



CELEBRATING



VETERANS

IN THE PENNSYLVANIA COURTS



The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania recognizes the contributions of jurists, court staff and their families who have served in the United States military and who continue to serve in the Pennsylvania Judiciary.



Judge Craig Trebilcock

York County

- Served as a JAG officer from 1988 - 2018
- Retired in 2018 after 30 years of service
- Stationed in West Germany
- Deployments to the Balkans in 1997, Iraq in 2003, Congo 2012 - 2013 and deployment from the bench 2015 - 2016 to Afghanistan

"Military service has made me a better judge, as it taught me to not take for granted the rule of law that characterizes our system of justice. A system like ours where legal outcomes are based purely on law and facts, rather than favoritism, discrimination, bias and bribery is a rarity in the world."



Judge Christopher Kalacinski

Potter County

- Served as a U.S. Army Military Police Officer and Investigator from 2008 - 2016
- Stationed at Schofield, Hawaii 2008 - 2013
- Deployed to Afghanistan from 2012 - 2013



Judge Daniel Wallace

Mercer County

- Graduated from West Point in 1988
- Served from 1988 - 1992
- Deployed for combat during Operation Desert Storm



Judge Tom Burke

Luzerne County

- Served from 1969 - 1971
- Deployed to Vietnam 1970 - 1971
- Rank: Specialist 5
- Unit: Medical Command
- Received the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service



Senior Judge Robert Mazzone

Lackawanna County

- Served in the U.S. Army National Guard from 1970 - 1976
- Rank: E4



Judge Daniel McCaffery
Philadelphia County

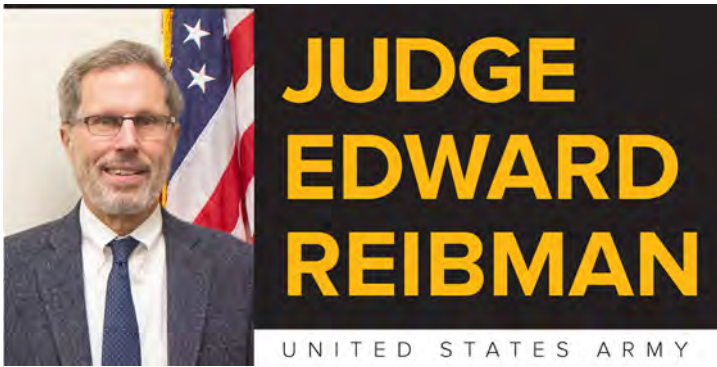
- Served on active duty from 1983 - 1986
- Joined the Army at 18 years old and proudly served with the 1st Cavalry Division
- Selected to attend West Point Prep
- Served in the Army Reserves in the 304th Military Intelligence Unit from 1987 - 1989



Judge Mark Martin
Cumberland County

- Retired as a Colonel after 30 years of service
- Served in active and reserve duty from 1985 - 2015
- Served as infantry officer during nine years active duty
- Military Police and civil affairs assignments during 21 years reserve time
- Stationed three and one half years in West Germany during the end of the Cold War and was there when the wall came down
- Served in the Global War on Terrorism, deploying twice to Iraq and twice to Afghanistan

"My military service and years abroad has significantly shaped and refined my world view, as I have had the opportunity to learn about and interact with people from dozens of cultures throughout the world, from regions such as Central America and Europe, to the Middle East. I believe that my experiences with people from so many diverse groups have helped me to better relate to those from other countries who have business in my court, and hopefully put them at ease while in my court."



President Judge Edward Reibman
Lehigh County

- Served in the U.S. Army Reserves from 1969 - 1975
- Served as a Drill Sergeant



Judge Thomas Gehret
Philadelphia Municipal Court

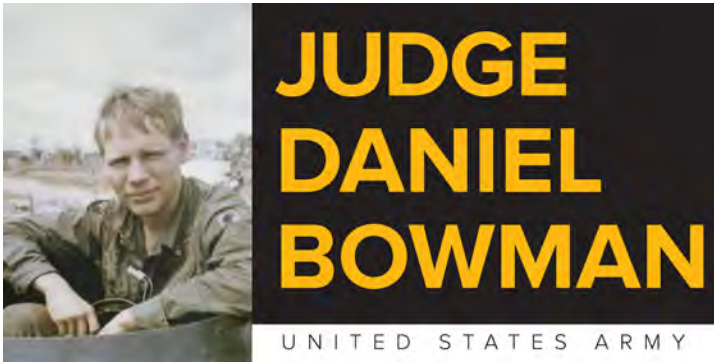
- Served as Corporal in the U.S. Army
- Stationed in Vietnam 1971 - 1972, serving in Qui Nhon, Phu Bai, Cam Ranh Bay and Long Binh

"While I opposed the war, I felt it was my duty to serve. Military services instills discipline and a sense of accomplishment which can benefit you in any future career."



