

Unapproved



Office of Military Affairs
Connecticut Military and Defense Advisory Council

June 17, 2010
Minutes of Meeting

Members Present:

Mr. Robert Ross, Chairman & Executive Director of the Office of Military Affairs; Captain Glen Sulmasy (for Rear Admiral J. Scott Burhoe), USCG; Mr. Robert Yust (for Captain Marc W. Denno), USN; Major General Thaddeus J. Martin, CTNG; Department of Veterans Affairs Commissioner Linda Schwartz; Representative Ted Graziani; Mr. John Rathegeber, President & CEO of CBIA; Mr. Stuart Fitzgerald (for Commissioner Joan McDonald, Department Economic & Community Development).

Guests:

Senator Andrea Stillman; First Selectman Paul Formica; Mr. Jeffrey Nelson; Mr. James A. Noone; Mr. Jim Butler; Mr. John Markowitz; Mr. Denny Hicks; Ms. Jenny Contois; Mr. Martin D'Eramo; Mr. Charles Morrissey.

I) Call to Order. Chairman Robert Ross called the meeting to order.

II) Introduction of Members and Guests. Chairman Ross extended his thanks to General Martin for hosting the Council meeting at Camp Rell.

III) Approval of Minutes. A motion was made for approval of the January 27, 2010 meeting minutes – motion was seconded and minutes approved.

IV) Public Comment. Opportunity for public comment was given – no public comments.

V) OMA Update. The quality of life issue of transferring Guam driver's licenses to Connecticut licenses has been resolved and the process has been streamlined for returning service members and their families. Commission Robert Ward of the Department of Motor Vehicles issued a policy directive to address and correct the problem.

This DMV matter is an example of the Office of Military Affairs being used as a vehicle for resolution of issues with state agencies.

Service Person of the Month is a program sponsored by the Eastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce (ECOC), in conjunction with other service organizations. OMA is assisting the ECOC in expanding the program to include members of the National Guard.

The Travelers Open which begins on June 21st has a Military Appreciation Theme this year.

The ECOC has scheduled a Military Appreciation Day on November 19, 2010. It will be a breakfast event with approximately 300 participants. Details are still being worked out.

The 2006 Governor's Commission of the Economic Diversification of Southeastern Connecticut Final Report included 28 recommendations, including stabilization of supply and distribution of public water systems. East Lyme First Selectman Paul Formica stated long-term solutions are needed to maintain an adequate water supply for East Lyme and surrounding communities. The cost is \$10 million for the water main connection and \$5 million to upgrade the pumping station. OMA is working with DECD to evaluate the scope and cost of the project.

Coast Guard Academy Capstone Project – this project is focusing on the economic impact of defense spending in Connecticut. A database is being created for a better analysis of the economic impact of military and defense activities to Connecticut's economy. The project is in the preliminary stages.

Proposed Military Value Projects at Subbase New London – Two new projects, proposed by the Navy are under consideration for a future Bonding Commission meeting. Details will be forthcoming.

VI) Federal & Congressional Issues Update. Mr. James A. Noone, of Clark & Weinstock provided an update on Federal & Congressional issues of interest to the state. Key issues were the FY 2011 Defense Authorization Bill that was passed by the House on May 28th and should be considered by the Senate before July 4th. The bill includes the F-35 Alternative Engine funding for which the President and Secretary of Defense have threatened a veto; \$3.4 billion in funding for two *Virginia*-Class Submarines in FY11, plus \$2 Billion for advance procurement to build two each in FY 12 & 13; \$672 Million for continued R&D on the *Ohio*-Class SSBN Replacement; \$41 Million for Construction of a National Guard Readiness Center; \$550K for design of SUBCRU2 Headquarters at SUBASE. Presentation is attached.

VII) First Lady 90-Day Quality of Life Review for Military Families.

The National Security Council Staff is leading the 90 day review of Quality of Life issues. This initiative was announced by the First Lady on May 11th. The review will set military family priorities for 10 years; identify key issues, concerns; explore Federal opportunities to stimulate/support state and local initiatives.

Other issues – Secretary of Defense May 8th speech stated the need to cut overhead from Military spending; will be reflected in FY 12 budget; SUBASE Infrastructure Projects - Secretary of Navy – very aware of projects and appreciative; BRAC – Secretary of Defense has no plans for a BRAC in the near-term, but says the services want another round in the future.

