

The Veterans' Six

*The LHC Veterans Treatment Court Monthly Newsletter dedicated
to having the Six of every Justice Involved Veteran*

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Lake Havasu Veterans Treatment Court is to promote public safety through the collaborative effort of the criminal justice team by establishing individualized treatment plans and providing the tools necessary for successful community reengagement thereby; breaking the revolving door cycle among our Justice Involved Veterans.



Lake Havasu City Veterans Treatment Court Dates



Veterans Treatment Court Hearing Dates

New Courthouse – 92 Acoma S.

**You must check in before court each time
Per AOC Regulations everyone must go through security**

May 3, 2024
May 17, 2024

June 7, 2024
June 28, 2024

July 12, 2024 Graduation
July 26, 2024

Upcoming Veterans Court Events

Hike and City C/S Events

Come join us for a hike. Some hikes are a stroll and some are more difficult. If you are able to complete the hike, please come and join us for comradery by hanging out with fellow veterans and the staffing team as well.

If, for some reason, you feel you are not able to complete the hike, please speak up and let us know. You are always welcome to show up at the courthouse and ‘send-us-off’.

Hikes and City C/R are on hold until the Fall



Beach Clean Up – Site 6
May 4, 2024
at 7:00am

Location – meet at Rotary

The General

Monday – Friday (ONLY)

The General will be available for

- U/A testing (M-F)
- Counseling appointments
- In-person court hearing
 - Food Bank



The van number is

928-230-0392

Call between 8am – 12pm to schedule

The Graduate Review Board

Branch of Service



VTC Graduation Date

January 8, 2017

VTC Experience:

“To anyone entering this program, trying to navigate this new routine in your life, do not get discouraged. You are not alone, and one of the first things you will learn is how much support is truly out there for you. Do not focus on the mistakes you have made, because the moment you step into Veterans Court it has become a part of your past. Embrace all that is offered to you and use this mistake to shape your future for the better of yourself, your family and the community you so faithfully served. As for my experience, this was a huge stepping-stone in my life. I am so grateful for all I have gained. The caliber of the professionals working in all aspects of this system is second to none. They all have hearts of gold and are looking to preserve America’s Veterans and pointing them in the direction of rebuilding and allowing access to the joy and freedoms we all sacrificed when we signed that dotted line. Rebuild your camaraderie, find that drive that pulled you through the darkest hours and trust what you are going through may be tough but, in the end, it will make you even stronger.” - Dugan Lance

Staff Introduction

Joan McDermott

Joan McDermott was born in Wisconsin and grew up on a dairy farm. She attended Walther Memorial Hospital School of Nursing in Chicago and later earned a Bachelor of Science degree at Washburn University in Topeka. Joan was commissioned as a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps in 1967. She served two tours of duty in Vietnam. She arrived in Saigon 1 month before the Tet Offensive in 1968 and was in Phu Bai in 1971. Between those tours, she was assigned to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. Her most memorable surgical patient was President Dwight D. Eisenhower. After active duty, Joan was employed in a variety of staff and supervisory nursing roles.

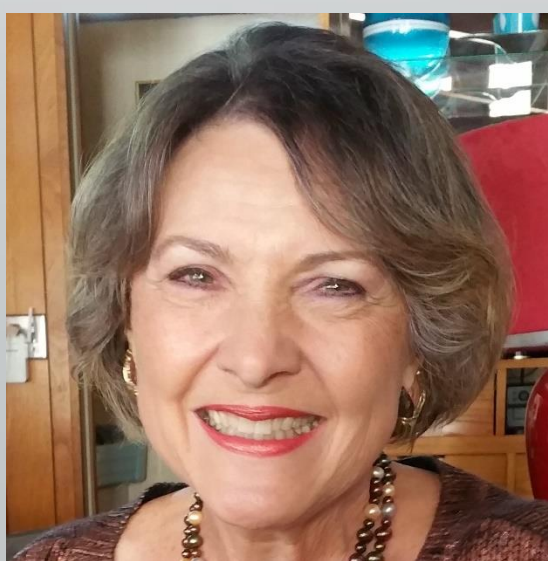
Joan married an active duty Army officer and fellow Vietnam veteran in 1974. She attended familiarization and language classes in preparation for international diplomatic assignments where she proudly represented her country in Australia, The Philippines, Singapore, and Malaysia for 11 years. Joan was active in many volunteer organizations and activities. She was a tour guide at the historic Custer House in Fort Riley, Kansas, supported foreign officers and families, civilian orphanages, international school programs, the Girl and Boy Scouts of America, and was a hospice volunteer. She co-founded support groups for parents with children who had learning disabilities in two Southeast Asian countries.

She has 3 children and 6 grandchildren. Her eldest son served 3 tours of duty, after the September 11, 2001 attack, in Iraq and 2 tours in Afghanistan as a U.S. Army officer.

