



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON DC 20420

Greetings:

Through their service in uniform, Veterans earn opportunities for access to an array of resources that include health care, education, job training, housing assistance, small business entrepreneurship assistance and other important services. For tribal justice systems interested in treatment-based alternatives to the standard criminal justice model, there are Veteran-specific resources that can be useful when addressing the needs of Indian Country's justice-involved Veterans.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Office of Tribal Government Relations has produced a Veterans Treatment Court Guide for Use by Tribal Justice Systems. The Guide presents a Veterans Treatment Court model that can be referenced and applied as movable parts. Consumers of the Guide may leave what does not work and apply what will work for the unique needs of tribal communities.

We hope this Guide serves as an informative resource for tribal judges, attorneys, advocates and service providers who seek alternatives to incarceration on behalf of our Veterans. Justice-involved Veterans are Veterans just the same Veterans who have access to treatment, health care services, and benefits are productive members of our communities. It is our intent that this Guide serve as a step toward achieving that goal for Indian Country's justice-involved Veterans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John M. Garcia", is positioned above the typed name.

John M. Garcia
Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Intergovernmental Affairs