do not last longer than 10 minutes and give the veteran the opportunity to bring up concerns and get feedback and support from another veteran. The Mentor has a Resource book at his/her disposal to refer Veterans to a wide range of available services. These include Medicaid (for vets Family), Food Stamps, Civil Service agencies, employment, housing, legal, etc. etc. The Mentor is a resource to the Vet, NOT A COUNSELOR.

Trainings on how to lead a mentoring session, what to ask, how to ask, and how to listen to the answers, are offered as part of the orientation trainings. In addition, program specific trainings are also offered through the State OASAS Division, including information about the court system and the VA system.

The Buffalo Veteran's Treatment Court Mentoring Program also offers support and supervision to all of the mentors from the Team Leaders and the Mentor Coordinator as well as from the other mentors in the program. Support is the main component of the program, for the veterans involved with the court system as well as the mentors in the program.

The Mentoring Program is looking for a six month commitment from all volunteer mentors in order to maintain the program at a level that will be effective in supporting the veterans in the court system. All potential mentors are required to fill out an application and complete a short face-to-face interview with the Mentor Coordinator and each Team Leader before being accepted into the program. Observational activities, including observing the court proceedings and observing other mentors, will be completed prior to a new mentor leading a mentoring session.



## Volunteer Veteran Mentor Position Description

### **Main Function:**

The role of the Volunteer Veteran Mentor is to act as a coach, a guide, a role model, an advocate, and a support for the individuals s/he is working with. A mentor is intended to encourage, guide, and support the mentee as s/he progresses through the court process. This will include listening to the concerns of the mentee and making general suggestions, assisting the mentee determine what their needs are, and acting as a support for the mentee at a time when they may feel alone in a way that only another veteran can understand.

### **Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Attend at least one out of every four court sessions which occur on alternating Tuesdays.
- Participate in and lead mentoring sessions with veterans who have come into contact with the criminal justice system.
- Be supportive and understanding of the difficulties veterans face.
- Assist the veterans as much as possible to resolve their concerns around the court procedures as well as interactions with the Veteran's Administration system.
- Be supportive and helpful to the other mentors within the program.

### **Requirements:**

- Be a veteran of one of the branches of the United States Military, including the Army, Marine Corp, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, or their corresponding Reserve or Guard branches. You must have a Honorable Discharge and provide a DD 214 stating such
- Adhere to all of the Buffalo Veteran's Court Diversion Project policies and procedures.
- Commit to program participation for a minimum of six months.
- Participate in additional trainings throughout time of service.
- Go through our Vetting process (police background check)

### **Desirable Qualities:**

- Willing listener
- Encouraging and supportive
- Tolerant and respectful of individual differences

For more information or an application, please contact the Buffalo Veteran's Court Diversion Project, Mentor Coordinator at 845-2789.

**Buffalo Veterans Treatment  
Court  
Volunteer Mentoring  
Program  
Application**



# Buffalo Veteran's Court

## Volunteer Mentoring Program

### Application Form

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone 1: \_\_\_\_\_  Home  Work  Cell

Phone 2: \_\_\_\_\_  Home  Work  Cell

Branch of Service: \_\_\_\_\_ Length of Service: \_\_\_\_\_  
 TYPE OF DISCHARGE \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you available on Tuesday afternoons between 2 and 4pm?  Yes  No

What does being a "mentor" mean to you?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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What motivated you to want to participate in Veteran's Court Mentoring Program?

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# Buffalo Veteran's Court

## Volunteer Mentoring Program

### Application Form

What skills and experiences do you bring to the mentoring program that will be helpful to you, the other mentors, or the veterans in the program?

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What are you hoping to take away from volunteering with the Veteran's Court Mentoring Program?

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**\*\*\*MENTORS MUST HAVE A HONORABLE DISCHARGE AND SUBMIT TO A VETTING PRCESS (POLICE BACKROUND CHECK)**

Mentors will be expected to participate in observation, training, shadowing, and supervision as part of their entry into the mentoring program. Mentors will also be expected to attend additional trainings and monthly group supervision meetings. The Veteran's Court Mentoring