Senior Judge James Gardner Colins
Superior Court

- Served in the U.S. Army Reserves for eight years
- Honorably discharged with the rank of Captain in 1983
- Assigned to various civil affairs units during his service



Judge Daniel Bowman

Adams County

- Joined the Army at 17 years old in 1969
- Served in Vietnam as a Sgt. E-5 with 9th Inf., 25th Inf. and E Troop 17 Cav. 173 Airborne Brigade
- He was motivated to serve by the service of his father, seven uncles and two aunts who served in World War II
- He believes that his Catholic education and the words of President John F. Kennedy inspired him to serve: "And so, my fellow Americans-ask not what your country can do for you-ask what you can do for your country. My fellow citizens of the world-ask not what America will do for you but what together we can do for the freedom of man."

"I have learned to never discount anyone. Everyone has strong and weak points. Work with whomever you have to deal with, form a relationship in a joint effort towards the goal you seek. Be fair, be civil but don't be afraid to use any tools that you need to make good and fair decisions."



Judge Michael H. Sholley

Snyder and Union Counties

- Served in the Military Police Corp from 1975 - 1978
- Commissioned a Lieutenant, U.S. Army, Infantry 1981
- Served in the National Guard and Reserves as an Infantry, Armor and JAG officer until 1995 and resigned as a Major



Judge Leonard G. Brown, III

Lancaster County

- Retired in 2019 after 28 years of service
- Served during his early years as an airborne combat engineer
- Transitioned to the Army Reserve Judge Advocate General's Corp (JAG)
- Ended career working with the U.S. Africa Command in Stuttgart, Germany



Judge Cateria R. McCabe

Philadelphia County

- Enlisted (Civil Affairs units with various military occupational specialties (MOS))
- JAG officer



Judge Craig Stedman

Lancaster County

- Captain
- Military Intelligence
- 1986 - 1994



President Judge Patrick Dugan

Philadelphia Municipal Court

- Joined the Army in 1981
- Reenlisted in 2003 after a 14-year break in response to 9/11 attacks
- Served in Iraq, Afghanistan, Panama and South Korea

"I felt that it was my duty to go back and assist in our war on terrorism. My military service is who I am. The military instilled in me the confidence to do anything, to do what is conceived as impossible. My military background has assisted me greatly every day on the bench; the leadership taught in the Airborne Infantry is guiding me in leading Philadelphia Municipal Court as President Judge. I have been able to continue to assist my fellow service-members as I lead a dedicated team in Veterans Courts. I am blessed to be in the position I am today – and the road I traveled is who I am."



Judge Matthew Wolf

Philadelphia Municipal Court

- Joined the Army Reserves at age 35 in 2003
- Deployed to Iraq in 2006 and Afghanistan in 2008
- In Afghanistan, he served as the Rule of Law adviser to the sole lawyer overseeing the Afghan National Police
- In February 2020, Judge Wolf transferred from being a Major (O-4) in the United States Army Reserve to Alpha Troop, 1st Squadron - 104 Cavalry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, and enlisted in that unit as a Specialist (E-4)
- In June of 2020 he served for a period of time on State Active Duty dealing with civil unrest in the City of Philadelphia, stationed mostly in the Kensington neighborhood of Philadelphia
- Completed his MOS transition course from 27A to 19D (Cavalry Scout) in September 2020
- Continues to drill monthly and perform Annual Training at Fort Indiantown Gap

"The Army has enriched my life. The first big thing the Army teaches you is about doing things for more than just yourself. You think of others. There's no place for ego. Leadership comes from that. You have the back of your fellow soldiers and they have yours. As a judge, you continue to work as a team with the staff, the parties, attorneys and witnesses to achieve justice. It is a wonderful thing if it works right and just like the Army, justice is not about me being the judge, it is about being a member of a team. A judge is like a high-ranking officer and that judge has to guide people through a challenge. It is about ensuring a fair process and a fair result."



