



Challenges to taking the 1st Step

Engaging the Veteran Population in Treatment Courts

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Disclaimer

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OVERVIEW OF THE WORKSHOP

- ❑ Engagement through the early identify of veterans within the criminal justice system
 - ❑ Current and innovative means of identification
- ❑ Engagement through military and veteran culturally competence
 - ❑ Begin to develop cultural competence
 - ❑ Identify some effective communication skills when working with veterans

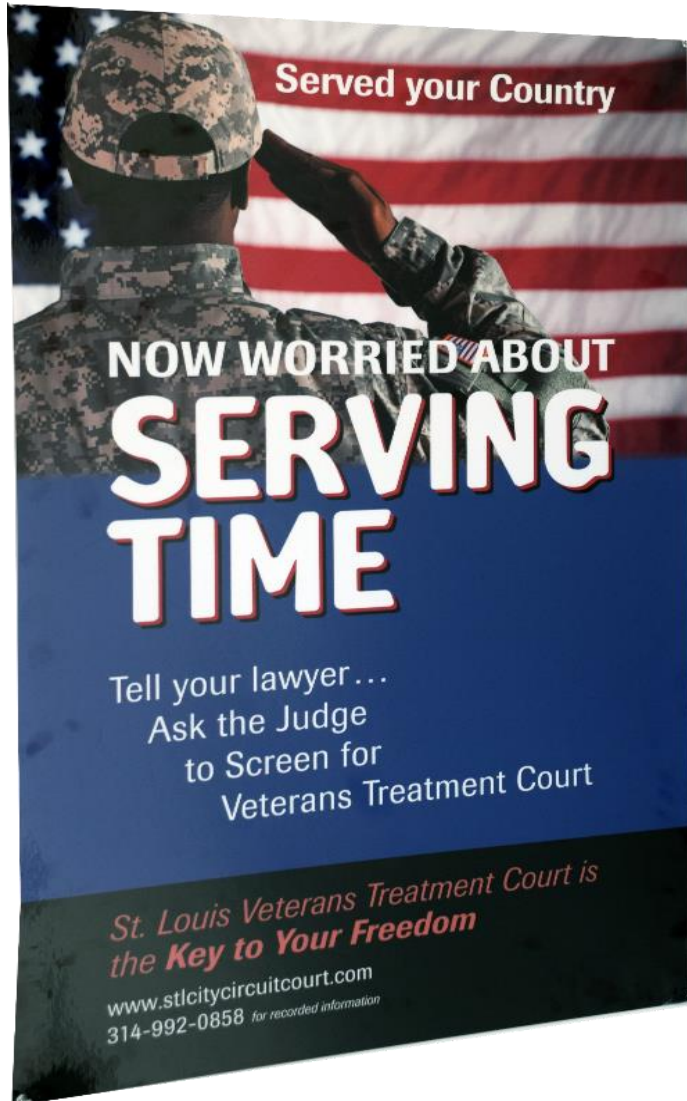




**SELF-IDENTIFICATION
ASK EARLY & ASK OFTEN**

- What
 - “Have you ever served in the United States Armed Forces to include the National Guard and Reserves?”
- When
 - Arrest
 - Booking
 - Pre-Trial Services
 - 1st Appearance
 - Court Appointed Form
 - Supervision Appointments

Encourage Self-identification



- VTC Card for LEO
- Poster in the Jail
 - Booking Area
 - Common Room
 - Phone Bank
- Tri-fold for
 - Courthouse
 - Bail Bondsman
 - Private Defense Bar
- VTC Information Video
 - Jail
 - Courthouse
 - Public

etc

VRSS

DEPT. OF VA
AFFAIRS

VETERAN
RE-ENTRY
SEARCH SERVICE

- Enables correctional and other CJ system entities to identify those who have serviced in the United States military.
- VA will use the information you provide to identify individuals for whom it has a record of military service.
- Once this process of identification is complete (please allow at least 24 hours), you will be able to access on this secure Web site a list of defendant ID numbers or prisoner ID numbers with a record of military service.
- VA will also provide its outreach staff with sufficient information to locate and contact individuals identified through this process.