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Docket # \_\_\_\_\_

**Buffalo  
Veterans Court**

**Mentor Log**

# Buffalo Veteran Court Continuity Sheet

Name: _____		Current Address	
DOB _____		_____	
(MM/DD/YR) _____		_____	
Current Phone# ( ) _____			
Branch of Service <input type="radio"/> Army <input type="radio"/> USMC <input type="radio"/> Navy <input type="radio"/> Air Force <input type="radio"/> Coast Guard		Years Served <input type="radio"/> Active # _____ <input type="radio"/> Reserves # _____ <input type="radio"/> Retired	
Combat Deployments <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> WWII <input type="checkbox"/> Korea <input type="checkbox"/> Viet Nam <input type="checkbox"/> Persian Gulf <input type="checkbox"/> OEF <input type="checkbox"/> OIF Other _____		DD-214 <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Enrolled in VA <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Visited OEF/OIF Office <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	

## Benefits

Entitled to GI Bill <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		Applied to VA Comp & Pension <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
<b>Family</b>			
Married <input type="checkbox"/>		Separate <input type="checkbox"/>	
Divorced <input type="checkbox"/>		Widowed <input type="checkbox"/>	
Spouse Name _____		Children <input type="checkbox"/>	
		# of Boys _____ # of Girls _____	
Employed <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		Transportation issues <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
Where _____		Issued Bus Pass <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
		Pending <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
Arrested <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		Offense Charged (optional)	
City _____			
Initial Mentor:		Date	
_____		_____	







# Buffalo Veterans Treatment Court Resource Directory



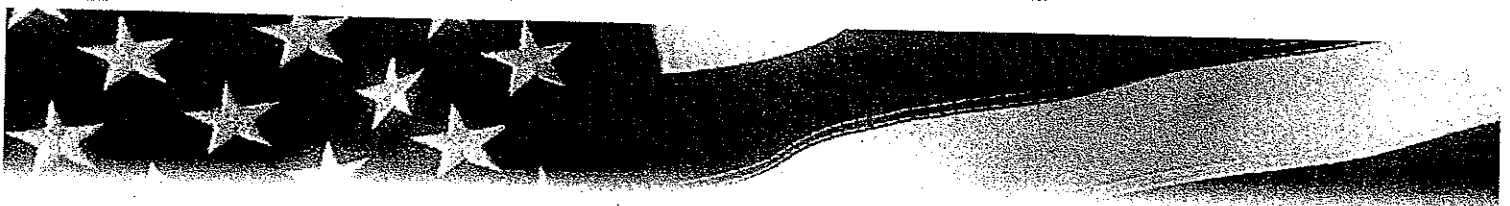
## "Leave No Veteran Behind"