VIII) Veterans Issues. Veterans Upward Bound Initiative – attempting to start program in Connecticut. The program is run through the Department of Education. A competitive grant application is being prepared by Southern Connecticut State University. The sixteen week course targets low income, potential first generation college students coming out of service to prepare them for post secondary education. Their tuition is paid for with grant funding. The goal is to produce 120 college students annually with knowledge/skills needed in Connecticut.

Commissioner Schwartz provided information on a veterans program called "OASIS" (Operation Academic Support for Incoming Servicemembers) which has been put in place in community colleges and state universities throughout Connecticut. The "OASIS" provides an area for veterans and military personnel to meet with other veteran students to share their concerns and receive support from programs instituted by the schools.

The Office of Veterans Affairs currently has pending legislation addressing the G.I. bill. The goal is to expand the scope of eligible schools. They also have a full-time Department of Defense Yellow Ribbon position working out of their offices.

Connecticut is the only state that offers a substance abuse program as part of its Diversion Program (alternative to incarceration). Judge John Caruso is offering to educate the judicial system about programs and resources that are available for veterans.

A grant from the Governor has made it possible to rehab some residences at the State Veterans Home which will be used as transitional housing to accommodate returning veterans. These should be available by the middle of July. This effort has been assisted by Captain's Denno and Ginda (SUBASE Commanding Officers) with donations of furniture. The American Legion has also been assisting with the rehabilitation of the homes.

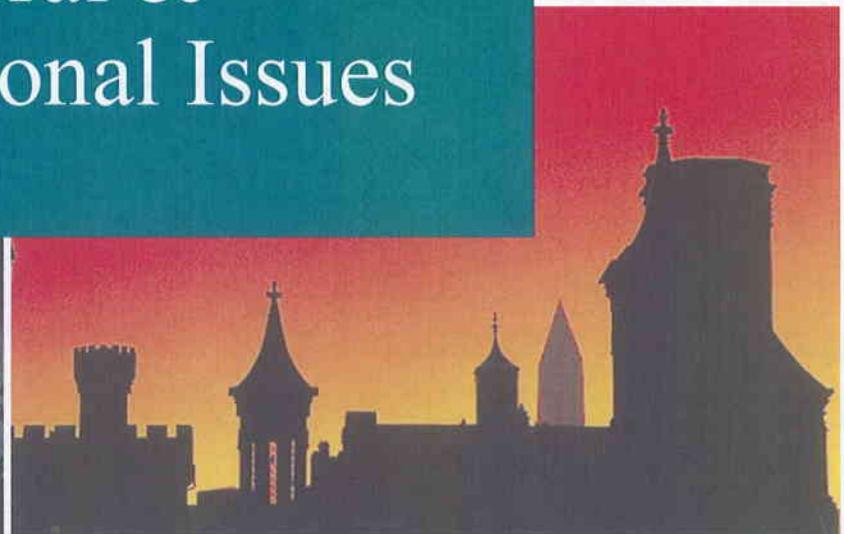
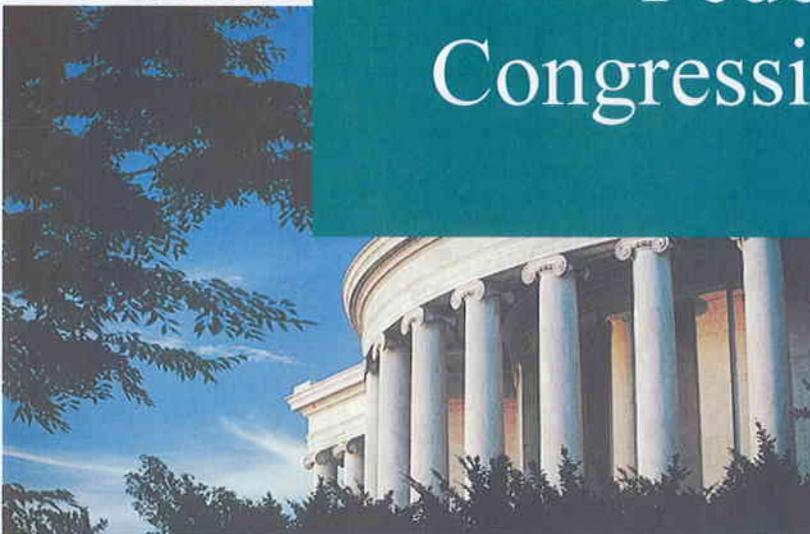
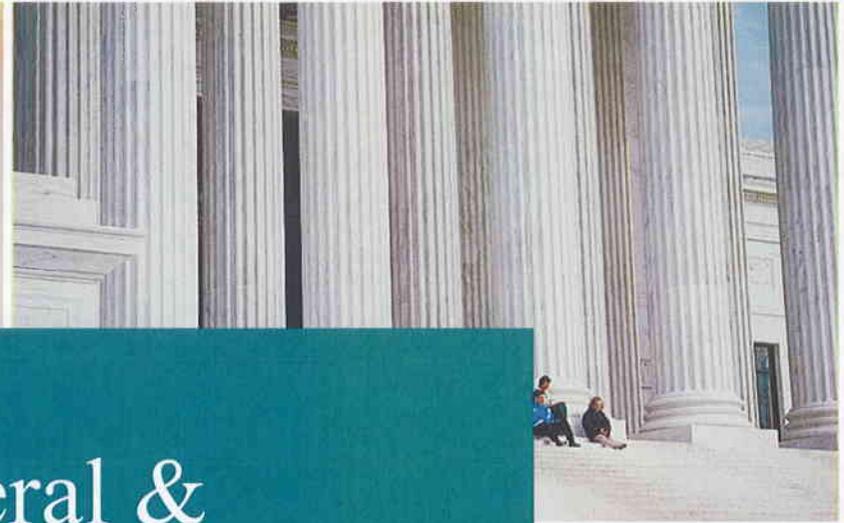
The Connecticut Veterans Memorial site has been selected in Rocky Hill. The design competition for the memorial has been completed and construction is scheduled to begin by Veteran's Day 2010. Fundraising efforts have begun to raise the \$1.2 million needed for the statewide memorial. Donations can be made at www.cthonorsvets.org.