Welcome to the Veterans Re-Entry Search Services

Welcome!

[Veterans Reentry Search Service \(VRSS\) - Terms and Conditions of Use](#)

This secure Web site enables correctional and other criminal justice system entities to identify inmates or defendants who have served in the United States (U.S.) military. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) makes this service available to facilitate its own direct outreach to these Veterans, and to inform the development of Veteran-specific programs in the criminal justice system. VA has authorized your access to this site because you represent a correctional or other criminal justice system entity that seeks to identify Veterans in its inmate or defendant population. To use the site, you will provide the following information on the individuals whose history of military service you wish to inquire about:

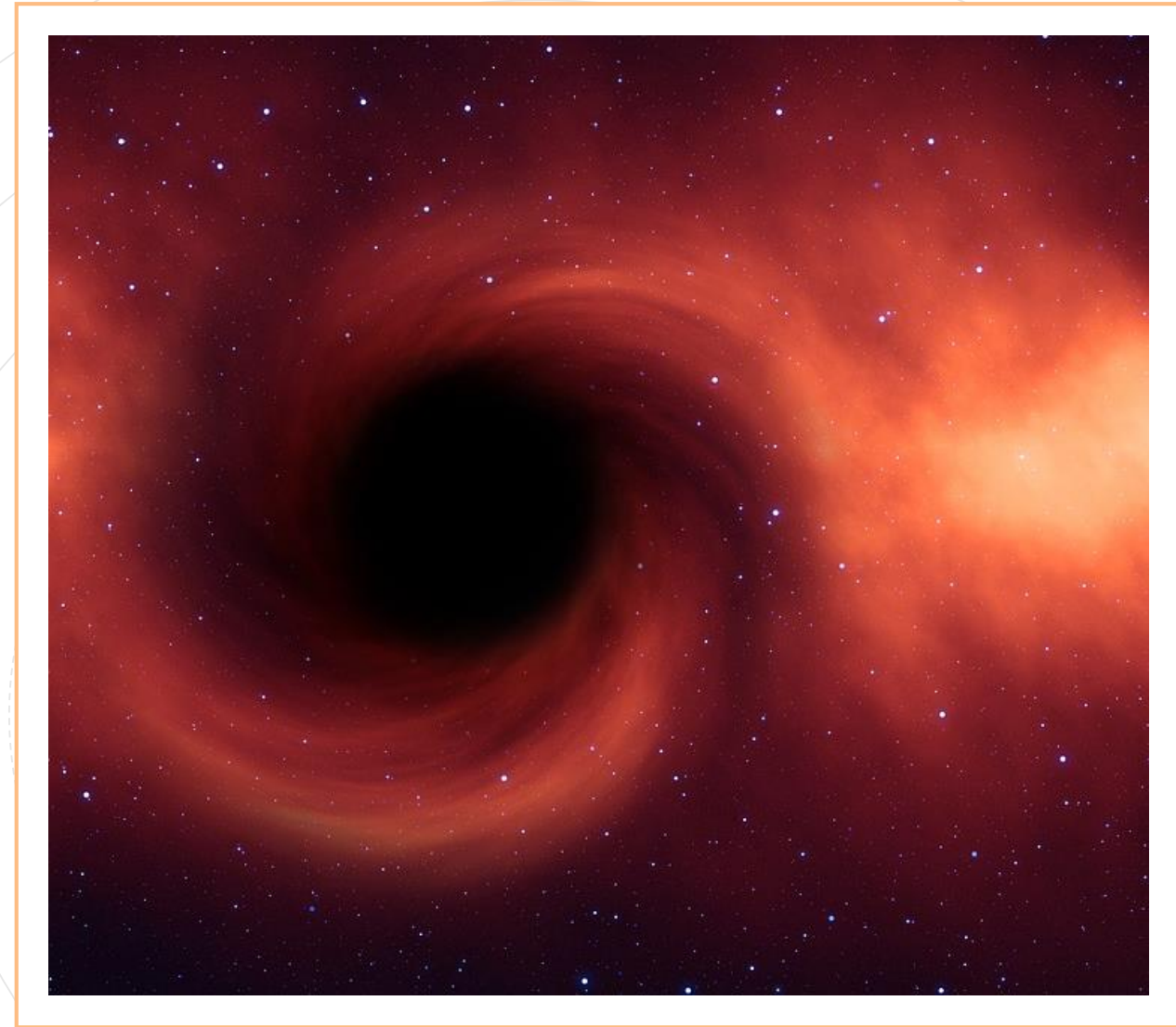
1. Name
2. Social Security Number
3. Date of Birth
4. Gender
5. Prisoner/Defendant ID number
6. Cell Location
7. Facility/Court Name
8. Facility/Court ZIP Code
9. Facility/Court State
10. Parole Date
11. Release or Hearing Date