John M. Skocik

AOPC

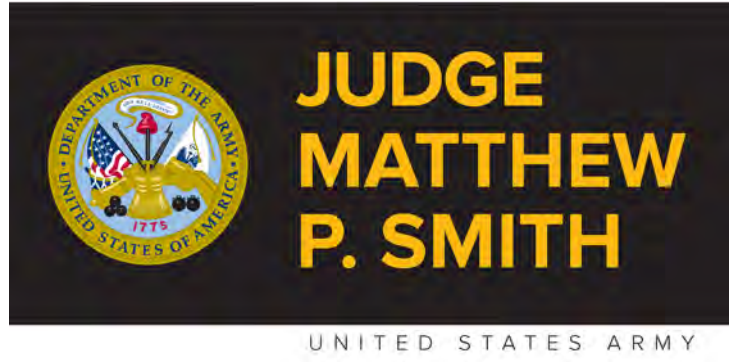
- 1988 - 1994
- 72G MOS Telecommunications TSSBI
- Basic - FT. Jackson, SC. Squad Leader
- AIT - Signal Corps Ft. Gordon, GA
- Combat Support Coordination Team #3 - Camp Yongin, South Korea
- US ARMY Criminal Investigation Division Command - FT. Holabird, MD



Senior Judge Michael Dunlavey

Erie County

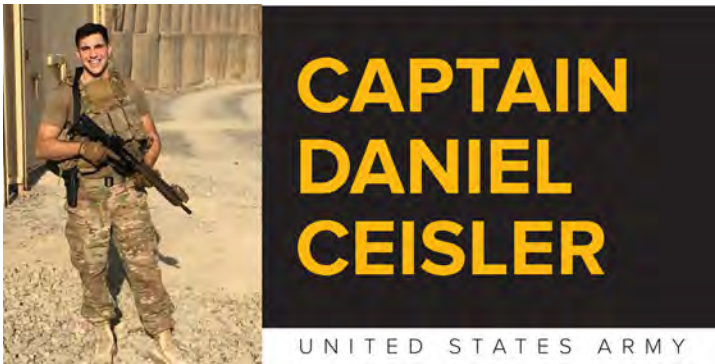
- Entered active duty in the Army serving in Germany and Vietnam and joined the Army Reserve during law school
- Commanded soldiers at multiple levels and was selected as Deputy Commanding General (DCG) of the Army's Intelligence and Security Command and the Army's Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff (CoS) for Intelligence
- Promoted to Major General and chosen by NSA Director, Mike Hayden, to be his assistant at NSA headquarters
- Recalled to active duty after 9/11 and was chosen by Secretary of Defense, Donald Rumsfeld, in 2002 to create and establish an interrogation system and center at Guantanamo Bay
- Concluded his distinguished military career in April of 2004, following a tour at the CIA as the Associate Director for Homeland Security



Judge Matthew P. Smith

Cumberland County

- Colonel – Pa Army National Guard
- Currently the State Staff Judge Advocate
- Served in the military for over 26 years in various positions such as Ammunition Platoon Leader, Intelligence Officer, Instructor, Trial Counsel and Deputy Staff Judge Advocate
- Deployed overseas three times, once each to Nicaragua, Iraq and Kuwait
- Performed temporary duty at The United States Embassy in Kuwait and interacted with his counterparts in the Kuwaiti, Saudi Arabian and Jordanian militaries
- Awards include the Bronze Star for Meritorious Service, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Citation, Combat Action Badge, and Airborne and Air Assault Badges, amongst others



Daniel Ceisler

Son of Judge Ellen Ceisler, Commonwealth Court

- Deployed to Afghanistan once
- Deployed twice to the Pentagon to assist the Army with regards to military issues and needs related to the COVID-19 crisis and then to address domestic civil unrest

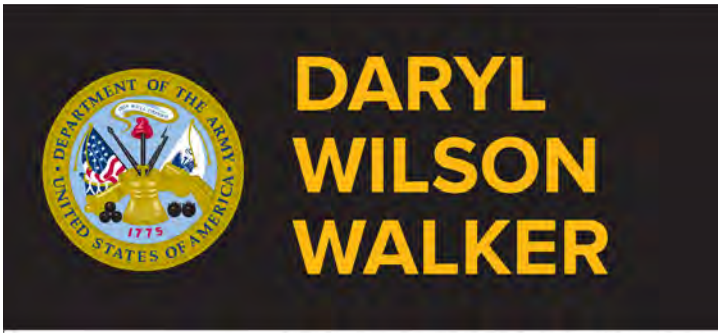


Judge Wade Kagarise

Blair County

- Served as an Army Reserve Infantryman from 1990 - 1996
- Completed basic training and infantry school at Fort Benning, Georgia

"My military service was the initiation of a lifelong commitment to public service. I urge young adults to consider military service as a way to give back to our country or alternatively to find other ways to serve their communities."