IX) Council Member Comments & Discussion. Representative Ted Graziani stated there is housing available at UCONN for veterans, but there are issues to be resolved timing and occupancy.

Mr. Yust discussed a Quality of Life concern regarding military family members being eligible to apply to charter or magnet schools. Selections are made by lottery in the fall and newly reporting families are locked out of the process. The OMA will look into the issue and coordinate a recommendation to members of the General Assembly.

X) Conclusion and Adjournment: Chairman Ross adjourned the meeting at 2:20 pm.

XI) Connecticut National Guard Presentation. Major General Thaddeus Martin and staff members presented a variety of programs that are available for service members before, during and after deployment. Presentations are attached.



Federal & Congressional Issues

Briefing for Connecticut Military and Defense Advisory Council

June 17, 2010

Jim Noone, Clark & Weinstock

Federal & Congressional Issues

- FY 2011 Defense Authorization Bill
- First Lady Military 90-Day QOL Review
- Other Issues

FY11 Defense Authorization Bill

- **House Version**

- Reported by House Armed Services Committee May 26
- Passed by Full House May 28

- **Senate Version**

- Reported by Senate Armed Services Committee May 27
- Full Senate Likely to Consider Before July 4

FY11 Defense Authorization Bill

Key Issues

• F-35 Alternative Engine

- Furious Lobbying Campaign by P&W, GE
- Strongly Opposed by Administration; SECDEF Veto Threat
- HASC Added \$485M for Alternative Engine
- Amendment to Remove Funding Defeated in full House, 231-193
- Rep. Larson Championed Amendment; CT Delegation Supported
- No Funding in Senate Version, as Approved by SASC
- Sen. Lieberman Leading Opposition, Along with Sen. McCain
- Next Steps: Full Senate Vote; Then House-Senate Conference

FY11 Defense Authorization Bill

Key Issues

- *Virginia*-Class Subs: \$3.4 Billion for 2 in FY11 in House & Senate Bills
- Plus, \$2B for Advance Procurement to Build 2 Each in FY12, 13
- Total: \$5.4 Billion
- First Time in 20+ Years that EB Will Build 2 Subs in One Year
- Will Sustain CT's Submarine Industrial Base
- Ensure Long-Term Viability of SUBASE

