

## Collaboration with the Court System to Convince Homeless Court Program is Possible...

- Clerks, bailiffs, attorneys
- Developed disposition agreement- establish list of offenses that will be dismissed
- Established guidelines to resolve cases and help the veteran
- Courts will save money in comparison to usual process



## Help for Homeless Veterans...

- Homelessness is an uphill battle
- Homeless need strong support
- Homeless veterans need continuous support
- Local governments and community members are supportive of solutions to homelessness

## Homeless Court Program responds to great needs...

- It's almost a given that individuals are interested in the Homeless Court Program services
- In issuing citations to homeless people, police are responding to citizens needs
- This program provides an alternative to citations that addresses homeless individuals greatest needs

## The Model: Taking the Court to Stand Down in San Diego...

- Applications distributed to homeless veterans and used as sign in sheet for Stand Down
- Forms routed to providers who give appropriate services
- Applications are used as sign in sheet Stand Down
- Courts continue to participate due to success of program

## How does Homeless Court work?

- Homeless Court only addresses **misdemeanor** cases!
- Participation in Homeless Court is strictly **voluntary**
- **Pre registration is required for all veterans**
- Treatment services are selected by the veteran before or during stand down

## What is a Homeless Court?

Homeless Court promotes access to the court and resolution to **misdemeanor offenses** by meeting veterans at Stand

Down and reconciling their misdemeanor offense with treatment programs. This alternative sentencing is designed to assist the veteran with reintegration into society and provide a constructive alternative to fines, public work service and custody. The veteran, not the court, selects the service agency that will address his/her need.

### Why is there a need for Homeless Court?

People who are homeless are routinely issued **misdemeanor** citations for such minor offenses as illegal lodging, jaywalking and drinking in public. When not dealt with, these citations result in warrants and additional fines and often prevent accessing to public benefits, mental health and/or substance abuse treatment, employment and housing services.



**Southeastern Michigan  
Veterans Stand Down**  
[www.4vets.org](http://www.4vets.org)



Excerpts from the National Coalition for  
Homeless Veterans

<http://www.nchv.org/page.cfm?id=181>

**Southeastern Michigan  
Veterans Stand Down, Inc.**

## Bringing the Court to th Stand Down



**COLLABORATION  
is the  
KEY to SUCCESS...**

Service Providers Working  
with the Court to Help  
Homeless Veterans