UNITED STATES ARMY

Daryl Walker

AOPC

- 1980 - 2012
- JAG
- Served in Grenada for war claims investigations, and Frankfurt, Germany as a Military Magistrate
- Retired in 2012 with more than 31 years of service



UNITED STATES ARMY

Rich Long

Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania

- Retired as a Colonel in the Army Reserve
- Served from 1989 - 2019
- Deployed to Baghdad, Iraq, 2005 - 2006
- Commanded 16th Legal Operations Detachment, Fort Hamilton, NY



UNITED STATES ARMY

Jake Presley

AOPC

- Operation Iraqi Freedom – December 2004 to November 2005
- Operation Iraqi Freedom – March 2007 to May 2008
- Operation Enduring Freedom – November 2009 to November 2010

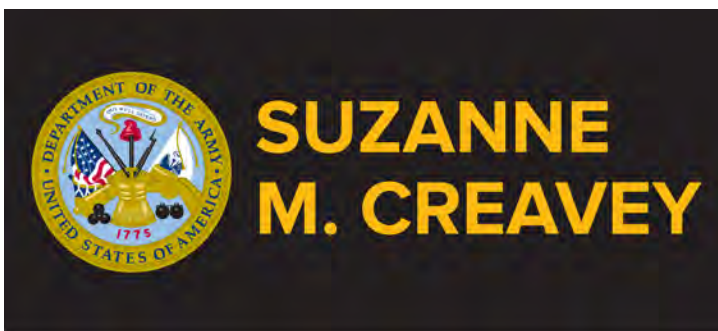


UNITED STATES ARMY

Josh Albright

AOPC

- 2000 - 2006
- Fire Direction Specialist: MOS 13D in B-Btry 1/108th Field Artillery, Waynesboro and Chambersburg
- Forward Observer: MOS 13F HHB 1/108th Field Artillery, Carlisle PA



UNITED STATES ARMY

Suzanne M. Creavey

Pa. Supreme Court Rules Committee

- 1981 - 1983



UNITED STATES ARMY

Daniel A. Durst

Pa. Supreme Court Rules Committee

- 1989 - 1993
- Medic



John Witherow
Pa. Supreme Court

- 1984 - 1991



Judge James Deleon
Philadelphia County

- Commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in May, 1970
- Served until May, 1985
- Resigned as a Army Captain of Engineers



Senior Judge D. Webster Keogh
Philadelphia County



SSG Nicholas A Rangos
Son of Judge Jill Rangos, Allegheny County

- Active duty special forces
- Currently deployed



Rich Ammons
AOPC

- 2003 - 2004



Sheyla Street
Daughter of Judge Sierra Thomas Street,
Philadelphia County



CADET, UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT

Luke Brown

Son of Judge Leonard Brown, Lancaster County

- Sophomore Cadet at West Point majoring in mechanical engineering



CADET, UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT

Nathaniel Jones, Jr.

Son of Judge Lucretia Clemons, Philadelphia County

- Currently in his third year at West Point



Judge Jeff Conrad

Lancaster County

- Served from 1985 - 1990
- Rank: First Lieutenant

“Serving my country as a United States Marine Corps Officer was a dream come true. As a child, I met an uncle of mine who was a Marine and his walk, talk and bearing was different; he moved with confidence and took life in stride. The training I received as a Marine helped me to realize that the human body is made to do so much more than we think and that groups of hard-charging Americans infused with esprit de corps, and God’s blessing, can conquer any enemy. Civilian world translation: there is no problem too big to handle.”



Steven L. Yeager

AOPC

- 1982 - 1986



Judge David Howells

Lehigh County

- Served from 1977 - 1983
- Presidential Security Marine for President Carter stationed at Camp David



Judge Michael Thatcher

Allegheny County

- Graduated from the Naval Academy in 2006
- Served as a U.S. Marine Corps Infantry Officer for 13 years
- Deployed to Afghanistan in 2008 and 2010 in Helmand Province with 1st Battalion 6th Marine Regiment
- Served as Company Commander for Kilo Company 3rd Battalion 25th Marine Regiment, a reserve unit based in Pittsburgh
- Currently the Battalion Executive Officer for 3rd Battalion 25th Marine Regiment



