



Montgomery County

Veterans Service Commission

Newsletter

April 2021

Director's Message

As the Commission is committed to providing assistance to Veterans, we look for initiatives and resources that we think our Montgomery County Veterans may need. Last year, we found that many local Veterans needed legal assistance based on the many calls we received seeking legal support. After assessing the need, the five-member Veterans Service Commission took action to provide this service for Miami Valley Veterans. In addition, we partnered with the Common Pleas Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) to provide a Mentor Coordinator to help recruit and assign Veteran volunteers to support Veterans engaged with the VTC as a role model, coach and advocate for the Veterans they are mentoring. We are currently looking for Veterans who may be interested in becoming a mentor for those Veterans who are currently participating in the Veterans Treatment Court.

**Kimberly Frisco,
Executive Director**

Veterans Legal Counsel



Welcome Steven Strain, attorney to the Veterans Service Commission for Miami Valley Veterans. Attorney Strain is a Veteran of the United States Marine Corps where he served as an infantry rifleman with 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marines. Steve is a graduate of Wright State University and the University of Dayton School of Law. He now serves as Legal Counsel for the Montgomery County Veteran Service Commission where he provides no cost legal guidance to the Commission and legal advice and counsel to Veterans.

Legal Assistance

Offering Veterans Free Legal Assistance

The Montgomery County Veterans Service Commission is offering Veterans free legal services. The commission is the first of Ohio's 88 county Veterans Service Commissions to offer such services to Veterans.

This service will provide free consultation and advice to all Veterans who request assistance. Currently legal representation is limited to: housing issues, debt collection, administrative law issues, estate planning such as last wills and testaments, and power of attorney documents.

While the Veterans Legal Counsel position cannot provide representation in all matters or situations, all Veterans are welcome for a free legal consultation. The Veterans Service Commission and Attorney Strain are excited and honored to provide this new resource to Veterans in the community.

Veterans do not have to live in Montgomery County to receive legal help. Veterans can call the commission office at 937-225-4801 to set up an appointment with the commission's legal counsel attorney, Steven Strain.

VA National Cemetery Burial Benefits

Application for Pre-Need Determination of Eligibility for Burial in a VA National Cemetery

Do you want to ensure that a final resting place for you, your spouse and even your dependent children is addressed before your passing?

Burial benefits available include a gravesite in any of our national cemeteries with available space, opening and closing of the grave, perpetual care, a government headstone or marker, a burial flag, and a Presidential Memorial Certificate, at no cost to the family. Some Veterans may also be eligible for Burial Allowances. Cremated remains are buried or inurned in national cemeteries in the same manner and with the same honors as casketed remains.

The Pre-Need Burial Application will help your service be honored in the manner you wish prior to the time of need.

If a Veteran would like to make pre-need arrangements and needs assistance in filling out the Pre-Need Application (VA Form 40-10007) please contact our office. Our Veteran Service Officers will do their best to ensure you fully understand this benefit.

Opportunity to Help Fellow Veterans

Volunteer Mentor Program

Mentors provide support to Veterans engaged in the Veterans Treatment Court (VTC). The VTC gives Veterans involved in the justice system an opportunity to seek treatment for underlying issues which led to their involvement with the court. The mentors are typically Veterans themselves that will act as a role model, coach, guide, and advocate for the Veteran they are mentoring. They will work closely with the presiding Judge (Honorable Dennis Adkins), the VA Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator and other court personnel. Mentors will assist VTC Veterans with navigating their recovery process through the VA and other resources.

This program is critical to the success of the Veterans Treatment Court and more importantly to the success of our Veterans. This program gives Veterans a second chance to move forward in life.

Become a Volunteer Mentor today! To volunteer or receive additional information, please call 937-225-4801.

About Us

Montgomery County Veterans Services Commission

627 Edwin C. Moses Blvd.
4th Floor, East Medical Plaza
Dayton, OH 45417

Phone: (937) 225-4801

Office Hours: Monday - Friday,
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Appointment Hours: Monday -
Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

COVID-19 FINANCIAL RELIEF ASSISTANCE IS STILL AVAILABLE

Call for more information at 937-225-4801

Transportation Available for all VA and Community Medical Appointments

Offering day bus passes, Uber assistance for those not on a bus line or unable to walk to a bus stop, and Paratransit for those utilizing mobility devices such as wheelchairs, Call 937-225-4801 for more information.

Commission Meetings:

May 12, 2021 at 10:00am
June 9, 2021 at 10:00am
July 14, 2021 at 10:00am

Our Commissioners

Jerry Hays, President,
Disabled American Veterans

Federico Rojas, Jr.,
Vice President,
Veterans of Foreign Wars

William Fried, Secretary,
Vietnam Veterans of America

James Dare,
American Legion

Vacant, AMVETS