I have read and accept the Terms and Conditions of Use

[Click here to login](#)

What is Needed?

- 1. Name**
- 2. Social Security Number**
3. Date of Birth
4. Gender
- 5. Prisoner/Defendant ID Number**
6. Cell Location
- 7. Facility/Court Name**
8. Facility/Court ZIP Code
- 9. Facility/Court State**
10. Parole Date
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Where
does the
information
go?

WHERE ARE WE AT?

- ✓ Engagement through the early identify of veterans within the criminal justice system
 - ✓ Current and innovative means of identification
- ☐ Engagement through military and veteran culturally competence
 - ☐ Begin to develop cultural competence
 - ☐ Identify some effective communication skills when working with veterans



CULTURAL COMPETENCY

Military Culture is unique. Current and former service members that become justice involved have needs and risk that require clinical and criminogenic interventions which are culturally sensitive to them.

CULTURAL IDENTITY



Common Traits Among Service Members

- Sacrifice
- Discipline
- Holding self to higher standards
- Teamwork
- Being part of something greater
- Belonging, loyalty, brotherhood
- Fighting spirit: never giving up
- Suppression and denial
- Dark humor: sarcasm, morbidity
- Concerns about seeking care
- Moral injury



WARRIOR ETHOS

Sense of Purpose
Code of Conduct
Common Purpose
Identity
Morality
Selflessness
Sacrifice
Loyalty
Honor



The Impact of Transition



Today's military deploys and redeploys (Home) exceedingly quick

Discharge/Out processing

Disconnected from civilian society

Loss of support

Loss of identity

Loss of purpose

Where to go for assistance?





COMMUNICATION TIPS

- Ask Questions & Listen
- Show concern & Build trust and respect
- Understand trauma
- Refrain from judgement

The American Journal of Psychiatry Residents' Journal | September 2018
ARTICLE Military Culture: Working With Veterans
Gregory Burek, M.D., M.S.



ASK QUESTIONS & LISTEN

- What branch were you in? When did you serve? Where were you stationed? What was your MOS?
- Allows the veteran to explain abbreviations/acronyms (See MOS) and experiences
 - Shows interest
 - Builds rapport
 - Lessens resistance



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SHOW CONCERN

- “I’m fine” – does not necessarily mean that
 - Embrace the suck
 - Pain is weakness leaving the body
- This does not mean “I understand”
 - Can cause withdrawal or anger
 - “How was that for you?” or “I can’t imagine what that was like for you.”





UNDERSTAND TRAUMA

- Not all trauma is military or deployment related!
- Ask veterans about painful experiences they may have had apart from deployment or before their service
- Engaging with the trauma should be left to the clinicians





REFRAIN FROM JUDGEMENT

- Servicemen and women have been put in situations where split-second decisions dictate dying verses going home to their families
- These decisions can often weigh heavily on their conscious and is referred to as Moral Injury
- Be supportive and empathetic



DID WE DO IT?

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JUSTICE FOR VETS

Thank you!
Questions?