Honorable Robert T. Russell  
Presiding Judge, Buffalo Veterans Court

Hank Pirowski  
Project Director, Buffalo Veterans Court

Jack O'connor, Veteran Mentor Coordinator

Buffalo City Court  
50 Delaware Avenue  
Buffalo, New York 14202



# BUFFALO VETERANS TREATMENT COURT REFERENCE SHEET

TYPE OF RESOURCE	CONTACT	PHONE (716)	EMAIL
COURT	Judge Robert T. Russell	845-2623	<a href="mailto:rrussell@courts.state.ny.us">rrussell@courts.state.ny.us</a>
	Annie Hemphill, Conf. Secy	845-2623	<a href="mailto:ahemphil@courts.state.ny.us">ahemphil@courts.state.ny.us</a>
C.O.U.R.T.S. PERSONNEL	Mikel Morris, Sr. Case Mgr.	845-2696	<a href="mailto:mimorris@courts.state.ny.us">mimorris@courts.state.ny.us</a>
	Archie Amos, Case Mgr.	845-2623	<a href="mailto:aamos@courts.state.ny.us">aamos@courts.state.ny.us</a>
	Pam LaMancuso, Sr. Case Mgr.	845-2695	<a href="mailto:plamancu@courts.state.ny.us">plamancu@courts.state.ny.us</a>
	Melenie Lanier	845-9321	<a href="mailto:mlanier@courts.state.ny.us">mlanier@courts.state.ny.us</a>
DEPT VETERANS AFFAIRS	Timothy Philo	857-3315	<a href="mailto:Timothy.Philo1@va.gov">Timothy.Philo1@va.gov</a>
	Carly Klein	857-3118	<a href="mailto:carly.klein@va.gov">carly.klein@va.gov</a>
	Veronica Klein	857-3322	<a href="mailto:veronica.kellam@va.gov">veronica.kellam@va.gov</a>
MENTOR COORDINATOR	Jack O'Connor	858-7345	<a href="mailto:oconnorj@erie.gov">oconnorj@erie.gov</a>
V.A. BENEFITS	Jack O'Connor	858-7345	<a href="mailto:oconnorj@erie.gov">oconnorj@erie.gov</a>
	Nikki Slaughter	862-8561	<a href="mailto:Tamekia.slaughter@va.gov">Tamekia.slaughter@va.gov</a>
	Marlene Roll	937-4549	<a href="mailto:mroll2@verizon.net">mroll2@verizon.net</a>
	Luis Rodriguez	857-3346	<a href="mailto:luis.rodriguez1@va.gov">luis.rodriguez1@va.gov</a>
Veterans Disability	Tim Philo	857-3315	
EMPLOYMENT	John McKeon		<a href="mailto:mckeonj@buffalostate.edu">mckeonj@buffalostate.edu</a>
EDUCATION	Patrick Welch PhD	566-7855	<a href="mailto:patrick.welch@daemen.edu">patrick.welch@daemen.edu</a>
	Sergio Rodriguez	858-5349	<a href="mailto:Sergio.rodriguez@erie.gov">Sergio.rodriguez@erie.gov</a>
TRANSPORTATION	Any available mentor		
COUNSELING	Jim Becker	862-7350	<a href="mailto:James.becker@va.gov">James.becker@va.gov</a>
	Nikki Slaughter	862-8561	<a href="mailto:Tamekia.slaughter@va.gov">Tamekia.slaughter@va.gov</a>
DISABILITY BENEFITS	Tracy Kinn	632-4190	<a href="mailto:tkinn@veterans.state.ny.us">tkinn@veterans.state.ny.us</a>
Social Security Disability	Janet McClain	886-1242	
FAMILY ASSISTANCE	James Germain (Col.)	236-2097	<a href="mailto:james.germain@niagarafallsaf.mil">james.germain@niagarafallsaf.mil</a>
	Peter Pilc	888-5797	<a href="mailto:Peter.pilc@us.army.mil">Peter.pilc@us.army.mil</a>
LEGAL ASSISTANCE	Mike Lancer	855-1660	<a href="mailto:mlancer@ccklaw.com">mlancer@ccklaw.com</a>
	Roman Fontana	858-7345	<a href="mailto:rfontana@yahoo.com">rfontana@yahoo.com</a>
	Mark Dunford	491-7890	<a href="mailto:mdunfordlaw@aol.com">mdunfordlaw@aol.com</a>
	Mike Quinn	858-7345	<a href="mailto:quinn1475@yahoo.com">quinn1475@yahoo.com</a>
HOUSING	Dan Stegeman	531-5254	<a href="mailto:Daniel.stegeman@va.gov">Daniel.stegeman@va.gov</a>
	Ganson Jones	715-3612	<a href="mailto:Gjones@wnyvhc.org">Gjones@wnyvhc.org</a>
Medicaid/Public Assist.	Debbie May	845-6295	<a href="mailto:mayd3@erie.gov">mayd3@erie.gov</a>
Food Stamps	Barbara Shaw	858-6804	<a href="mailto:shawb@erie.gov">shawb@erie.gov</a>

