Session Description: Since 9/11, roughly 2.5 million Americans have served their country in uniform. While most veterans return home strengthened by their service, others face an uphill battle. Before long, veterans contending with behavioral health disorders and homelessness can find themselves involved in the criminal justice system. Hear more about justice-involved veterans and how states can address their needs from arrest through reentry.

Biographies

Zaneta Adams*
Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency
Zaneta Adams was appointed director by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer on June 12, 2019. In 2006, after eight years of service as a member of the U.S. Army, National Guard and Reserve, she was medically discharged with honor. During her time in the military, Adams served as a joint counter narcotics task force agent for the National Guard. Prior to her appointment as director of the MVAA, Adams was an attorney at Williams Hughes PLLC assisting veterans with compensation and pension appeals. Adams has consistently demonstrated leadership through service and board membership, which includes serving as a Veterans State Contact for Sen. Debbie Stabenow; an advocate and spokesperson for Challenge America, a national veteran resource nonprofit organization; and president and founder of WINC: For All Women Veterans (Women Injured in Combat), an advocacy group for women veterans and women active duty members. She holds a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Columbia College and law degree from Western Michigan Cooley Law School.

Vicki Freeman,
Director of Women's Services
Tennessee Department of Correction
Vicki Freeman is the Director of Women's Services and Re-entry for the Tennessee Department of Correction (TDOC). She has worked 28 years for the TDOC. She has an associate degree in law enforcement from East Tennessee State University, a B.S. degree in criminal justice from East Tennessee State University and a graduate certificate in public administration/executive leadership from Tennessee State University. She also received an MPS degree in strategic leadership from Tennessee State University. Freeman is a Certified Crisis Intervention Team Coordinator-CIT International and previously served as a correctional officer correctional counselor, unit manager, associate warden of operations and warden within TDOC.

Tim Loney
Deputy Director
Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency
Tim Loney is the deputy director of the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency. He is responsible for oversight of the MVAA’s Strategy, Strategic Communications, Customer Engagement and Targeted Outreach, and Performance Management divisions. In 2014, after 28 years of service, he retired from the Army as a colonel. His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit; six Meritorious Service Medals; a Joint Service Commendation Medal; five Army Commendation medals and he has earned the Expert Infantryman Badge, Parachutist Badge and Ranger tab. He holds a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice from Ferris State University, a
Master of Business Administration from Regis University and a master’s in strategic studies from the United States Army War College.

David Pelletier*
Project Director
Veterans Treatment Court Planning Initiative at the National Association of Drug Court Professionals

David Pelletier is a Marine Corps veteran who served primarily as a legal service specialist with a secondary role as a marksmanship instructor. Currently, Pelletier is the project director for the Veterans Treatment Court Planning Initiative at the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP), responsible for assisting jurisdictions in the planning and implementation of veterans treatment courts. Pelletier received his Juris Doctor from Washington and Lee University School of Law and is a member of the Virginia State Bar. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in history with a minor in legal studies from George Mason University in Fairfax, Va. His work experience is in criminal defense, serving as a student attorney in Washington and Lee’s Criminal Justice Clinic, and interning with the Fairfax County Public Defender Office. Prior to joining Justice For Vets he was a volunteer attorney and fellow at the Arlington Public Defender Office handling misdemeanor cases.

Representative Paul Ray
Republican – District 13
Utah Legislature

Rep. Paul Ray has served in the Utah House of Representatives since 2001. He currently serves on the following criminal justice-related committees in Utah: Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Interim Committee, Veterans and Military Affairs Commission, Criminal Code Evaluation Task Force, and the House Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Committee. Ray has spent over 20 years in banking and business gaining the expertise to manage the fiscal affairs of the state.

*Denotes the speaker is an attorney