FY11 Defense Authorization Bill

Key Issues

- *Ohio*-Class SSBN Replacement
 - House Bill: \$672M for Continued R&D
 - But, Half of Funding Withheld Pending Report by DOD
 - Senate Bill: \$672M for Continued R&D; No Restrictions
 - Long-Term Funding Unclear; 12 Boats @ \$7B+ Each
- Military Construction
 - \$41M for National Guard Readiness Center, Windsor Locks (requested in DOD Budget)
 - \$550K for Design of SUBGRU2 Hq. at SUBASE

Support of Military Families

- National Security Council Staff Leading 90-Day Review of QOL Issues
- Announced by First Lady May 11
- Will Identify Key Issues, Concerns
- Will Set Military Family Priorities for 10 Years
- Develop Options for DOD, Other Agencies to Include Priorities in Budgets
- Explore Federal Opportunities to Stimulate/
Support State, Local Initiatives
- Issues to be Identified in DOD Study of 100,000 Military Members/Families

Other Issues

- SECDEF May 8 Speech: Need to Cut Overhead from Military Spending; Now 40% of DOD Spending; Will be Reflected in FY12 Budget; No Real Growth?
- SUBASE Infrastructure Project: Secretary of the Navy Very Aware/Appreciative
- BRAC? SECDEF Has No Plans - “Huge Political Challenges”

Other Issues

- **FY11 Appropriations Bills**

- Being Held Back by Democratic Leaders Until After Elections
- Don't Want to Give Political Opponents "Big Spending" Issues
- Likely Exceptions: Defense, Veterans/MILCON, Homeland Security

- **Gulf Oil Spill**

- Blame Being Cast Everywhere ... But
- Coast Guard, ADM Allen Getting High Marks
- USCF R&D Center, New London, Playing Key Role

- **New USCG Commandant**

ADM Robert Papp Has CT Roots, Family

CT Military & Defense Advisory Council

**CTNG Assistance Briefing
17 June 2010**

Agenda

- **Introductions**
- **Joint Family Support Assistance Program – Mrs. Kim Hoffman**
- **Yellow Ribbon Reintegration – Ms. Deena Saccente**
- **Resiliency – Ms. Kathleen Saucier**
- **Military Support Program – Mr. Jim Tackett**
- **Transition Assistance – Mr. Dan McHale**
- **Jail Diversion – Mr. Jim Tackett**



Service Member and Family Support Center

Kimberly Hoffman
Director of Family Services
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**COLONEL CODY
DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF
FOR PERSONNEL**

**SPECIAL
STAFF**

**SERVICE MEMBER
AND
FAMILY SUPPORT
BRANCH**

**DIRECTOR
OF
PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH**
Kathleen Saucier
Contractor

**TRANSITION
ASSISTANCE
ADVISOR (TAA)**
BG (Ret) Dan McHale
Contractor

**EMPLOYER SUPPORT
OF THE GUARD
AND RESERVE (ESGR)**
Christopher Fields
Contractor

STATE SUPPORT CHAPLAIN
CH (MAJ) DAVID C. NUTT

FAMILY PROGRAM

**JOINT FAMILY SUPPORT
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (JFSAP)**

DEPLOYMENT CYCLE SUPPORT

CHILD AND YOUTH PROGRAM

**SURVIVOR OUTREACH
SERVICES (SOS)**

FAMILY READINESS ASSISTANT

OPERATING BUDGET FY 10: 1.466 MILLION

Service Member and Family Support Branch

Our Program Serves:

- Any Service Member and/or Family Member
- All Branches of Service
- “Friends” of the military

The Branch Includes:

- Joint Family Support Assistance Program (JFSAP)
- Family Program (FP)
- Child & Youth Program (CYC)
- Family Readiness Assistant (FRA)
- Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR)
- Transition Assistance Advisor (TAA)
- Military & Family Life Consultants (MFLCs)
- Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program (YRRP)
- Survivor Outreach Specialist (SOS)

Results to Date

- 3200% increase in staffing since 2001
- Events Supported - 2009: 157

The Road Ahead

- Staff Expansion – 5 new hires
- Service Delivery Expansion

Family Assistance

Our Program Serves:

- Any Service Member and/or Family Member
- Any Branch of Service
- “Friends” of the military

Our Program Provides:

- Information and Referral Services
- 9 Family Assistance Center Locations throughout the State
- Family Readiness Group (FRG) support

Results to Date

2009 Assistance Roll-up

Family Readiness Group: 26,344

Financial: 172

Counselor Support: 934

The Road Ahead

- Continued elevated outreach and support through Spring 2011

2010 Assistance Roll-up

Family Readiness Group: 5,708

Financial: 43

Counselor Support: 19

Joint Family Support Assistance Program

Who is eligible?

