



## YOUNGSTOWN MUNICIPAL COURT VETERAN TREATMENT COURT

26 S. Phelps St., Youngstown OH 44503

**Hon. Robert P. Milich**

Courtroom 2 – 330.742.8855

The National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) has endorsed the establishment of Veteran Treatment Courts by resolution, citing some of the following statistics:

- **In 2010 there are currently more than 23 million U.S. Veterans, including 2 million from wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.**
- **One in five veterans has symptoms of a mental disorder or cognitive impairment;**
- **One in six veterans from Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) suffer from a substance abuse issues, and research continues to draw a link between substance abuse and combat-related mental illness.**
- **Grouping justice-involved veterans into a specific court docket significantly expedites access to veteran-specific resources, including benefits and treatment earned through military service.**

The NADCP cites research stating that **Drug Treatment Courts significantly reduce drug use and crime, and do it more cheaply than any other justice strategy.** It has been found that Drug courts work better than jail or prison, better than probation, and better than treatment alone.

The NADCP cites statistics showing that:

- **1 in 100 U.S. citizens is now confined in jail or prison;**
- **The United States incarcerates more people per capita than 26 of the largest European nations combined;**
- **80% of offenders abuse drugs or alcohol;**
- **Approximately 60% of individuals arrested for most types of crimes test positive for illicit drugs at arrest;**
- **60-80% of drug abusers commit a new crime after release from prison;**
- **Approximately 90% return to drug abuse after release from prison**

*The goal of the Youngstown Municipal Veteran Treatment Court is to provide necessary treatment, support and services to veterans involved in the criminal justice system so they may obtain and maintain stable, law-abiding and healthy lives; thereby becoming positive and productive members of our community.*