<b>Team 1 Leader</b>	Mike Lancer	855-1660	<a href="mailto:mlancer@cklaw.com">mlancer@cklaw.com</a>
	Phil Ippolito	680-1379	<a href="mailto:ippster@aol.com">ippster@aol.com</a>
	Bob Clark	418-9361	<a href="mailto:papabobclark@yahoo.com">papabobclark@yahoo.com</a>
	Patrick Welch, PhD	566-7855	<a href="mailto:patrick.welch@daemen.edu">patrick.welch@daemen.edu</a>
	Tracy Kinn	632-4190	<a href="mailto:tkinn@veterans.state.ny.us">tkinn@veterans.state.ny.us</a>
	Michael Kruse	857-3352	<a href="mailto:michaelkruse2@va.gov">michaelkruse2@va.gov</a>
	Eddie Gibson	858-7345	<a href="mailto:eddiegib@roadrunner.com">eddiegib@roadrunner.com</a>
	Leon Smith	818-3404	<a href="mailto:Lubeman444@aol.com">Lubeman444@aol.com</a>
	Jim Becker	862-7350	<a href="mailto:James.becker@va.gov">James.becker@va.gov</a>
	Joe Morath Jr.	858-7345	<a href="mailto:jdm@connors-vilardo.com">jdm@connors-vilardo.com</a>
	Susan Fischer	852-5533	<a href="mailto:sbf@connors-vilardo.com">sbf@connors-vilardo.com</a>
	Archie Amos	845-2643	<a href="mailto:aamos@courts.state.ny.us">aamos@courts.state.ny.us</a>
	Kendall Monroe		<a href="mailto:biggiek40@yahoo.com">biggiek40@yahoo.com</a>
	Ganson Jones	715-3612	<a href="mailto:gjones@wnyvhc.org">gjones@wnyvhc.org</a>
	Bob Cook		<a href="mailto:bcook@wnyvhc.org">bcook@wnyvhc.org</a>
	Jack Michel	435-7210	<a href="mailto:vva77@verizon.net">vva77@verizon.net</a>
<b>Team 2 Leader</b>	Jim Mulderig	633-3911	<a href="mailto:jmulderig@gmail.com">jmulderig@gmail.com</a>
	Phil Ippolito	680-1379	<a href="mailto:ippster@aol.com">ippster@aol.com</a>
	Bob Clark	418-9361	<a href="mailto:papabobclark@yahoo.com">papabobclark@yahoo.com</a>
	Chris Krieger	(888)400-3892	<a href="mailto:kkrieger@wnyheroes.org">kkrieger@wnyheroes.org</a>
	Sergio Rodriguez	932-2543	<a href="mailto:srr37@medaille.edu">srr37@medaille.edu</a>
	Tim Strunk	858-7345	<a href="mailto:tjstrunk@bpdny.org">tjstrunk@bpdny.org</a>
	Joe Alajko	858-7456	<a href="mailto:alajkoj@erie.gov">alajkoj@erie.gov</a>
	Deb Ramson	858-7345	<a href="mailto:Bebbera5055@yahoo.com">Bebbera5055@yahoo.com</a>
	Roman Fontana	858-7345	<a href="mailto:rfontana@yahoo.com">rfontana@yahoo.com</a>
	James Schultz Jr.	847-0680	<a href="mailto:james.schultzjr@thehartford.com">james.schultzjr@thehartford.com</a>
	Marlene Roll	937-4549	<a href="mailto:mroll2@verizon.net">mroll2@verizon.net</a>
	Dan Stegeman	531-5254	<a href="mailto:Daniel.stegeman@va.gov">Daniel.stegeman@va.gov</a>
	Peter Pilc	888-5797	<a href="mailto:Peter.pilc@us.army.mil">Peter.pilc@us.army.mil</a>
	Dennis Smith	908-6536	<a href="mailto:dennis_smith@kenton.k12.ny.us">dennis_smith@kenton.k12.ny.us</a>
	Pierre Harper		<a href="mailto:Pierre-harper@yahoo.com">Pierre-harper@yahoo.com</a>
	Doc D'Amato		<a href="mailto:docdamato1@hotmail.com">docdamato1@hotmail.com</a>
	John Mskeone		<a href="mailto:mckeonj@buffalostate.edu">mckeonj@buffalostate.edu</a>
<b>Team 3 Leader</b>	Jason Jaskula	862-7828	<a href="mailto:jason.jaskula@va.gov">jason.jaskula@va.gov</a>
	Phil Ippolito	680-1379	<a href="mailto:ippster@aol.com">ippster@aol.com</a>
	Bob Clark	418-9361	<a href="mailto:papabobclark@yahoo.com">papabobclark@yahoo.com</a>
	Stephanie Thurston	(888) 400-3892	<a href="mailto:sthurston@wnyheroes.org">sthurston@wnyheroes.org</a>
	Renee DeRouche	574-7315	<a href="mailto:rderouche@yahoo.com">rderouche@yahoo.com</a>
	James Germain	236-2097	<a href="mailto:james.germain@niagarafalls.af.mil">james.germain@niagarafalls.af.mil</a>
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	Janet Longo		<a href="mailto:janetniag@aol.com">janetniag@aol.com</a>
	Ed Vasbinder	858-7345	<a href="mailto:edvasbinder@roadrunner.com">edvasbinder@roadrunner.com</a>
	Patrick Boyle		<a href="mailto:pwboyle@buffalo.edu">pwboyle@buffalo.edu</a>

Buffalo Veterans Treatment Court  
Resource Book

MEDICAID:

<b>Description:</b>
Medicaid is a Federal Health Insurance Program for uninsured individuals with limited or no income.
<b>Contact Person:</b>
Jack O'Connor Phone: (716) 857-7345 Email: <a href="mailto:occonnorj@erie.gov">occonnorj@erie.gov</a>
Jack is a mentor and former Director of the Buffalo Medicaid Program. He is authorized to help veterans and specifically their families with applications for Medicaid.
<b>Location:</b>
Department of Social Services 95 Franklin Street – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Buffalo, NY 14202