- Service Members-All branches & components
- Family Members-Immediate & Extended
- Community Members

Official JFSAP Team Players

- Military OneSource Consultant (MOS)
- Military Family Life Consultant (MFLC)
- Child Military Family Life Consultant (CMFLC)
- American Red Cross Liaison (ARC)
- Operation: Military Kids Representative (OMK)

Our program provides...

- The primary focus of support is families who are geographically dispersed from a military installation
- Augments existing family programs and provide additional resources, services, and support
- Services are delivered in local communities through collaborative partnerships with Federal, State, and local organizations

Results to Date

- Implemented Joint Military & Family Readiness Group meetings and social outings
- Facilitated grant monies distributed to Reserve Component Family Readiness Groups
- Increased cross branch/component communication and usage of support services

The Road Ahead

- Creating a daytime Joint Family Readiness Group "Child and Me" playgroup
- Continue to acknowledge and address the needs and gaps of Service Members and family members within the State



Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program

Deena Saccente
YRRP Support Specialist
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Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program

Our Program Serves:

- All Service Members and Family Members regardless of branch of service or component

Our Program Provides:

- Service Members and their families with sufficient information, services and proactive outreach to help them navigate through deployment
- Pre, mid and post deployment educational events

Results to Date

- 16 NG Events
- 6 Reserve Component Events
- 2,414 Service Members in attendance
- 1,537 Family Members in attendance
- 167 Children in attendance

The Road Ahead

- 22 upcoming events scheduled through 2011
- 1 Pre, 4 Post, 7 Mid and 10 Reunion & Reintegration Conferences
- Continued outreach to other Reserve Component entities to provide service and education

Psychological Health Program National Guard Bureau

Kathleen Saucier

Director of Psychological Health- CT NG

860-883-2035

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Psychological Health Program

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Who is eligible?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service Members and Families • Community Members- w/connection to service member • Community Organizations- Education regarding services 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>National Guard Bureau Psychological Health Program provides...</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24/7/365 Access to DPH • Assessment & Referral to community resources • Case management & follow up services • Command/Leadership Consultation/Training • Wellness Education • Critical Incident response services- CISM/CISD
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Mission Statement</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">To advocate and support National Guard Members and their families by promoting mental fitness and personal wellness for operational readiness.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Goal Statement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aid in the retention of experienced and qualified service men and women. • Integrate psychological fitness in daily life. • Reduce stigma associated with seeking assistance for behavioral health issues • Increase access to resources 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Resiliency</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Connecticut National Guard Resiliency Team</p> <p>2009 * Two- 5 member teams trained- Air & Army</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Front line leader course 220 Front Line Leaders 1-102nd Infantry 50 Front Line Leaders 250th Engineers <p>2010 * Attend DC Resiliency Summit- 1/10, 5/10, 8/10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Front Line Leaders Air Guard * Front Line Leaders- Remaining Units Army * Family Ties Resiliency Program <p>www.warfighterdiaries.com</p> <p>www.resiliencycenter.net</p>

Resiliency

- Maj Gen Martin Video

Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

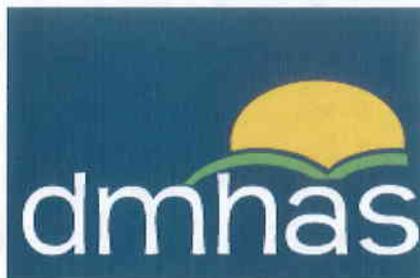
Military Support Program (MSP)