Mark Franklin

AOPC

- 1984 - 1987



Judge Lee Grimes

Delaware County

- 2005 - 2010
- Specialty: Infantry
- Deployment: Iraq



Judge James Anthony

Lehigh County

- Commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve in August 1981 through the PLC Program
- Served on active duty from January 1984 - January 1987, including a deployment to Okinawa
- Served in the Selected Marine Corps Reserve beginning January 1988
- Returned to active duty from June 2004 - June 2005, and from September 2006 - September 2007, including two deployments to Iraq
- Retired at the rank of colonel in March 2009



Leo Zuvich

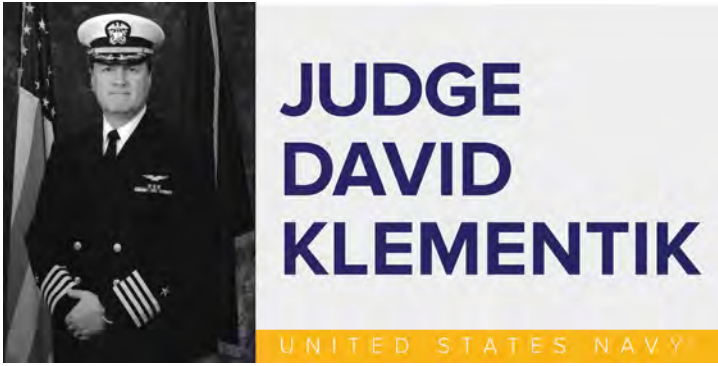
AOPC

- 1984 - 1990
- United States Marine Corps Reserve (North 2nd St in Harrisburg)
- Corporal
- Company "E" 2nd Battalion, 25th Marines, 4th Marine Division



James Mundy

Son of Justice Sallie Updyke Mundy



Senior Judge David Klementik
Somerset County

- Served as a Captain
- Served six years active duty, 20 years reserve
- Flew the A-6 Intruder aboard the USS Forrestal for two deployment cruises with over 200 carrier landings



Judge Cheryl Austin
Montgomery County

- Retired as a Captain
- Served for 24 years—seven active duty and 17 in Reserves
- Entered the Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps in its first class of women while she was an undergraduate student at Northwestern University



Judge Tim Krieger
Westmoreland County

- Served active duty USN 1985 - 1989, USNR 1989 - 1991
- Served as a Surface Warfare Officer on the USS Penscola (LSD-38)
- Deployed to Mediterranean twice as part of Marine Amphibious Ready Group (MARG)
- Spent four months at Guantanamo, Cuba



Judge Miles Bixler
Lancaster County

- Served from 1976 - 1981
- Rank: Hull Technician 1st Class
- Made four deployments aboard the aircraft carrier USS Saratoga to the Mediterranean Sea



Judge Daniel Davis
Mercer County

- Served in the Navy Reserves for 24 years



Judge Michael McCarthy
Allegheny County

- Served as a Combat Engineer with the Navy Seabees
- Received the Navy Combat Badge and a Bronze Star
- Deployed to Vietnam from 1970 - 1971



STEVE SONDHEIMER

UNITED STATES NAVY

Steve Sondheimer

AOPC

- 1980 - 1987
- U.S. Navy - Data Systems Technician 3rd Class
- Served aboard USS America (CV-66)
- Stationed at Submarine Base, New London, Connecticut



JUDGE ANTHONY CEOFFE

UNITED STATES NAVY

Judge Anthony Ceoffe

Allegheny County

- Petty Officer Second Class (Communications)
- 1979 - 1985
- Served aboard the USNS Marias an Oiler that refueled ships destined for an attempt to rescue the hostages held in Iran
- Later served aboard the USS Charleston, an amphibian cargo and assault ship that participated in the Granada Campaign
- Entered service two months prior 18th Birthday.
- Traveled to over 32 countries on three different continents



JENNIFER EICHENLAUB

UNITED STATES NAVY

Jennifer A. Eichenlaub

AOPC

- Served as Seaman (E-3) at the Career Counselor Office from 1995 - 1997
- Stationed at Naval Auxiliary Landing Field San Clemente Island, California
- Recipient of the National Defense Service Medal



JUDGE RICHARD THOMAS

UNITED STATES NAVY

Judge Richard Thomas

York County

- Retired as Lieutenant
- Stationed on the USS John Marshall (SSN-611) submarine in the early 1980s
- Served as a nuclear trained submarine officer during the Cold War
- Mission was to observe and monitor Soviet submarines and ships in the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea while remaining undetected

"Being in the military shapes you for a lifetime; it certainly did for me. You learn discipline, but more importantly, you learn to take responsibility for your actions."