Since moving to Lake Havasu City, Arizona, Joan has been active as an officer in the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Military Officers Association of America. She is a member of the Vietnam Veterans of America, the American Legion, Stonebridge Veterans, the Elks, and Eagles. She works at local veteran stand-downs, is a member of two Western Arizona Council of Governments (WACOG) boards, is a volunteer Medicare counselor, is a new United Arizona Veterans board member, and is an inaugural member of the Havasu Veterans' Resource Team. She is a 2016 inductee into the Arizona Veterans' Hall of Fame. Joan finds it a privilege to be able to learn about helping services locally and across Arizona through these associations, as she can help to guide veterans and others to the helping services they need.

Serving as the mentor coordinator for the Lake Havasu City Veterans Treatment Court since shortly after its inception 10 years ago has been her most passionate commitment. She says that it has been a humbling experience to be part of the team that has become a national leader with a program that targets the needs of justice-involved veterans and demonstrates that we never give up on any of them. She sees the commitment, the right multidisciplinary components, and the willingness of the team to consistently work together to improve as the winning components of the program. There is no greater reward than to know that program graduates are now proud, successful members of our community.

Any veteran who wants to learn more about the mentor corps and how to become a part of the team can contact Joan at (928) 230-4931.



Kingman Vet Court

Upcoming Veterans Treatment Court Dates



Kingman VRT

May 15, 2024 at 11:30 am

Kingman Vet Court

May 1, 2024 at 1:30 pm

May 15, 2024 at 1:30 pm

Mentor Corps

The mission of VTC Mentors is to serve their justice involved veterans by being a source of positivity, moral support, and guidance as they work toward successfully completing the VTC program.

Alexis Timm

Kingman VTC Coordinator

(928) 753-8072

atimm@courts.az.gov

Chris Molnar

Mentor Coordinator

Kingman Veteran Treatment Court

805-458-4686

scmolnar2010@gmail.com

Benefits and Service Sector

Spotlight On:

VTC Lake Havasu vs. Kingman

The second game in the Kingman VTC and Lake Havasu City VTC series was held on Saturday April 13, 2024 at Rotary Park in Lake Havasu.

Players on each team were comprised of VTC participants, graduates, mentors, alumni, and the staffing team. The players practiced each week, one or two nights, leading up to the game. The Lake Havasu team were invited to practice along with the local Band of Brothers team.

Lunch (hamburgers, hotdogs, chips and Cracker Jacks) was provided by Cha Bones Manager and served by Cameron Moses and Tony Mallinger. Nonperishable food and/or monetary donations were collected for our local food bank.

The teams warmed up before the game in the hot Lake Havasu sun. Both teams looked good and played outstanding. Each team had a lot of fans show up. Sitting in the bleachers and under the trees for shade to cheer on their team. LHC won 14 – 5, after a ‘mercy’ call was made by the Kingman Team. Lake Havasu now is in possession of the trophy, which is proudly displayed in the courthouse lobby. Kingman will host the third game of the series in October 2024.



This Month in U.S. Military History

Memorial Day

“The Civil War claimed more lives than any conflict in U.S. history, requiring the establishment of the country’s first national cemeteries. By the late 1860s Americans in various towns and cities had begun holding springtime tributes to these countless fallen soldiers, decorating their graves with flowers and reciting prayers.

“It is unclear where exactly this tradition originated; numerous different communities may have independently initiated the memorial gatherings. Nevertheless, in 1966 the federal government declared Waterloo, New York, the official birthplace of Memorial Day. Waterloo—which had first celebrated the day on May 5, 1866—was chosen because it hosted an annual, community-wide event, during which businesses closed and residents decorated the graves of soldiers with flowers and flags.

“On May 5, 1862, General John A. Logan, leader of an organization for Northern Civil War veterans, called for a nationwide day of remembrance later that month.”



“The date of Decoration Day, as he called it, was chosen because it wasn’t the anniversary of any particular battle.

“Memorial Day, as Decoration Day gradually came to be known, originally honored only those lost while fighting in the Civil War. But during World War I the United States found itself embroiled in another major conflict, and the holiday evolved to commemorate American military personnel who died in all wars.

“For decades, Memorial Day continued to be observed on May 30, the date Logan had selected for the first Decoration Day. But in 1968 Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which established Memorial Day as the last Monday in May in order to create a three-day weekend for federal employees; the change went into effect in 1971. The same law also declared Memorial Day a federal holiday.”

Source: <http://www.history.com/topics/holidays/memorial-day-history>

Judge K's Corner

“Your Battle Buddy is there to guide you through the program and to services that help you reach your full potential.”

— Judge Kalauli

*** Mentor Meeting ***

We want **YOU** to be involved in our
LHC Veterans Treatment Court
Mentor Program!

Upcoming Mentor Meetings

TBD

New Courthouse Jury Room



For more information about this program please contact: Joan
McDermott (928) 230 - 4931 Mcdermott.joan@gmail.com

**Please subscribe to our monthly Lake Havasu City
Veterans Treatment Court Newsletter**

The Veterans' Six

<https://www.lhcaz.gov/court/veterans-court>

VTC Alumni Meeting

VTC Graduates, Phase 3 participants, Mentors, & the
Staffing Team are welcome!

The first Thursday of each month at 6:00PM

Havasu Community Health Foundation: Shambles Village

2126 McCulloch Blvd. N. Suite 7

May 2, 2024 at 6:00pm

June 6, 2024 at 6:00pm