Civic Leader Orientation

Camp Rell

June 3, 2010

Jim Tackett, Director



*Serving Connecticut's Citizen
Soldiers and Their Families*



Connecticut Military Support Program

- History and Background
- MSP provides behavioral health services to Citizen Soldiers and their family members
- MSP Services:
 - Statewide Outpatient Counseling Services
 - 24/7 Call Center
 - Community Case Management
 - Transportation Program
 - Embedded Clinician Program

MSP Embedded Clinicians

- Known as Behavioral Health Advocates
- Embedded at Company level – 100 personnel
- Familiar, on-site presence at Unit’s drill weekends and Family Readiness Group mtgs
- Unit’s key POC for behavioral health matters
- Prepare workshops on Unit “hot topic” issues
- Participate in YRRP events

Number of Individuals Served

- Contacted MSP for Assistance: 1,849
- Case Management Services: 1,632
- Outpatient (OP) Counseling: 845
- Clinical Referrals to VA: 307
- Information, Referral, Advocacy: 1,243
- Transportation Services: 686

Reporting Period: April 1, 2007 to April 30, 2010

Transitional Assistance Program (TAA-CT)

Daniel J. McHale , BG (Ret-CT)
TAA-CT

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Transition Assistance Advisor

Who is eligible?

- **The Military Community**
- All Branches of the military
- Families
- Veterans
- Retiree's
- VSO's & their members
- Military Associations & their members

Our program provides...

- Liaison between all Federal, State and Civilian assets & Resources providing Entitlements and Benefits.
- Coordinates Efforts & Insures a "seamless transition" for returning service members.
- Provides a statewide point of contact to assist The Military Community in accessing benefits and healthcare services

Results to Date

- Doing Great things with Outreach
- Thousands of SM's registered with the VA
- Expansion of the Jail Diversion Trauma Recovery
- Expansion of the MSP EMBED Program
- MOU OIF/OEF coalition (over 30 members)

The Road Ahead

- Register all Veterans with the VA
- Employment effort for veterans
- Improve Seamless transition
- Transition to Home station D-MOB's
- Support Veterans Legislative issues
- Build on initiatives with Reserves Components
- Improvement of Women Veterans Issues

Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

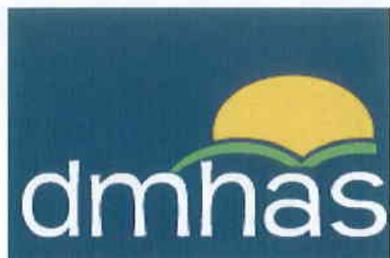
VETERANS' JAIL DIVERSION AND TRAUMA RECOVERY INITIATIVE

Civic Leader Orientation

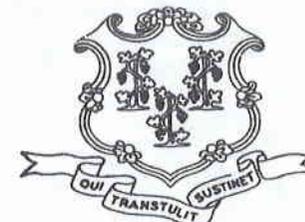
Camp Rell

June 17, 2010

Jim Tackett, Director



*Serving Connecticut's Veterans,
Citizen-Soldiers, and Their Families*



Veterans Jail Diversion Program

- \$2 million, 5 year federal grant
- Program focus:
 - Divert veterans from incarceration to treatment and supportive services
- Target Population:
 - Our newest generation of returning Veterans

Symptoms/Behaviors That Contribute to Arrest

- Anxiety
- Depression
- Irritability
- Anger
- Increased Substance Use
- Difficulty Sleeping
- Hypervigilance
- Excessive speeding - erratic driving
- Bar fights, disorderlies, BOP
- Firearms violations
- DUI
- Possession of illegal substances
- Domestic violence

CT's Approach: Systems Integration

- Emphasizes Pre-Booking – focus on identifying, engaging and referring veterans at the earliest opportunity
- Integrates Services of Multiple Systems to strengthen access to appropriate and timely treatment/recovery support services
- Strong Services Coordination

Building Upon Existing Strengths

- Statewide Mental Health Jail Diversion Program since 2000; JD Clinicians in every GA Court
- Trained Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT) located in communities throughout the State

Statewide Project Partners

- Connecticut National Guard
- Law Enforcement
- Judicial System
- VA Connecticut Healthcare System
- VA Benefits Administration/Regional Office
- Vet Centers
- Multiple State Agencies (DMHAS, Social Services, Correction, Labor, State DVA, et al)
- Community-based treatment and recovery support services

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Questions?