

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of:)
)
ESTABLISHING A VETERANS COURT) Administrative Order
CONFERENCE TASK FORCE) No. 2024 - 88
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)
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)

The Arizona Legislature established the authority for the presiding judge of the superior court in each county to create veterans courts to adjudicate cases filed in a justice court or a municipal court in the county (ARS § 22-601). The expansion of Arizona veterans courts has created a need for training, coordination, and collaboration among justice partners who administer these courts.

Therefore, pursuant to Article VI, Section 3, of the Arizona Constitution,

IT IS ORDERED that the Veterans Court Conference Task Force (“Task Force”) is established as follows:

1. Purposes.

- a. **Plan:** The Task Force shall plan a statewide conference for judicial officers, prosecutors, defense counsel, and court staff involved in Arizona veterans courts.
- b. **Stakeholder collaboration:** The Task Force shall coordinate with stakeholders to inform the goals and content of the conference.
- c. **Education program:** The Task Force shall develop a sound education program that incorporates adult learning principles.
- d. **Create sub-committees and workgroups:** The Task Force shall form sub-committees and workgroups, as necessary, at the discretion of the Chair.

2. Membership. The Task Force will consist of a Chair and members appointed by the Chief Justice.

3. Meetings. Task Force meetings shall be scheduled at the discretion of the Chair. Pursuant to ACJA § 1-202, all meetings shall comply with the public meeting policy of the Arizona Judicial Branch.

4. Staffing. The Administrative Office of the Courts shall staff the Task Force.

5. Reports. The Task Force shall submit to the Chief Justice a recommended conference education plan and agenda.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the individuals listed in Appendix A are appointed as members of the Veterans Court Conference Task Force for terms beginning upon signature of this Order through December 31, 2025 when the task force ends.

Dated this 5th day of June, 2024.

ROBERT BRUTINEL
Chief Justice

Attachment: Appendix A

APPENDIX A

Veterans Court Conference Task Force

Chair

Mr. John F. Phelps
State Bar of Arizona (ret.)

Members

Ms. Ellyn Black
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Hon. Kevin Kane
Tempe Municipal Court

Gen. Richard (Gregg) Maxon (ret.)
University of Missouri Veterans Clinic

Hon. Michael Pollard (ret.)
Tucson City Court

Ms. Desirée Quintana
Office of the Arizona Attorney General

Hon. Michele Reagan
McDowell Mountain Justice Court

Hon. Richard Romley
Mesa Municipal Court

Mr. Jeffrey Schrade
Administrative Office the Courts