CDR RYAN Q. MILLER

UNITED STATES NAVY

Commander Ryan Q. Miller

Son of Judge Charles Miller, Schuylkill County

- Attached to the Carl Vinson Strike Group
- Home base San Diego, California
- Currently deployed in the Pacific Ocean



Aaron Francisco

Son of Angela Butler, AOPC

- ACAN (Air Traffic Controller Airman)
- Enlisted in 2019
- Boot camp – Dec. 3, 2019; graduated Feb. 7, 2020
- Graduated A-School approx. October 2020 after a few hurricane-related delays in training
- Currently in active service



Lt. Hobart King Kistler (deceased)

Son of Senior Judge Thomas Kistler, Centre County

- Attended the U.S. Naval Academy
- Graduated in 2013
- Served his country on the USS Louisville submarine and the carrier USS JF Kennedy
- Killed on April 30, 2021, and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery



Judge James Lillis

Berks County

- Retired from PA Air National Guard as Brigadier General after serving in the Guard and U.S. Air Force from 1974 - 2004
- Served five years active duty as Minuteman Missile Crew Commander
- Deployed as a NATO Commander for Operations Allied Force during the Kosovo conflict and for Operation Decisive Endeavor, Bosnia-Herzegovina
- Served as Vice Commander, 193d Special Operations Wing, Middletown, during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Force



Judge Timothy Rowley

Berks County

- Served in the U.S. Air Force Military Police Corps from 1974 - 1980



Judge Dean R. Patton

Berks County

- 1973 - 1977
- 509th Security Police Pease AFB, NH
- 36th Security Police Bitburg AFB, Germany
- U.S. Army National Guard from 1983 - 1984
- 1028th MP Squadron, Hamburg, PA



Senior Judge Allan Tereshko

Philadelphia County

- Served from 1963 - 1967



Judge Daniel Trexler

Lehigh County

- 1987 - 1990
- Aerospace ground equipment mechanic, Macdill AFB Tampa, Fl.



Bruce J. Ferguson
Pa. Supreme Court Rules Committee

- 1981 - 1985



Mark Whitworth
AOPC

- 1981 - 1985



Mike Sponsler
AOPC

- 1977 - 1981



Brian Darbrow
AOPC

- 1992 - 1999



Jennifer Love
AOPC

- 1999 - 2001
- Stationed in Los Angeles, California
- Served as a Medical Assistant



AOPC/Communications thanks the judges, staff and family featured in this issue for responding to requests for information about their military service.



What are Veterans Treatment Courts?

Veterans Courts assist veterans who are charged with crimes and are struggling with addiction, mental illness or other co-occurring disorders. Veterans Court participants:

- 1) Appear before the judge on a regular basis
- 2) Gain support and guidance from veteran mentors
- 3) Receive supervision by specialized probation officers
- 4) Get treatment and support to address underlying problems often caused by post-traumatic stress disorder
- 5) Work closely with the VA Veterans Justice Outreach Specialists

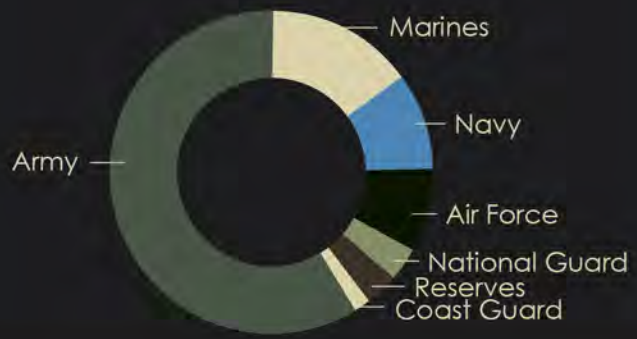
792,000
total veterans in Pennsylvania (2020)

Pennsylvania's veteran population ranks **4th** in the United States

The first veterans treatment court opened in Lackawanna County **in 2009**

191 admissions in 2020
They came from the following branches of service:

204 veterans (out of 268 participants discharged from the program) graduated in 2020
which is a **76%** successful graduation rate.
32% increase in employment among successful graduates.



25 veterans treatment courts in Pennsylvania were active in 2020. (Common Pleas)
12 counties have veterans diversion programs (Magisterial District Court)

Average age at screening was **45.**

