

Military and Veteran Affairs Committee

Highlights of Committee Activities
For the WDC Executive Committee and Board Meetings
September 4 and 12, 2019

Highlights

Since the last Committee report at the last Board meeting on June 13, the Military and Veteran Affairs Committee (MVAC) has convened 1 bi-monthly meeting (July 17). The next meeting is September 18, 2019.

Presentation

- ***Hawaii Veterans Treatment Court***, by The Honorable Edward H. Kubo Jr., Judge, First Circuit Court (Oahu).

The Veterans Treatment Court Program is a court-supervised solution for veterans entering the criminal justice system due to transgressions linked to service-related illnesses such as Post-Traumatic Syndrome Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). VTC program volunteers lean on community resources as the key to the program's success. Awareness of the program provides transition professionals a career counseling resource.

Immediate and Near-Term Focus Areas

- ***Committee support for sufficient access to Disabled Veterans Outreach Program (DVOP) and Local Veterans' Employment Representative (LVER) services on the neighbor islands.***

MVAC is assessing the current level of DVOP and LVER services on the neighbor islands and whether veterans, spouses, and employers have sufficient access to these services. Access to speak with a DVOP and LVER on Oahu is coordinated by the local AJC staff who will assist in setting up a conference call or Skype session between the two sides. Is this sufficient access?

- ***Committee support to the Hiring Our Heroes 2019 Career Summit at the Oahu military bases in November 2019.***

Committee members actively involved in the Summit's planning and participation through their full-time jobs in the transition programs at the military bases are exploring the need for support from the committee.

- ***Committee support to military spouses.***

Committee is considering a renewed focus on taking up issues and concerns pertaining to military spouses and the employment barriers they experience. A sub-committee will be established to explore the role of the committee in addressing this important issue.

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